

# BRANDON FOOD CHARTER

**Whereas** the Government of Canada has formally endorsed the right of every individual to have food security, which means that everyone has access to enough safe and nutritious food to stay healthy and have energy for daily life;

**And whereas** governments at all levels have recognized the need for food systems planning, and the need to establish principles to govern decisions regarding food production, distribution, access, consumption and waste management;

**And whereas** Community Food Security is a comprehensive approach that integrates all components of the food system, from producers to consumers, which emphasizes the health of both the environment and local economies and promotes regional food self-reliance;

**And whereas** a sustainable local food system promotes social justice, population health, and reflects and sustains local culture and environment;

**Therefore, the** City of Brandon will strive towards ensuring that all citizens, regardless of economic and social status, have access to sufficient, affordable and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and to be free from hunger by advocating for the following:

- Building partnerships between citizens, educators, and food providers
- Encouraging community and backyard gardens including composting
- Promoting farmer's markets and other local food initiatives
- Providing educational opportunities on sustainable food production and preparation
- Providing awareness on nutritious and safe food choices
- Supporting training and job opportunities in food production and security to enable economic development
- Seeking out access to nutritious food
- Promoting a more economical and ecologically sustainable food system by providing awareness of the role of local farmers and producers in our lives
- Recognizing that the celebration of food is central to both culture and community
- The formation of a Food Policy Council to advise on food policy issues
- Ongoing research and monitoring of the Food Charter and the Food Policy Council to keep citizens abreast of emerging trends in the fields of food security, local food self-reliance, and sustainable food systems
- Providing leadership in the development of Food Charters for the Westman region

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**Mayor Shari Decter Hirst**

City of Brandon  
In accordance with City Council Resolution

Resolution Number: 1502  
Resolution Date: March 17, 2014

