



# EDMONTON FOOD COUNCIL

## Minutes

June 10, 2015 - Edmonton Public School Board Archives and Museum  
Mackay Avenue School, 10425 - 99 Avenue NW Edmonton AB

### Present:

M. Bencz, K. Franke, M. Bailey, M. Male, B. Swallow, J. Fisk, M. Dear, M. LaRue, D. Bajer, S. Collins, H. Shewchuk, C. Rakowski, J. Shewchuk, P. Yu, S. Chunara

### Absent:

C. Sikora

### Special Guests:

J. Zinter, Zinter Brown Taste Treats Inc.  
J. Alleyne, Mojo Jojo Pickles and Preserves  
K. Leskow, Confetti Sweets  
J. Bigam, Kinnikinnick Foods  
J. Clark, Kitchen Partners

### Also in attendance:

J. Chase, Senior Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch  
H. Quan, Principal Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch  
C. Oliver, Student Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch  
M. Backos, Student Planner, Urban Planning and Environment Branch

### 1. Welcome

J. Fisk called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. New Food Council members that will be starting their terms in September were invited to participate. J. Fisk invited roundtable introductions to help everyone get acquainted.

### 2. Special Panel Presentation

Five guest speakers were welcomed to tell their stories and provide their perspective and experiences on what it takes to become a successful food processor in Edmonton. The fascinating and informative presentations were each followed by an insightful question period.

*Supper break. Thanks to Upper Crust Catering.*





### 3. Approval of previous Minutes - STANDING ITEM

Due to an omission in the meeting package, the previous Minutes were not included and therefore could not be approved. J. Fisk recommended that the previous Minutes for March as well as the Minutes for this June meeting be approved via email, given the turnover of members and the summer break. Everyone agreed with the proposal.

**ACTION:** H. Quan committed to sending out the Minutes to everyone via email.

### 4. News and sharing - STANDING ITEM

Members took turns sharing relevant news and information with the group.

### 5. Governance Committee Report

J. Fisk introduced the report attached to the meeting package. There were a number of items for discussion and consideration, including member term lengths, Co-Chair positions, and Terms of Reference.

A motion was made by M. Male to accept the term lengths assigned to each member as listed in the report. The motion was seconded by M. Bencz. All members voted in favor and the motion was carried.

Discussion on the issue of Co-Chairs succession led to questions about ideal length of terms for Co-Chair, the process for selection and the continuity of leadership. Since there were a few items that needed further exploration, it was agreed that it would be best to have the Governance Committee review those items in September and return with recommendations to the Food Council, including a revision of the Terms of Reference that would include all of the final changes needed.

**ACTION:** H. Quan agreed to coordinate the Governance Committee to handle this action item.

A special thank you on behalf of everyone was extended to the two departing Co-Chairs for their leadership, commitment and extra hours of work in service to the Food Council.

### 6. Measurement Working Group Report

M. Bailey introduced the item and invited the Working Group to present the report. M. Dear discussed the update with contributions from B. Swallow.



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Recommendations from the report were presented for discussion and approval. After thorough discussion on the proposed recommendations, it was agreed that the language of the recommendations needed revisions in order to avoid role confusion between Administration and the Food Council.

**ACTION:** The Working Group agreed to make changes to the recommendations to reflect the concerns brought up in the discussion and return with new recommendations in September.

## 7. *fresh* Implementation Update - STANDING ITEM

H. Quan delivered the update on the implementation activities of *fresh* and the relevant changes since the last update. Time was provided for Food Council members to ask questions for clarification and discuss possible future direction of the work under *fresh*. A question arose about the protocol for the Food Council to speak at City Council meetings, in the context of the upcoming zoning bylaw amendment. There was not a clear answer to this question.

**ACTION:** H. Quan agreed to consult with the Office of the City Clerk and provide an answer to the Food Council prior to the amendment appearing before City Council.

## 8. Vacant Lots Inventory - Follow up from March meeting

C. Oliver and M. Backos presented a report that assessed the scope and resources required to implement a vacant lot inventory project for the purposes of enabling more urban agriculture in the city. The detailed report provided a number of options, considerations and a recommendation based on the Edmonton context. Several questions were posed to Food Council members to seek their input and advice on how to move forward and implement the project. Among the guidance provided were to include additional focus group conversations, to consider broadening lot criteria used for searching the inventory, and to move forward with the recommended option from the report.

**ACTION:** C. Oliver and M. Backos agreed to submit a proposal with the suggestions from the Food Council to Administration to fund the project.

## 9. EFC website and AFC website

Due to time constraints, this item was tabled until September. H. Quan encouraged members to review the AFC website before September.

## 10. September meeting date





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In order to secure a date before September schedules get booked up, H. Quan agreed to send out a Doodle poll in June to organize the September meeting for the Food Council, especially given that there will be several new members.

**ACTION:** H. Quan will send out an email to coordinate the next meeting.

## 11. Closing remarks

The Co-Chairs provided closing remarks, extending a special thanks to all the members for a fantastic two years of good work together.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.