

Attachment 3 – Made Public by the Board of Health on May 9, 2011

Toronto Food Policy Council 2011 Membership Update

Date:	May 9, 2011
To:	Board of Health
From:	Medical Officer of Health

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Toronto Food Policy Council members donate their time, energy, skill and experience to keep Toronto Public Health abreast of emerging trends, challenges and possibilities in the field of community food security. A gift of time and knowledge that no money can buy: this is what volunteers contribute to the Toronto Food Policy Council. Members represent a spectrum of Toronto's diverse populations, and bring Toronto Public Health insights about food security needs, capacities and opportunities across the city.

The TFPC has up to 30 members. Of these, one is a community member of the Toronto Board of Health, two are members of Toronto City Council, three are members of rural and farm communities near the Greater Toronto Area, two are members of the Toronto Youth Food Policy Council, and up to 24 are residents of Toronto who bring knowledge and experience from a range of communities within the city. Council members are appointed for three year terms. Terms are staggered, and length of term remaining for each member is indicated below.

MEYER BROWNSTONE (current member, 1 year) a veteran of over 50 years of activity in movements related to food, peace and community, is Canada's original food systems thinker. Research Director for Saskatchewan's Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life during the 1950s, he went on to help found and chair Oxfam Canada, and play a lead role in Oxfam International. His work with Oxfam and with several United Nations agencies led to his being honoured with the Pearson Peace Medal. He keeps TFPC members mindful of the global context of food policy discussions.

SHELLEY CARROLL (current member, 3 years) is a member of City Council. The Board of Health appointed her to the TFPC in 2004. She is also appointed to the Board of FoodShare. She has been Co-Chair of the TFPC over the last term.

PREENA CHAUHAN (new member, 3 years) is a Toronto-based Indian food expert, cooking instructor, cookbook author and entrepreneur who runs popular cooking classes in the GTA through the Arvinda's Indian Cooking Classes. Her business, Arvinda's, offers a line of Indian spice blends with a focus on using sustainable local ingredients. Preena has a Masters in Environmental Studies (MES) from York University and earned a Business and Environment Certificate from the Schulich School of Business. Preena was a board member of the Harbourside Organic Farmers' Market and contributes regularly as a guest lecturer on Indian cooking fundamentals and spices to the Niagara Culinary Institute at Niagara College in addition to being a guest speaker for numerous organizations including Research Chefs' Association, Ontario Home Economists in Business and Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

ANETTE CHAWLA (new member, 3 years) is the Executive Director of the North York Harvest Food Bank, one of the largest food banks in Toronto. Anette has over eight years of solid non-profit management experience, including with the Ontario Literacy Coalition. Skilled in strategic planning, board governance, human resources and finance, she has a strong record in raising funds from government and foundation sources. Experienced as a corporate-commercial lawyer, her education includes an LL.B. from Osgoode Hall Law School and an M.B.A. from the Schulich School of Business, both at York University, Toronto, as well as a legal degree from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

GILDA CRAWLEY (new member, 3 years) is the Manager of Community Animation with the Toronto Community Housing Corporation and represents the food security needs and concerns of a diverse group of tenants and community partners. Gilda is the lead of the TCHC Community Garden Strategy and has worked for over ten years to engage tenants in food and environmental initiatives.

JANET DAVIS (current member, 3 years) is a member of City Council. The Board of Health appointed her to the TFPC in 2004.

HARRIET FRIEDMANN (current member, 2 years) is a University of Toronto sociology professor who has gained an international reputation for her work on the health and agricultural impacts of globalization. She has also worked on crucial academic committees developing United Nations expert consensus reports on environment, climate and food subjects. Friedmann was one of the earliest members of the TFPC during the 1990s and served as TFPC co-chair for one term. She has played a key role in finding university funding for several recent TFPC projects, including the e-mail service called “foodforethought” and the earliest policy development work on local and sustainable food. She will help the TFPC keep abreast of emerging trends among leading food system thinkers around the world.

KELLY GORDON (current member, 2 years) is a community dietitian and Early Years program supervisor at the Davenport Perth Neighbourhood and Community Health Centre. She also works as an Aboriginal Nutrition Consultant for many local, provincial and national Aboriginal organizations. She will help the TFPC respond to needs in Toronto's large Aboriginal community and to collaborate with community health centres as they strive to engage more people in the communities they serve in food projects.

JUNE KOMISAR (current member, 2 years) teaches architecture at Ryerson University and specializes in the relations between urban and housing design and urban food production. Komisar has worked with the Canadian Centre for Architecture to develop their exhibit on “Food and the City”, and was co-host of the spring, 2008 Ryerson symposium on the same topic. The links between community food security and housing are increasingly coming to public attention as thoughtful planners prepare to redesign the built environment to meet the challenges of reduced access to everyday foods that have been transported over long distances. She will help the TFPC respond knowledgeably to requests from Toronto city planners and others on ways to develop a synergy between housing and food security in a sustainable city.

JAMES KUHNS (current member, 1 year) coordinates the North American Urban and Peri-Urban Agricultural Alliance. He is the immediate past president of the American Community Gardening Association. He also edits the TFPC-sponsored email service, “foodforethought”. One of Toronto's most experienced organizers in the field of city farming, Kuhns can help the

TFPC maintain an international perspective on practicable urban agriculture opportunities facing Toronto.

KEVIN LEE (current member, 1 year) is Executive Director of Scadding Court Community Centre, a showcase for several imaginative and powerful initiatives in the field of urban agriculture. At Scadding Court, urban agriculture projects are about growing food for personal consumption, learning about healthy, fresh and tasty food alternatives, and about life and job skills that will last a lifetime. In partnership with a downtown Islamic congregation, Lee has launched a weekly drop-in lunch for people in the neighbourhood. Lee helps the TFPC evaluate the potential of urban agriculture projects addressing the needs of minority and marginalized communities across the city.

ANAN LOLOLI (current member, 1 year) is the founder and Executive Director of the Afri-Can Food Basket, which for over a decade has been in the forefront of efforts to adapt community gardening practices to meet the needs of Toronto's diverse African-Canadian communities, and to promote access to culturally-appropriate foods among all ethno-cultural groups. Lololi worked as one of the original staff who helped establish the role of "community food animators", who now assist Toronto Community Housing Corporation staff across the city to establish neighbourhood-based farmers markets, community gardens and community kitchens. He also managed the youth program on the urban farm provided by Black Creek Pioneer Village in 2007. He has worked internationally to raise understanding and action around diversity and anti-racist perspectives within the community food security movement, and helps the TFPC to provide support for initiatives that advance culturally-appropriate foods within Toronto.

CATHY MAH (new member, 3 years) is an MD with a specialization in clinical paediatrics and a PhD in health policy from the University of Toronto. She is Research Scientist with the Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, affiliated with the Centre for Addition and Mental Health, the University of Toronto, the University of Waterloo, and the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport and in this position will be launching a new program of food and nutrition policy research. From March 2011 to April 2011, Cathy was engaged part-time with Toronto Public Health and the Toronto Food Strategy. Her research addresses the social context for food and nutrition policy and its relationship to the health of individuals and populations.

BARRY MARTIN (new member, 3 years) is the Founder and Principal of Hypenotic, a full service communications and design firm. Over the past 13 years, Barry has worked with a number of food and farm organizations in Ontario, including Sustain Ontario - The Alliance for Healthy Food and Farming, the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance, Fiesta Farms, The Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, Southbrook Winery, Fifth Town Cheese, Local Food Plus and others. Barry sits on the Slow Food Toronto steering Committee.

LORI METCALFE (new member, 3 years) is a Health Promoter at the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities where her work focuses on food security initiatives. Lori led the development of a local food access strategy for Scarborough in collaboration with community agencies, city programs, faith groups and schools. She coordinates nutrition and cooking programs in partnership with dietitians and residents, supports community gardens, school nutrition programs and markets. She sits on the East Scarborough Storefront Steering Committee and has won several awards.

PETER MITCHELL (current member, 2 years), one of the TFPC's rural advisors, has been a research associate with the Centre for Land and Water Stewardship at Guelph University since 1992. He specializes in the development of woodlots, ponds and wetlands, indispensable allies of farmland resilience, and is co-author of the best-selling "Woodlot Management Handbook". Mitchell helped found and maintain the highly successful "A. D. Latornell Conservation Symposium", now in its fifteenth year of bringing together people with conservation, environmental, and food production perspectives on rural land-use. He has also helped organize the Ontario Land Trust Alliance and Ontario Farmland Trust.

ALEX MURRAY (current member, 1 year) is Professor Emeritus at York University's Faculty of Environmental Studies and a specialist in the measurement of the ecological footprint left by globalized and industrialized food systems. He has played a leadership role in a wide range of associations, including Grey County's Grey Association for Better Planning, and the Canadian Council on Human Resources in Environmental Industries.

PAUL NAGPAL (new member, 3 years) is a co-founder and senior partner of Strateva Partners, a boutique financial and strategic advisory company servicing the small-cap and entrepreneurial sectors of the Canadian economy. His main focus revolves around providing strategic guidance and business advisory services, particularly within the energy, manufacturing, and retail sectors. Paul has spent time working at Deloitte Consulting, working with Fortune 1000 and non-profit companies to create business transformation plans, product assessments, and resource strategies. Later, Paul worked with AT Kearney, focusing on market entry strategies, operational efficiencies, cost reduction, and strategic assessments. Paul has worked with many small and mid-cap businesses, assisting them to become more profitable and sustainable.

FIONA NELSON (current member, 1 year) ensures that health promotion, child nutrition, composting and cooking from scratch always get their due at TFPC meetings. A former kindergarten teacher and professor of Early Childhood Education at George Brown College, Nelson also served as a Toronto Board of Education trustee from 1969 to 1997, chairing the Board for four terms. Nelson also chairs the Toronto Cancer Prevention Coalition. She is the longest-serving community member of the Board of Health, and represents community members of the Board of Health on the TFPC.

ZAHRA PARVINIAN (current member, 2 years) manages the Good Food Box Program for FoodShare and administers FoodShare's Bulk School Program, which distributes fresh fruit and vegetables to more than 100 schools. She also manages FoodShare's programs, in partnership with Youth Services Canada, to provide life skills education for at-risk youth. She helps the TFPC to support food programs geared to youth, and to understand the infrastructure issues of food wholesaling in the city.

TRACY PHILLIPI (current member, 2 years) is the Chair of the Toronto Youth Food Policy Council and a Steering Committee Member of Food Secure Canada. She is a Metcalf Intern and Partner Services Assistant with Local Food Plus. Tracy recently completed her Master's in Environmental Studies at York University with a focus in sustainable food and agricultural policy. Growing up on a muck vegetable farm in Wisconsin, Tracy has always loved to get dirt under her finger nails. When she's not talking food and farming, Tracy can be found judging Beer competitions as a recognized BJCP Beer Judge and writing an editorial for Taps Magazine on the local sustainable food movement.

OLIVIA ROJAS (new member, 3 years) has a long history of activism and community work, both abroad and in Canada. For the past three years she has offered courses and workshops on immigration and integration for newcomer women at different agencies. She is committed to the efforts and advocacy work by Growing Food and Justice for All Initiative across North America, and is a member of the Community Health Centre Food Security Network. Currently, Olivia works at the Regent Park Community Health Centre as a community development worker and coordinates the Regent Park community gardens; Olivia has been committed to advocate for the community gardens in Regent Park for the past 5 years.

SUMAN ROY (current member, 2 years) is executive chef and chef trainer for Sodexo, the world's largest food service company; he directs food preparation in 760 locations across Canada, 153 within the Greater Toronto Area. Vice-president of the Escoffier Society of Toronto and chair of the Toronto Culinary Salon, he is also in demand as an ambassador for Canadian cooking around the world. Educated and trained in India, Roy has worked in both India and the U.S. before settling in Toronto about six years ago. He will help the TFPC respond to the challenges of developing culturally-appropriate meals and local and sustainable sources for food service organizations serving large institutions.

WALLY SECCOMBE (current member, 1 year) received the Ontario Natural Food Co-op's Lifetime Achievement Award for his 15 years of service as president and/or treasurer of the \$15 million a year food wholesaler. He also chairs the board of the Everdale Environmental Learning Centre, which offers many hands-on educational programs, including on-farm tours for elementary schools and an innovative apprenticeship training program in organic food production. A long-time adjunct professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Dr. Secombe has written widely on family history, co-ops and green economics; he wrote a widely-circulated and influential report for the TFPC in 2007 on new agricultural strategies for linking solutions to Ontario's food security and rural depopulation problems. He helps TFPC members keep tabs on educational and apprenticeship opportunities in the near-urban and sustainable agriculture fields.

HELENE ST. JACQUES (current member, 2 years) has been President of Informa Market Research, a research and communication firm specializing in food retail trends, since 1979. Her firm specializes in providing marketing advice to Ontario farmers who try to sell value-added products that express values of health and agricultural sustainability. She has served on the boards of several community organizations, including Jessie's Centre for Teenagers, Dixon Hall and FoodShare. She helps the TFPC understand food retail trends that influence policy for local, sustainable and healthy food.

RHONDA TEITEL-PAYNE (current member, 2 years) is the Urban Agriculture Coordinator at The Stop Community Food Centre, and also works to identify community gardening opportunities for Toronto's Food Animators Project. A graduate of the University of Toronto School of Social Work, Teitel-Payne has become one of the city's leading policy analysts and practitioners of community gardening. She has served on the Toronto Parks and Recreation Community Garden Advisory Committee. A leading member of the team developing gardening, farmers markets and baking ovens at Wychwood Park's "Green Barns", Teitel-Payne keeps the TFPC advised on ways to link neighbourhood recreation and the arts with anti-poverty measures, urban agriculture and community development.

JESSICA THORNTON (current member, 2 years) is the Development Manager for Local Food Plus. Jessica has had a connection with Local Food Plus from the beginning, being one of the students who worked on a research project that helped launch LFP's partnership with the University of Toronto in 2005. Since then, she has completed a certificate in food security at Ryerson University, a diploma in Fundraising and Volunteer Management at George Brown, spent time working on an LFP certified farm, and is a member of the Toronto Youth Food Policy Council. Jessica brings with her a solid comprehension of Canadian food systems, and a passion to promote that which is local and sustainable.

ELBERT VAN DONKERSGOED (current member, 1 year), one of the TFPC's rural and agricultural advisors. Elbert is Editor of Locavore News, a popular newsletter/blog about re-localizing our food system. He was Executive Director of the Greater Toronto Area Agricultural Action Committee. During his many years as policy advisor to the Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, he became one of the most influential farm commentators in Ontario, as the writer of "Corner Post", a weekly electronic newsletter on farm issues which was broadcast on 3 rural radio stations and widely circulated on the internet. He has become a leading advocate of urban-rural dialogue and of helping farmers in the Greater Toronto Area orient their production toward foods that serve local and ethno-cultural markets.

CHRIS WONG (current member, 2 years) is a member of the Toronto Food Policy Council. He is the co-founder of the Young Urban Farmers Community Shared Agriculture an innovative non-profit organization that transforms underutilized backyards into community gardens. Chris is also the President of Young Urban Farmers, a business that helps people grow their own fresh produce in the city through raised beds, containers, and edible landscaping.

MARGARET ZONDO (new member, 3 years) is a small-scale farmer in Ontario growing organic vegetables on a 2-acre plot with a special focus on culturally appropriate vegetables popular among Southern African and other immigrant communities in Canada. She is the Program Administrator with the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and in this role has participated in several global conferences on HIV and AIDS. Margaret has worked as a senior executive in the Zimbabwe Public Service, she is the Co-Founder of the ZimAlternative Cultural Association in Ontario, and she has served as Vice President of the African Canadian Social Development Council and on many other Boards.

It is recommended that the Board of Health approve the proposed nominees, listed in confidential Attachment 2, as members of the Toronto Food Policy Council, to be effective May 9, 2011 for a three year term or until their successors are appointed.