harvest. prepare. share.

Food Matters MANITOBA Parlons alimentation

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

February 7, 2017

Dear members of Executive Policy Committee

Food Matters Manitoba commends the City of Winnipeg in its efforts to establish a municipal food policy council founded on broad stakeholder consultation and grounded in best practices. Please accept the report and recommendations of the Planning, Property, and Development Department regarding the formation, role, and governance structure of the proposed Winnipeg Food 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.

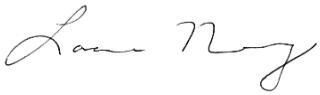
Over the past nine years, our partners have told us that they want a Winnipeg Food Council that

- facilitates cultural connection across Winnipeg and enlivens the public realm and place making through food;
- guides policies that enhance the viability of community gardens, farmers markets, and grocery stores, and the availability of good quality, affordable, and fresh foods;
- ensures that access to a variety of food choices is a major consideration in community and transportation planning;

- establishes Community Food Facilitators in Winnipeg Neighbourhoods, after school food skills training at city recreation and community centres, and healthy food policies in all city facilities;
- introduces food waste reduction incentives, surplus food redistribution strategies, and a municipal compost program to ensure food is diverted from landfills

Food Matters 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.



Loraine Nyokong
Executive Director



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