

July 21, 2015

RE: Calgary EATS Community Partnership and Reporting

Dear The City of Calgary Council,


On behalf of the Calgary EATS! Stewardship Group, I would like to thank you for your support for this important initiative. As your community partners, we are working to catalyze action towards the achievement of the vision and principles outlined in the Calgary EATS! Food Assessment and Action Plan.

Since the endorsement of this initiative in 2012, we have been working to transition our group from an advisory committee into a catalyst for the implementation of this plan. Considering the scope of this work, we have made great strides in determining what the best role is for the Calgary EATS! Stewardship Group, and how to have the most impact in the community. Therefore, we are building our framework and capacity for action through a combination of hosting community events; connecting community members, non-profit organizations and the public and private sectors in order to advance the food agenda collaboratively; evaluating progress and providing input on measurement; and we are just beginning to take on small projects ourselves in order to build our credibility in the community and showcase action.

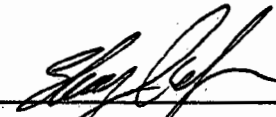
Given our limited resources, we strongly recommend that the Calgary EATS initiative is not required to report to Committee of Council on progress annually as this would be detrimental to our ability to move into the implementation of this work. Rather, our priority is to increase our capacity for action and community impact to move the dial on important issues such as food security and hunger, environmental sustainability, community development and economic resiliency. This will allow us to successfully work towards the Calgary EATS action plan and vision.

We look forward to continuing this partnership with The City of Calgary and the Office of Sustainability, and we appreciate your support for the strategic advancement of the Calgary EATS initiative.

Sincerely,



Renée MacKillop,
Co-chair of Calgary EATS!



Stacey Cedergren,
Co-chair of Calgary EATS!