

Vancouver Food Policy Council
Strategic Planning Session
November 28, 2006



In February 2006, the Vancouver Food Policy Council held a strategic planning session in lieu of their regular monthly meeting. At this session they identified four “draft” objectives to be worked on in the coming year. These four objectives have since been adopted by the FPC and are guiding their 2007 activities.

The Vancouver Food Policy Council supports the development of a just and sustainable food system for the City of Vancouver that fosters sustainable equitable food production, distribution and consumption, nutrition, community development and environmental health. The Food Policy Council provided input/advice to the City’s various policy/program initiatives regarding a sustainable food system.

DRAFT OBJECTIVES (January 2007)

Objective 1: Define the roles, responsibilities and relationship of the Vancouver Food Policy Council (VFPC), VFPC Staff, and Social Planning and define our relationship to City Council and other City Departments by the end of 2007.

Strategies:

- Revise the VFPC Terms of Reference
- Update the VFPC Member’s Orientation Manual

Objective 2: Obtain City Council endorsement of the Vancouver Food Charter by the end of 2007 and use the food charter as a tool to catalyze coordination of work plans with Social Planning, Office of Sustainability and other city departments around the issues of food security and sustainability in 2008.

Strategies:

- Vancouver City Council adopts the Vancouver Food Charter
- Create a strategic/action plan

Objective 3: Position the VFPC as a bridge between the community and the City of Vancouver for community food security issues.

Strategies:

- Hold two community forums each year and invite input and dialogue on current community issues
- Translate these needs into specific policy, practice or procedure recommendations for the City of Vancouver

Objective 4: Make the 2010 community gardens a showcase for innovative approaches to community food security and economic, social and environmental sustainability.

Strategies (ongoing to 2010):

- As part of our communication plan, promote VFPC’s vision for the 2010 garden plots
- Social Sustainability:
 - Promote education and awareness of community gardens through celebrations and competitions as well as school garden opportunities

- Economic Sustainability:
 - Encourage linkages to commercial and business opportunities for garden products
 - Encourage mechanisms for food processing related to community gardens
 - Draft city policy to enable a maximum of 25% of products from 2010 gardens to be sold through commercial urban agriculture social enterprise
 - Foster partnerships between growers and buyers
- Environmental Sustainability:
 - Support a local seed bank
 - Promote composting and waste management