

Winnipeg Committees and other Food Councils – Role

Here are some examples of potential food policy council roles. These were summarized from reports describing food council roles from Edmonton, Toronto and Vancouver, as well as from roles of existing Winnipeg committees. We hope to discuss these at the event, and will ask you to select (or add) ones that are most important to you.

Remember to think about how a food policy council's work can enhance (and not duplicate) work that is already being done. Our conversation will focus on the high level roles (the left column). The right column gives examples of what other jurisdictions are doing, and what each of those roles could mean in Winnipeg.

Role	Examples
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explores opportunities towards improving food production and food security; • Provides research and advisory support for food and agricultural direction strategies • Investigates barriers towards local agricultural production and • Identifies issues and solutions; monitoring and reporting on Food Strategy progress
Programming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manages programs • Advises and supports in the development of food security policies and programs
Advisory Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advises Mayor and Council on policy, current food and urban agriculture issues, trends • Provides input to City Council and staff, • Advises Council and staff on the <i>Food Strategy</i> as it is developed, implemented and updated • Recommends policy and budget changes
Policy implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implements policies and procedures related to [a specific topic]. • Monitors policies • Produces an annual work plan with specific objectives and submits an annual report to City Council each year, based on objectives in the work plan
Strategy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assists in the creation of an Agricultural and Food Security Strategy to address local food production and food security issues • Develops long-range plans; leads, manages, fund-raises, develops [property] through a Management Agreement with the City • Proposes priorities/work plans
Coordination and networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitates collaboration between Administration and community • Acts as the community reference group for the Food Strategy, identifying emerging issues, facilitating community and City linkages • Supports, assists, stimulates & mobilizes work of the Community • Explores partnerships and initiatives; networks and connects between partners
Engagement and Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hosts community forums • Provides information and encourages participation from constituent communities; • Fosters dialogue in the research, promotion, design, implementation and evaluation of emerging ideas in the field of community food security.
Advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocates for innovative community food security programs • Takes positions on policy initiatives from other governments
Resourcing/support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resources staff doing public involvement processes and civic events • Exchanges information with the public about relevant programs and issues of interest; • Supports groups developing projects to enhance the food system