

Minister
of Agriculture and
Agri-Food



Ministre
de l'Agriculture et de
l'Agroalimentaire

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0C5

Quote: 235702

NOV 16 2017

Ms. Kathryn Lennon
Principal Planner, Policy Development
City of Edmonton
8th Floor, Edmonton Tower
10111-104 Avenue NW
Edmonton AB T5J 0J4

Dear Ms. Lennon:

Thank you for your letter and submission regarding *A Food Policy for Canada* and for drawing my attention to the regional food-related priorities in Edmonton and the surrounding area. I appreciate knowing that the feedback included in this report was obtained through a consultation event organized by food-focused organizations in your community.

Engagement in consultations on *A Food Policy for Canada* has been widespread across our country. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) has received feedback from more than 40,000 Canadians through an online survey. Also, as you may know, close to 300 stakeholders, yourself included, attended the National Food Summit this past June. Another 300 stakeholders from across Canada have also provided feedback during regional sessions or sent individual submissions. Individuals were also engaged at the community level through events organized by Food Secure Canada and town halls held by members of Parliament. AAFC is also working directly with national Indigenous organizations to better understand their priorities and views.

I note that your report includes a summary of points raised during the consultations that do not necessarily reflect neither the views of the host organizations nor a consensus. However, the agreed upon points you have highlighted, including the need for inclusivity; support for local food systems, including diversified food production systems; and the interrelation of the four themes requiring collaboration were recurring priorities identified during the consultations on *A Food Policy for Canada*, which took place from May to September.

I appreciate your hosting an engagement session in Edmonton and sharing your unique regional feedback, which will be considered in the development of the food policy. AAFC is carefully

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Ms. Kathryn Lennon

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reviewing all input received as the Government takes the next step towards launching *A Food Policy for Canada*.

Again, thank you for writing on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lawrence MacAulay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "M".

Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP