## The Middlesex London Food Policy Council (MLFPC)

The Middlesex London Food Policy Council (MLFPC) has a vision of a community that sustains a healthy, safe, equitable and ecologically responsible food system, while nourishing all local residents. The role of a Food Policy Council is to identify challenges and propose innovative solutions to improve local food systems, stimulate local economic development and make food systems more environmentally sustainable and socially just.

We will partake in the following activities: identify and advocate for policy changes, community engagement on relevant and timely issues, coordinate opportunities and initiatives for change, be a knowledge broker and participant in evidence-based food system research, evaluate progress toward food system sustainability, and leverage and network with our community stakeholders. Released in 2016, The Middlesex London Community Food Assessment identified areas of focus and specific strengths and assets in the region, important areas to cultivate, and strategic opportunities for advocacy and food system change.

The MLFPC Strategic Plan (2018-2021) priorities include building council strength, defining shared language and metrics, developing an information repository, and building pathways to affect food policy changes. During the 2019-20 year we have set a priority of developing an online Middlesex London Food Directory which will accomplish many of our strategic objectives. The MLFPC is made up of members representing many parts of the food system. Our members include representation from both City of London and Middlesex County Council and staff, Middlesex London Board of Health, local Indigenous groups, rural and urban agriculture and rural affairs, research, education, environment, waste, economic development, food access, service, distribution and processing, youth and community members. The London Food Bank and the Middlesex London Health Unit provide coordination and trustee support through exofficio members.