

Council Member Description

Middlesex London Food Policy Council Member

Food Policy Councils have been emerging across Canada for the last 25 years, the first one being the Toronto Food Policy Council. Currently more than 28 food policy councils or groups exist in Ontario alone. Vancouver's Food Policy Council define a Food Policy Council as:

[A group] comprised of individuals from all aspects of a local food system. [Food Policy Councils] are often officially sanctioned through a government action such as a City Council motion or they can also be a grassroots effort. A Food Policy Council is an innovative collaboration between citizens and government officials. The goal is to provide a forum for advocacy and policy development that works towards the creation of a food system that is ecologically sustainable, economically viable and socially just. The primary goal of many Food Policy Councils is to examine the operation of a local food system and provide ideas and policy recommendations for how it can be improved. (www.vancouverfoodpolicycouncil.ca/what-is-food-policy)

In November 2017, the Middlesex London Food Policy Council was established (www.mlfpc.ca), based on the recommendation of the [Middlesex London Community Food Assessment Report](#) (2015-16).

Requirements

Members of the Food Policy Council must either live or work in Middlesex County or the City of London.

Seat Descriptions

- Agriculture, urban
- Agriculture, rural
- City of London Council*
- City of London Municipal Staff*
- Economic Development
- Education
- Energy, Environment and Waste Management
- Food Distribution
- Food Service Industry
- Food Security
- General Community Member, county (Priority given to populations not represented by other member positions e.g., newcomers to Canada)
- General Community Member, City
- Indigenous Peoples
- Middlesex County Council*
- Middlesex County Municipal Staff (e.g. Planning, Social Services)*
- Middlesex London Board of Health*
- Provincial Agricultural Group*
- Research
- Youth

**Member to be appointed by representative organization.*

Roles and Responsibilities

Members of the Food Policy Council will be expected to:

- Set direction on food system change;
- Take positions on food issues consistent with the vision and values of the MLFPC ([see Terms of Reference for Details](#)) and advocate for change;
- Develop, recommend or drive strategies for bringing about food system change;
- Write and advise on food policy
- Provide leadership (i.e. attending events, speaking on behalf of the Council);
- Discuss food system issues in an open and democratic way; and
- Leverage relationships to further the strategies and tactics that the MLFPC identifies.

Relevant Skills

Relevant skills for applicants to the Food Policy Council include:

- Experience with policy (e.g., writing or evaluating science/social/food policies)
- Legal expertise
- Financial background
- Communication
- Graphic design (Web development and marketing)
- Technical abilities (data management, database development, information and analysis)
- Public relations
- Leadership
- Consultation and facilitation
- Research
- Campaigning
- Community engagement
- Partnership building
- Public speaking

Applicants with these skills should highlight their expertise in these areas through their application.

Time Commitment

The Food Policy Council meets for 2hrs, 9–10 times per year on the last Thursday of each month (no meetings in July and August) and the expected time commitment is a minimum of **6 hours per month**. In addition to formal meetings, smaller, task-oriented groups may be formed in order to gather more information and/or engage in further consultation to make recommendations on a specific issue and report back to the full council for further discussion and decisions.

Term of Service

Food Policy Council members will be appointed to a 2-year term with the possibility of renewal for one term. Executive committee will be voted upon by Council members annually. Executive willing to stand for additional year may be considered. Missing two meetings a year without prior discussion with Chair is deemed equivalent to a resignation. The Executive will appoint new interim members during the term as needed.

Middlesex-London Food Policy Council Application January 2021– December 2023 Term

Who We Are

Whether you grow food, sell food, cook food, or eat food, our food system is an important part of our economy, our daily lives, and our shared wellbeing. The Middlesex London Food Policy Council (MLFPC) is a non profit group that seeks to connect people and organizations and promote collaboration, to strengthen our regional food system through awareness and advocacy. To learn more about the MLFPC, check out our website at www.mlfpc.ca.

What We Do

- Set direction on food system change;
- Take positions on local food system issues consistent with the vision and values of MLFPC;
- Drive or develop strategies for bringing about food system change;
- Write and advise on food policy;
- Provide leadership (i.e. attending events, speaking on behalf of the Council, etc.);
- Engage people and community regarding food issues in an open and democratic way;
- Leverage relationships to further the strategies and tactics that the MLFPC identifies.

Section A: Applicant Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Occupation (optional): _____

Employer (optional): _____

The Middlesex-London Food Policy Council is currently looking for new members. Please indicate your areas of interest and/or experience in the following:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Processing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community, Rural | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Service/Industry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community, Urban | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Development | <input type="checkbox"/> Research |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Agriculture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy, Environment, Waste, Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Agriculture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Access | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth between ages of 17-25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Distribution | |

- 1. Why are you interested in serving on the Middlesex-London Food Policy Council and what contribution do you believe you can make?**

- 2. In the box below, please provide a brief (no more than 150 words) biography of yourself. If selected for the Middlesex-London Food Policy Council, this biography may be used on the website to provide information to the community about the MLFPC.**

Section B: References

Please provide up to two references who can speak to your relevant experience and demonstrate how you would make a strong candidate for membership on the MLFPC.

Reference 1 (required)

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Reference 2 (optional)

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Relationship: _____

Section C: Declaration

- I understand that Food Policy Council members will be appointed for a term of two years with the possibility of renewal for one term.
- I understand that the Food Policy Council will meet up to 8 times per year and that I will do my best to attend these meetings. There will also be opportunities to participate in events or other meetings with stakeholders that I will consider attending.
- I give my permission to be contacted by the Recruitment Committee if more information is needed with regards to my application.
- I give my permission for the provided references to be contacted with regards to my MLFPC application.
- I understand that the biography provided in this application may be used for promotional materials of the Food Policy Council if I am selected to become a council member.

Please upload a copy of your resume as a PDF attachment through email when submitting this form.

Applications for the Food Policy Council must be submitted to the MLFPC Recruitment Committee at info@mlfpc.ca.