



# Civil Society Input to a Renewed Food Policy for Canada

## Brief Food Loss and Waste

### What is said in the [Food Policy for Canada](#)

**“Action area (2019-2024): Reduce food waste.** Actions to reduce food waste will support a shift toward more sustainable food practices. They will consist of a more systematic approach to reducing food waste in Canada by transforming operations for the processing, retail, and food service sectors, and reducing food waste within the federal government.”

**“Targets will also align with the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals, such as: SDG 12 (Responsible Production and Consumption), Target 12.3: By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.”**

### Federal budget lines directly associated with the Food Policy (2019-2024)

What was included in [Federal budget, March 2019](#) (page 163)

- **“[Food waste reduction challenge](#): \$20 million over 5 years, starting in 2019-2020, to create a new challenge with funding awarded for the most innovative food waste reduction proposals in three sectors: 1. food processing; 2. grocery retail; and 3) food service”**
- **“[Federal Leadership in Food Waste Reduction](#)”: \$ 6.3 million reallocated to this, and to launch a forum.**

Emergency funding during Covid-19 ([linked to Food Policy](#))

- **“[Surplus Food Rescue Program](#): \$50 million to help manage and redirect existing surpluses ... to organizations addressing food insecurity and ensure that these surplus products are not wasted.”**

### Federal government policy progress since 2019

A Working Group of the Canadian Food Policy Advisory Council (CFPAC) prepared a report for the Minister (unpublished). Read the record of CFPAC discussion at their 21, 22 November 2022 ([drop down menu](#)). Focused on definition, monitoring and measurement, with divergence on the relationship with food insecurity.

### FSC and/or food movement recommendations and analysis

#### 4.1 The Right to Food

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*“Politicians encourage donations to food banks and themselves wrestle over the opportunity to be photographed sorting what amounts to corporate waste and other people’s leftovers, while ignoring the structural barriers preventing people from accessing their right to food.” [Paul Taylor](#) (FoodShare, 2020)*

## 4.2 Short Food Chains

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“Build resilient, ecological, local food systems that shorten and diversify food chains, revitalize communities, ensure greater access to healthy and fresh foods, support lower-emissions food systems, build greater resiliency to shocks and reduce food loss and waste.” [Growing resilience and equity](#) (FSC, 2020)