The Canadian CED Network
Le Réseau canadien de DÉC

Strengthening Canada's Communities

Des communautés plus fortes au Canada

February 7, 2017

Executive Policy Committee
c/o Carlos Gameiro, Manager of the Decision Making Process
City Clerk's Department
510 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1B9

Dear members of Executive Policy Committee

On behalf of the Canadian Community Economic Development Network – Manitoba (CCEDNet Manitoba), I urge you to accept the recommendations of the Winnipeg public service regarding the formation, role and governance structure of a Winnipeg food policy council.

Municipal governments play a key role in facilitating and planning for food secure communities and developing enabling regulatory structures. Through comprehensive food strategies, municipalities can strengthen food security, improve health, and create economic opportunities for producers and processors in a strong, vibrant local food economy. As a result, cities across Canada have developed food policy councils and food strategies, fostering cooperation between government departments, civil society, and community agencies, and encouraging citizen involvement in the food system.

It is time that Winnipeg do the same.

CCEDNet Manitoba first endorsed a policy resolution calling on the City of Winnipeg to create a food policy council back in 2011. This resolution was renewed in 2014 and remains on our books today. Our membership consisting of over one hundred individuals and organizations from across the province believe that a Winnipeg food policy council is an important piece of the public policy puzzle that will bring us closer to achieving our vision of strong, sustainable, and inclusive local economies and communities.

CCEDNet Manitoba is looking forward to all the great work a Winnipeg food policy council can accomplish in our city.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Leeson-Klym,
Manitoba Regional Director

Manitoba Office : Unit 202 – 765 Main Street, Winnipeg MB, R2W 3N5
Tel : (204) 943-0547 sleesonklym@ccednet-rcdec.ca www.ccednet-rcdec.ca