



Candidate Name: _____

Party: _____

Riding: _____

April 29, 2022

Subject: Promoting your candidacy in the 2022 provincial election

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your candidacy as a Member of Provincial Parliament in the upcoming election. We, the Ottawa Food Policy Council (OFPC), would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves as a resource and to ask you to consider how you can demonstrate your commitment to Good Food in your campaign and in your future work as a Member of Provincial Parliament.

OFPC is working towards a food system in the Ottawa region that emphasizes social and economic justice and environmental sustainability throughout the entire food cycle, from farm to fork, and back again. OFPC facilitates local discussions on the elaboration of policies related to food and is uniquely positioned to provide cross-sectoral input that reflects citizen voices.

Our work is guided by the definition of Good Food developed by community stakeholders in Ottawa. **Good Food** is fresh, accessible, affordable, culturally relevant, minimally processed, as local as possible, ecologically grown and produced/processed/distributed in such a way as to support just and sustainable livelihoods.

Ontarians need provincial MPs who will champion Good Food in their communities and in Parliament. We encourage you to incorporate a Good Food lens into your platform and to champion policy- and decision-making that prioritizes Good Food.

We would like to help promote what you stand for!

The Ottawa Food Policy Council (OFPC) is asking you to **complete the attached survey** (below), and **provide your responses by Friday, May 13th**, to demonstrate how you will champion Good Food in Ontario. OFPC is a member of [Sustain Ontario](#), and is using this opportunity to promote their Vote ON Food initiative, which has been worked on by food networks across Ontario. Background information can be found [here](#).

Candidates vying in Ottawa will be provided the opportunity to respond and all responses will be posted the following week on the OFPC website. **Broad networks will be sharing your responses, (newsletters, blogs, and social media), in an effort to promote what you stand for on this important election topic.**

Sincerely,

Chris Evans
Chair
Ottawa Food Policy Council

About the Ottawa Food Policy Council

OFPC is an independent body that seeks to facilitate discussions on, and elaboration of, local policies impacting food systems. Comprised of individuals representing all aspects of the food system, OFPC is uniquely positioned to provide cross-sectoral input that reflects the citizen voice.

Our mission is to have a food system that emphasizes social, economic, and environmental sustainability through the entire food cycle (i.e., from seed to waste) and in which food is celebrated and enjoyed.

Our work is guided by the definition of Good Food developed by community stakeholders in Ottawa's [Food for All](#) project. Good Food, which we use interchangeably with "high quality food", is fresh, accessible, affordable, culturally relevant, minimally processed, as local as possible, and ecologically grown.

Vote ON Survey 2022

Please respond to each question and return this form to us by Friday, May 13th.

To help inform voters in choosing a candidate that champions Good Food, we will be posting your responses on our ofpc-cpao.ca website on May 13th.

You are also invited to submit comments in each section - by filling in this form (up to a maximum of 500 characters per question).

If elected, what will you do to:

1. Preserve Ontario farmland and protect it from sprawl, speculation and commodification?

Yes

No

Abstain

Comments:

2. Support training and long-term access to farmland for Ontario's new farmers?

Yes

No

Abstain

Comments:

3. Incentivise and support sustainable farming practices?

Yes

No

Abstain

Comments:

4. Extend a healthy school food program to all children and youth in Ontario?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

5. Advance food literacy education for all students in grades K-12?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

6. Establish community-led standards for accessibility and soil testing in community gardens?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

7. Prioritize poverty reduction?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

8. Ensure that social assistance rates include the cost of a nutritious food basket in *all* regions?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

9. Use healthy food to serve health needs?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

10. Guarantee public sector purchasing of local food and farm products?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

11. Strengthen protections for migrant farm and food workers?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments:

12. Establish a *Provincial Food Policy Council*?

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Comments: