

Creating healthier food environments in Canada:

Current policies and priority actions



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Executive Summary

Food environment and health

It is well established that food choices are heavily influenced by the food environment. The types and quality of foods that are available to us, the cost, and the marketing of those foods all influence what we consume daily, with an ultimate influence on our overall health. In Canada, diet-related conditions, including obesity and non-communicable diseases (NCDs) are high and rising. Nutrition related behaviours are now the greatest contributor to mortality worldwide and within Canada. Changes, both large and incremental, are necessary to help Canadians eat healthy.

Policy action to improve the food environment

It has become clear that the food environment is greatly shaped by the policy environment, and policy action is needed from governments to shift the food environment towards one that can promote healthy diets among the Canadian population. Globally, many high, middle and low-income countries are providing leadership in implementing food environment policies, regulations and programs at the national, state and local level. This research aimed to evaluate policies and actions that federal, provincial and territorial governments are taking to create a healthier food environment in Canada, and to prioritize areas for action to address any current policy gaps.

...policy action is needed from governments to shift the food environment towards one that can promote healthy diets...

Expert opinions on food environment policy in Canada

A panel of more than 70 non-governmental experts from 44 universities and non-governmental and professional organizations from across Canada gathered to comprehensively assess Canadian food environment policies compared to international benchmarks of current best practices.

From this process, a set of prioritized recommendations for federal government actions emerged, and specific policy recommendations for each participating province and territory were made to improve the food environment and provide the infrastructure necessary to support implementing effective policy.

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This study used the **Food Environment Policy Index** (Food-EPI) tool developed by **INFORMAS** (International Network for Food and Obesity/Non-communicable disease Research, Monitoring and Action Support) to examine the state of food environment policy in Canada compared to internationally-established good practices in critical policy domains, using a 6 step process:

1. Comprehensively identify food environment policies in place in Canada as of January 1, 2017
2. Verify this information with government stakeholders and assemble an Expert Panel
3. Conduct online surveys to rate provincial and territorial policies compared to international benchmarks of current best practices
4. Conduct full-day workshops to rate federal policies compared to international good practices and identify policy and infrastructure support actions to improve food environments
5. Refine policy and infrastructure support actions
6. Prioritize actions to identify the most important and achievable actions for Canada

Federal Results



Areas where the Federal Government is doing particularly well:

Food Labelling: Requiring comprehensive nutrition information on food labels



Food Prices: Reducing the federal tax (GST) of basic groceries, which are typically healthier food options



Leadership: Strong political leadership for healthy food environments from key government representatives



Governance: Policies to ensure transparency and reduce conflict of interest in policy-making



Monitoring: Monitoring NCD prevalence and risk factors



Areas where little or no policy implementation was evident compared to some of the most promising international practices:

Food Labelling: National policies or strategies for menu labelling



Food Prices: Taxing beverages or foods high in nutrients of public health concern (such as sugary drinks)



Food Provision: Policies in government-funded settings to provide healthy foods and support healthy food choices



Food Retail: Support for healthy food policies in food stores and food service outlets



Health in All Policies: Taking a health-in-all-policies approach, which would include assessments of nutrition and health in all government policies



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Federal Prioritized Actions

According to the experts consulted during this study, the areas that were most important and achievable, and were prioritized for action, included:

▸ Federal Policy Actions

1

Prohibit advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages to children under the age of 17 through all forms of media, with an eventual goal to prohibit all advertising to children

4

Include a declaration and % Daily Value for free sugar content in the Nutrition Facts table and in front-of-package labelling schemes

2

Implement targets for the food supply for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat content in packaged and restaurant foods using a structured voluntary approach

5

Develop overall nutritional criteria required for food or drink products to carry a health or nutrient content claim

3

Implement an excise tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue to address public health

6

Extend the Nutrition Facts table requirements to more foods, and require websites for packaged foods to display the Nutrition Facts table online



Federal Infrastructure Support Actions ⁵

1 Develop publicly stated population-level intake targets for sodium, saturated fat, free sugar, and vegetables and fruit, and monitor progress over time

3 Monitor and revise the Healthy Eating Strategy with a timeline for policy action and a long term vision beyond the current election cycle

2 Implement revisions for a more comprehensive, multi-component Canada's Food Guide including environmental impact, sustainability and cultural appropriateness, with resources for both the public and practitioners/ policy makers

4 Include specific actions in the Healthy Eating Strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantages groups, broadly defined

5 Mandate the regular collection of food security data in the Canadian Community Health Survey across all provinces and territories

Provincial & Territorial Results



Policy highlights and areas where provinces and territories are meeting international benchmarks:

- Quebec is a world leader and international benchmark for banning all marketing to children across all media
- Ontario has implemented mandatory calorie labelling in chain restaurants and other regulated food service premises
- British Columbia has set trans fat limits for the composition of away-from-home foods in all foodservice outlets
- Alberta has mechanisms for funding food environment research and monitoring, and has funded large food environment research projects in the previous 12 months
- Quebec has taken steps to move towards a health-in-all-policies approach for both food and non-food policies
- All provinces and territories have some form of monitoring for NCD prevalence and risk factors
- All provinces and territories have legislation that makes government information available upon request, therefore increasing public access, and all provinces and territories have budgets available online

Areas where little or no policy implementation was evident across most provinces or territories compared to some of the most promising international practices:

- Policies regarding advertising to children
- Taxes on unhealthy foods or beverages
- Retail-related policies or support for retailers and food service outlets to offer and promote healthier food choices
- Monitoring of food environments
- Providing opportunities for communication with the food sector
- Concrete actions to incorporate health-in-all-policies approaches

Provincial & Territorial Priorities

According to the experts consulted during this study, the areas that were most commonly ranked as highly important and achievable across the provinces and territories in this study included:

Provincial and Territorial Policy Actions

7

1

Provide a universal fruit and vegetable program in all schools

4

Examine current school curricula with regards to food literacy, and introduce food literacy and food skills training as a mandatory component of school curricula

2

Strengthen school nutrition standards, and harmonize these standards to have a consistent guideline for foods served in settings where children gather

5

Restrict marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children under the age of 17 in public settings frequented by children

3

Strengthen nutrition standards and procurement policies for public sector settings and provide support for successful implementation of these policies

6

Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue to address public health as appropriate to provincial/territorial context



Provincial and Territorial Infrastructure Support Actions

8

1

Establish an up-to-date strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations

4

Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends

2

Acknowledge and endorse the importance of public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies

5

Establish a Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society)

3

Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions

Priority Actions for Each Province or Territory

According to the experts in this study, the top three policy areas (numbered 1 to 3) and top two infrastructure support areas (numbered 4 and 5) that were most important and achievable, and were prioritized for action, included:

Alberta

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in primary and secondary schools
2. Extend current nutrition guidelines to be mandatory in all publicly-funded and child-directed settings
3. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, focussing on designated, underserved neighbourhoods
4. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations
5. Regularly report on provincial dietary intakes using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities

British Columbia

1. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue into public health programming
2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes
3. Require all government-funded programs involving supplied food for children to meet the provincial nutrition guidelines for schools
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities

Manitoba

1. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children that are funded by the province to meet Manitoba's Nutrition Guidelines
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach
3. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied in a mandatory fashion to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve

New Brunswick

1. Require all publicly funded programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children to meet nutrition standards
 2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes
 3. Actively support the implementation of Policy AD-1709 to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities
 4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
-

New Brunswick

5. Update the Public Health Nutrition Framework for Action with concrete actions and implementation plan and timeline complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy

Newfoundland & Labrador

1. Implement a provincial minimum basic income
2. Introduce a provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children
3. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue from the tax into public health
4. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve
5. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships

Northwest Territories

1. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue from the tax into public health
2. Introduce a comprehensive territorial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children under the age of 17 in child-directed settings
3. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in all schools
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of territorial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve

Nova Scotia

1. Implement the Guidelines for Healthy Eating in Recreation and Sport Settings as a mandatory policy in all recreation and sports settings.
2. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy
3. Fund a universal provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools
4. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies

Ontario

1. Update the Healthy Menu Choices Act to provide additional information for sodium on menus, complemented by a menu labelling education campaign
2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks and reinvest the revenue from the tax into public health
3. Implement policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in public sector settings
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Continue to support the Healthy Kids Community Challenge and invest in additional themes that promote healthy eating behaviours

Prince Edward Island

1. Require the implementation of the Healthy Living Guidelines for Early Learning and Child Care Centres on Prince Edward Island in all PEI early childhood education settings
2. Establish an ongoing support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train for implementing nutrition standards in public sector settings
3. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food funded by the province to meet the School Food and Nutrition Policy
4. Establish an up-to-date provincial food and nutrition strategy to maintain efforts from the PEI Healthy Eating Strategy and the Wellness Strategy
5. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities

Quebec

1. Require food literacy and food skills as mandatory in primary and secondary schools
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar and saturated fat in restaurant foods
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee
4. Establish provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention strategies
5. Implement, monitor and evaluate the Politique gouvernementale de prévention en santé

Saskatchewan

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
2. Require all programs that are funded by the province to meet the healthy school nutrition standards for Saskatchewan
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee
4. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and establish health impact assessment capacity
5. Develop public provincial targets for population intakes of nutrients of concern

Yukon

1. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in schools
2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health
3. Develop a subsidy program to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based interventions to address food sovereignty issues in Yukon
4. Develop and implement community-wide structures with associated resources to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions to create and support healthy food environments
5. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities

Policy Implications

Canadian federal, provincial and territorial governments met global good practice in some, but not all, of the policy areas that are the most critical to improving the food environment. Leadership and coordinated action is needed from all federal, provincial and territorial decision makers to implement policies that will comprehensively address unhealthy diets and rates of diet-related NCDs, ultimately making the healthy choice the easier choice for Canadians.

Globally, many governments are demonstrating leadership by implementing policies and infrastructure to support healthier food environments and healthier eating. As governments continue to innovate with novel policies to address rising rates of NCDs and obesity, Canadian governments will need to continue to act and build upon current policies to ensure they do not fall behind in their duty to protect and promote the health and wellness of Canadians.

Background

Diet related NCDs

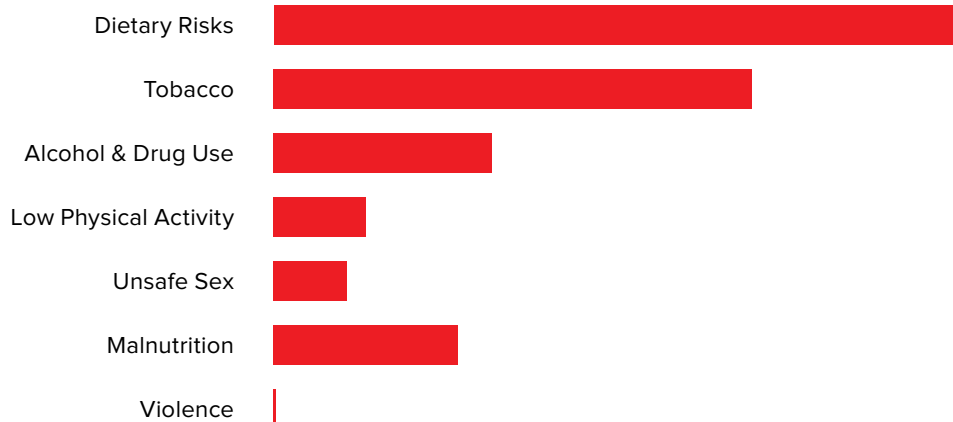
The high global burden of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) is worrisome. Poor diet is a major contributor to a range of NCDs, notably cardiovascular diseases, some types of cancer, and diabetes. Evidence suggests that diet is now the leading behavioural risk factor for mortality globally, spanning high, middle and low-income countries alike. See Figure 1a.

Canada is no exception, and unhealthy diet is now the leading behavioral risk factor for death in Canada.¹ See Figure 1b. The most recent nationally representative nutrition data from Canada suggest that there has been little improvement in dietary habits over the past 10 years, and that the overall quality of the Canadian diet is poor.^{2,3} In addition, 27% of Canadians are living with obesity.⁴

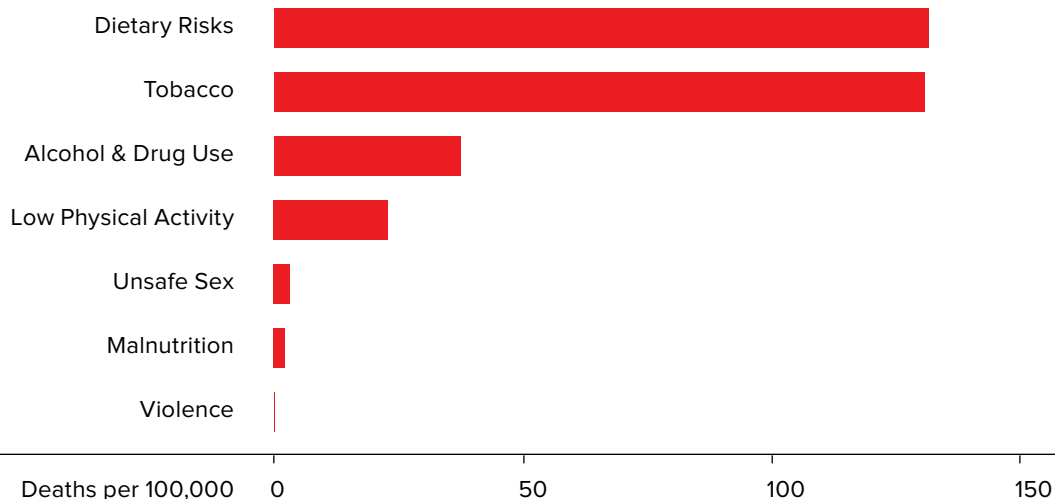


Figure 1a and 1b. Behavioural risk factors contributing to the mortality burden, both sexes, all ages, 2016.

Global



Canada



In this document, the term “nutrients of public health concern” refers to added sugar, saturated and trans fat and sodium, as these are the nutrients considered by experts to most closely relate to risk of obesity and NCDs, and are currently consumed in excess amounts by most Canadians, according to guidelines from Health Canada and the World Health Organization.^{5,6,7} In addition, low consumption of vegetables and fruit are of concern as the vast majority of Canadians consume vegetables and fruit in amounts much lower than recommended targets.⁸

Importance of food environments

The food environment is comprised of all of the factors that influence food choices and dietary habits. The definition of the food environment is broad, and includes the physical, economic, political and sociocultural surroundings, opportunities and conditions that can all influence food choices and, ultimately, health.^{9,10}

Government policy lays a foundation for the food environment, by establishing regulations and priorities for investment of government funding and resources, providing a framework in which the food industry and the general public operate. The current Canadian food environment is dominated by nutrient-poor, energy dense food items, which are increasingly more accessible, available at a lower cost and more heavily promoted than their healthy food counterparts, which plays a significant role in contributing to poor dietary habits among Canadians. Comprehensive government policy action is needed to support a food environment that can contribute to healthy diets and improve health among all Canadians.

The purpose of this research was to evaluate policies and actions that federal, provincial and territorial governments are taking to create a healthier food environment in Canada, and to prioritize areas for action to address current policy gaps.



The INFORMAS network (International Network for Food and Obesity/non-communicable diseases Research, Monitoring and Action Support) was founded by a group of international experts from 9 universities and 4 global NGOs in the area of food and nutrition, and has since expanded to include dozens of researchers from 19 countries around the globe. The objective of INFORMAS is to ‘monitor and benchmark food environments and policies globally to reduce obesity, diet related non-communicable diseases and their related inequalities,’ and the work aligns with overarching efforts of the United Nations and the World Health Organization to prioritize monitoring of NCDs and associated risk factors to improve population health.^{10–15}

The INFORMAS groups is led by Prof. Boyd Swinburn from University of Auckland, and Dr. Mary L’Abbe is the Canadian lead for INFORMAS. For more information, visit www.informas.org and <http://labbelab.utoronto.ca/projects/international-projects/>

Food-EPI Process

The Food Environment Policy Index (Food-EPI) was developed by INFORMAS to comprehensively assess government policies and actions for creating healthier food environments using a set of evidence-based, standardized tools.¹⁶

The Food-EPI framework distinguishes government actions based on two components: 1) Policy and 2) Infrastructure support, to incorporate policy and infrastructure domains that have been identified by experts as those that contribute most to influencing the food environment.

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Policy Component

Within the Policy component, there are 7 domains or policy areas that can be implemented to create a healthier food environment. These include:



- 1. Food Composition:** There are government systems implemented to ensure that, where practicable, processed foods and out-of-home meals minimize the energy density and the nutrients of concern (sodium, saturated fat, trans fat, added sugar)



- 5. Food Provision:** The government ensures that there are healthy food service policies implemented in government-funded settings to ensure that food provision encourages healthy food choices, and the government actively encourages and supports private companies to implement similar policies



- 2. Food Labelling:** There is a regulatory system implemented by the government for consumer-oriented labelling on food packaging and menu boards in restaurants to enable consumers to easily make informed food choices and to prevent misleading claims



- 6. Food Retail:** The government has the power to implement policies and programs to support the availability of healthy foods and limit the availability of unhealthy foods in communities (outlet density and locations) and in-store (product placement)



- 3. Food Promotion:** There is a comprehensive policy implemented by the government to reduce the impact (exposure and power) of promotion of unhealthy foods to children (<16 years) across all media



- 7. Food Trade and Investment:** The government ensures that trade and investment agreements protect food sovereignty, favour healthy food environments, are linked with domestic health and agricultural policies in ways that are consistent with health objectives, and do not promote unhealthy food environments



- 4. Food Prices:** Food pricing policies (e.g., taxes and subsidies) are aligned with health outcomes by helping to make the healthy eating choices the easier, cheaper choices

Infrastructure Support Component

Within the Infrastructure Support component, there are 6 support domains that outline government infrastructure supports that enable the implementation of successful government policy and action. These include:



- 1. Leadership:** The political leadership ensures that there is strong support for the vision, planning, communication, implementation and evaluation of policies and actions to create healthy food environments, improve population nutrition, and reduce diet-related inequalities



- 4. Funding and Resources:** Sufficient funding is invested in 'Population Nutrition' to create healthy food environments, improved population nutrition, and reductions in obesity, diet-related NCDs and related inequalities



- 2. Governance:** Governments have structures in place to ensure transparency and accountability, and encourage broad community participation and inclusion when formulating and implementing policies and actions to create healthy food environments, improve population nutrition, and reduce diet-related inequalities



- 5. Platforms for Interaction:** There are coordination platforms and opportunities for synergies across government departments, levels of government, and other sectors (non-governmental organizations, private sector, and academia) such that policies and actions in food and nutrition are coherent, efficient and effective in improving food environments, population nutrition, diet-related NCDs and their related inequalities



- 3. Monitoring and Intelligence:** The government's monitoring and intelligence systems (surveillance, evaluation, research and reporting) are comprehensive and regular enough to assess the status of food environments, population nutrition and diet-related NCDs and their inequalities, and to measure progress on achieving the goals of nutrition and health plans



- 6. Health-in-all-policies:** Processes are in place to ensure policy coherence and alignment, and that population health impacts are explicitly considered in the development of government policies within and outside of the health sector

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Global Food-EPI

The Food Environment Policy Index (Food-EPI) has been implemented in 13 countries to date, and is soon to be implemented in several more. Each country has adapted the methods to ensure that the analysis is appropriate at the country level using the same process infrastructure.




These international efforts will provide opportunities for international cross-country comparisons and lay the groundwork for policy evaluation national and subnational levels worldwide.

Policy Indicators and International Benchmarks

The table below shows indicator areas, and samples of the international benchmarks against which the Canadian policies were compared. The table below shows indicator areas, and samples of the international benchmarks against which the Canadian policies were compared. International benchmarks of best practice are based on current practices implemented by governments across the world, identified

by the INFORMAS group as being most likely to positively influence the food environment, using the most recent evidence and data available. A table including all of the Food-EPI Good Practice Statements for each indicator can be found in Appendix A. The comprehensive list of international benchmarks can be found in the Federal Evidence Document at www.labbelab.utoronto.ca/Food-EPI-Canada-2017.

Table 1. Indicators and international benchmark examples

	Indicator title	Sample of international benchmarks of current best practice
	Composition targets for packaged foods	ARGENTINA: Mandatory maximum sodium levels in various food categories DENMARK: Ban on trans fat
	Composition targets for out-of-home foods	NETHERLANDS: Voluntary agreement with trade organization for nutrients of concern
	Nutrition information on labels	MANY COUNTRIES (including Canada): Require trans fat information on labels USA: To require added sugar on labels
	Health claim regulations	AUSTRALIA: Regulations for health and nutrition claims on healthy products only
	Front-of-package food labelling	CHILE: Warning labels for foods high in calories, saturated fat, sodium and sugar
	Menu labelling	AUSTRALIA: Three states require kilojoule labelling in chain restaurants
	Promotion to children via broadcast media	QUEBEC, CANADA: Prohibits all advertising to children under 13 years through all media
	Promotion to children via non-broadcast media	QUEBEC, CANADA: Prohibits all advertising to children under 13 years through all media
	Promotion to children in children's settings	CHILE: Restricts advertising to children under age 14 for foods high in nutrients of concern
	Minimize taxes on healthy foods	POLAND: Tax exemption for basic foods TONGA: Reduced import duties on all types of fish
	Increase taxes on unhealthy foods	MEXICO: Introduced an excise duty on drinks with added sugar and calorically dense foods
	Subsidies on foods	SINGAPORE: 'Healthier ingredient scheme' supports manufacturers to use healthy oils

Food-related
income support

USA: The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) aims to provide healthier foods



School nutrition policies

CHILE: Limits foods sold in schools that are high in nutrients of concern

Public sector
nutrition policies

LATVIA: Set sodium levels for foods in hospitals
UK: Minimum standards for public sector buying and catering services

Support for public
sector nutrition policies

JAPAN: Dietitians help implement nutrition programs in schools, public settings, etc.

Support for private
sector nutrition policies

SINGAPORE: Program provides grants and tools to private and public institutions to promote health in workplaces



Planning policies for
unhealthy food outlets

SOUTH KOREA: 'Green food zones' around 200 m of schools can sell healthy foods only

Planning policies for
healthy food outlets

USA: Provides grants to states to attract healthier retail outlets in underserved areas

Health and unhealthy
food availability in stores

USA: The WIC program requires authorized stores to stock healthier products

Healthy and unhealthy food
availability in restaurants

SINGAPORE: Program to support food vendors with healthier options
FRANCE: Banned unlimited free refills in restaurants



Risk impact assessments

USA: Environmental impact assessments sometimes incorporate Health Impact Assessments

Manage and protect
regulatory capacity

MANY COUNTRIES: Sanitary and phytosanitary clauses in World Trade Organization agreements



Political support for
population nutrition

BRAZIL: Minister of Health support for new dietary guidelines
CARICOM COUNTRIES: NCD commissions in 6 member states

Population intake
targets established

BRAZIL: National targets for fruit and vegetable consumption and salt intake

Dietary guidelines





BRAZIL: National dietary guidelines address healthy eating from a cultural, ethical and environmental perspective

Implementation plan to
improve food environments

EU: The European Food and Nutrition Action Plan 2015–20 outlines clear strategic goals, guiding principles, objectives, priorities and tools

Priorities for inequalities
related to nutrition

NEW ZEALAND: Reports estimates from health and nutrition surveys by ethnic group and area level deprivation index
AUSTRALIA: The National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap)

	Indicator title	Sample of international benchmarks of current best practice
	Restrict commercial influence	USA: Federal and state lobby registries which must disclose amount spent on lobbying AUSTRALIA: Australian Public Service Commission's Values and Code of Conduct
	Evidence in policymaking	AUSTRALIA: The National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992 requires development of evidence-based guidelines
	Transparency in policy development	AUSTRALIA/NZ: Food Standards Australia New Zealand requires stakeholder engagement in the development of new standards
	Public access to information	AUSTRALIA/NZ: The Freedom of Information Act and Open Access principles across governments
	Monitoring food environments	NEW ZEALAND: Measures food environments in all schools and early childhood education centres
	Monitoring population intakes	USA: The NHANES assesses health and nutrition status of representative samples of adults and children annually
	Monitoring overweight and obesity	UK: Measures all children in England in the first and last years of primary school
	Monitoring NCD prevalence and risk factors	OECD COUNTRIES: Have regular, robust prevalence, incidence and mortality data for diet-related NCDs and risk factors
	Evaluation of programs and policies	USA: Provides dedicated research funding for natural experiments evaluating policies that may influence obesity and health
	Monitoring health inequalities	NEW ZEALAND: All annual surveys report estimates by subpopulations (including ethnicity)
	Sufficient population nutrition budget	NEW ZEALAND: Funding for population nutrition was estimated at 0.6% of the health budget
	Government-funded research	AUSTRALIA: Obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular health have been designated as National Health Priority Areas
	Health promotion agency	AUSTRALIA: The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation was created in 1987
	Coordination mechanism across government	MALTA: Established an inter-ministerial Advisory Council on Healthy Lifestyles
	Coordination mechanism with commercial food sector	UK: The UK 'Responsibility Deal' initiative brought together food companies and NGOs to voluntarily take steps to address NCDs
	Coordination mechanism with civil society	BRAZIL: The National Council of Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA) includes civil society actors as advisors

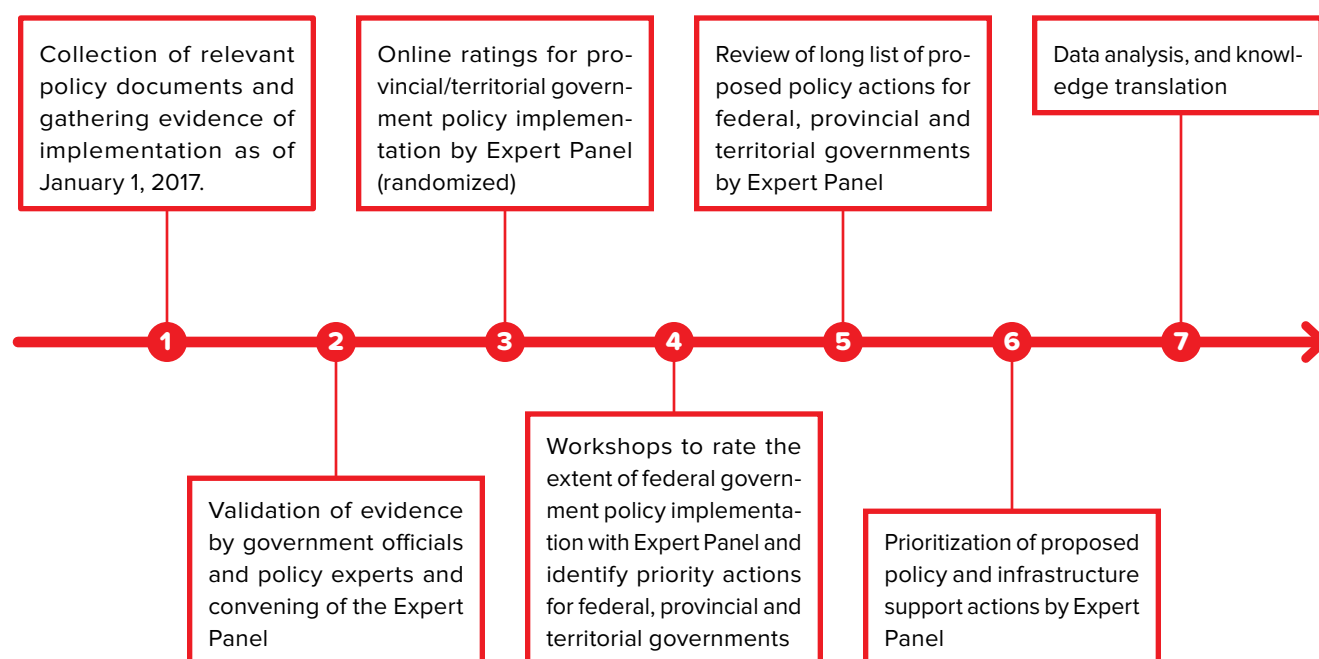
	Systems-based approach with local organizations	NEW ZEALAND: Healthy Families NZ supports community-led initiatives for better health
	Health considerations in all food policies	SLOVENIA: Undertook a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to assess the health effects of national agricultural policy
	Health impact assessments in non-food policies	FINLAND: Has worked towards health-in-all-policies for over four decades

Food-EPI Canada 2017 Methods

The Food-EPI was adapted to the Canadian context to enable a thorough understanding of the state of food environment policy across the country. Given the nature of regulatory jurisdiction in Canada, policies were evaluated for the federal government, as well as for provincial and territorial governments.

A depiction of the overall Food-EPI Canada process can be found in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Steps of the Food-EPI Canada 2017 process



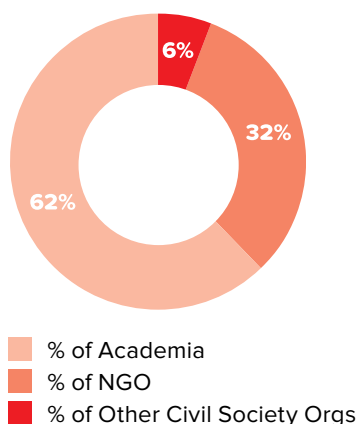
Expert Panel and Rating Process

An expert panel was convened of experts from the various areas of food environment in Canada. The group included academic experts, representatives from health and nutrition-related organizations, and individuals from other types of organizations with relevant expertise. All experts declared potential conflicts of interest, and only experts free of conflicts of interest were invited to attend. Experts came from various fields, including dietetics, nutrition, public health, health policy, health economics, health law, and epidemiology, among others. A full list of the experts that participated in this study can be found at the end of the report.

A total of 111 experts were invited to be a part of the Food-EPI Canada process. Of those, 71 participated in the workshops and 73 participated in the prioritization exercise (2 participated in the prioritization only and did not participate in the ratings workshops), for an overall response rate of 66%. A breakdown of experts from academia, non-governmental organizations and other civil society organizations can be found in Figure 3. A map of experts by region can be found in Figure 4.

Experts were randomized to conduct policy ratings for one of the 12 provinces or territories (excluding Nunavut – see note below). Experts were provided with the Provincial/ Territorial Evidence document for the province or territory to which they were randomly assigned that described the level of policy implementation and provincial/territorial context. Experts may or may not live or work within the province or territory to which they were randomized to conduct ratings. Provincial/ Territorial Evidence documents can be found at www.labbelab.utoronto.ca/Food-EPI-Canada-2017.

Figure 3. Participants from each sector



Three separate full-day workshops were convened in Toronto (n=2) and Vancouver (n=1) in May/June 2017. Both in workshops and online, participants were instructed to rate policies compared to international best practice examples using a Likert scale of 1 to 5 (1=0-20% implemented, 2=20-40% implemented, 3=40-60% implemented, 4=60-80% implemented, 5=80-100% implemented). Experts were told to rate the extent of implementation with consideration to the various steps of the policy cycle (agenda-setting and initiation, policy development, implementation, enforcement, etc.). This included intentions and plans of the government such as the establishment of working and advisory groups, as well as government funding for implementation of actions undertaken by non-governmental organizations.

Figure 4. Geographic location of experts



A Note on Nunavut

* The Food-EPI process is underway in Nunavut as well; however, due to the novel food environment in Nunavut and the unique nutrition challenges faced by the Nunavummiut, a separate process will be undertaken to adapt the Food-EPI tool as appropriate to the Nunavut context, and engage local experts and government in evaluating the food environment to support policy action.

Prioritizing Policy and Infrastructure Support Actions

As a final activity, participants were asked to rate the policy and infrastructure support actions according to two elements: 'Importance' and 'Achievability'. Criteria that were to be taken into account when evaluating these elements can be found in Table 2.

Table 2. Criteria for 'Importance' and 'Achievability' elements

Importance

Need	Size of the implementation gap
Impact	Effectiveness of the action on improving food environments and diets (including reach and effect size)
Equity	Progressive/regressive effects on reducing food/diet-related health inequalities
Other Positive Effects	For example on protecting rights of children and consumers
Other Negative Effects	For example regressive effects on household income, infringement on personal liberties

Achievability

Feasibility	How easy or hard the action is to implement
Acceptability	The level of support from key stakeholders including government, the public, public health and industry
Affordability	The cost of implementing the action
Efficiency	The cost-effectiveness of the action

Federal Results

The average federal rating score was grouped into 4 categories: no or very little implementation, low implementation, moderate implementation or high implementation. The Gwet's AC2 inter-rater reliability coefficient was 0.63 (95%CI 0.61–0.66), which is considered relatively high.

The evidence document summarizing the current policy status for the federal government that was rated by experts is available at:

www.labbelab.utoronto.ca/Food-EPI-Canada-2017.

Summary of Federal Ratings

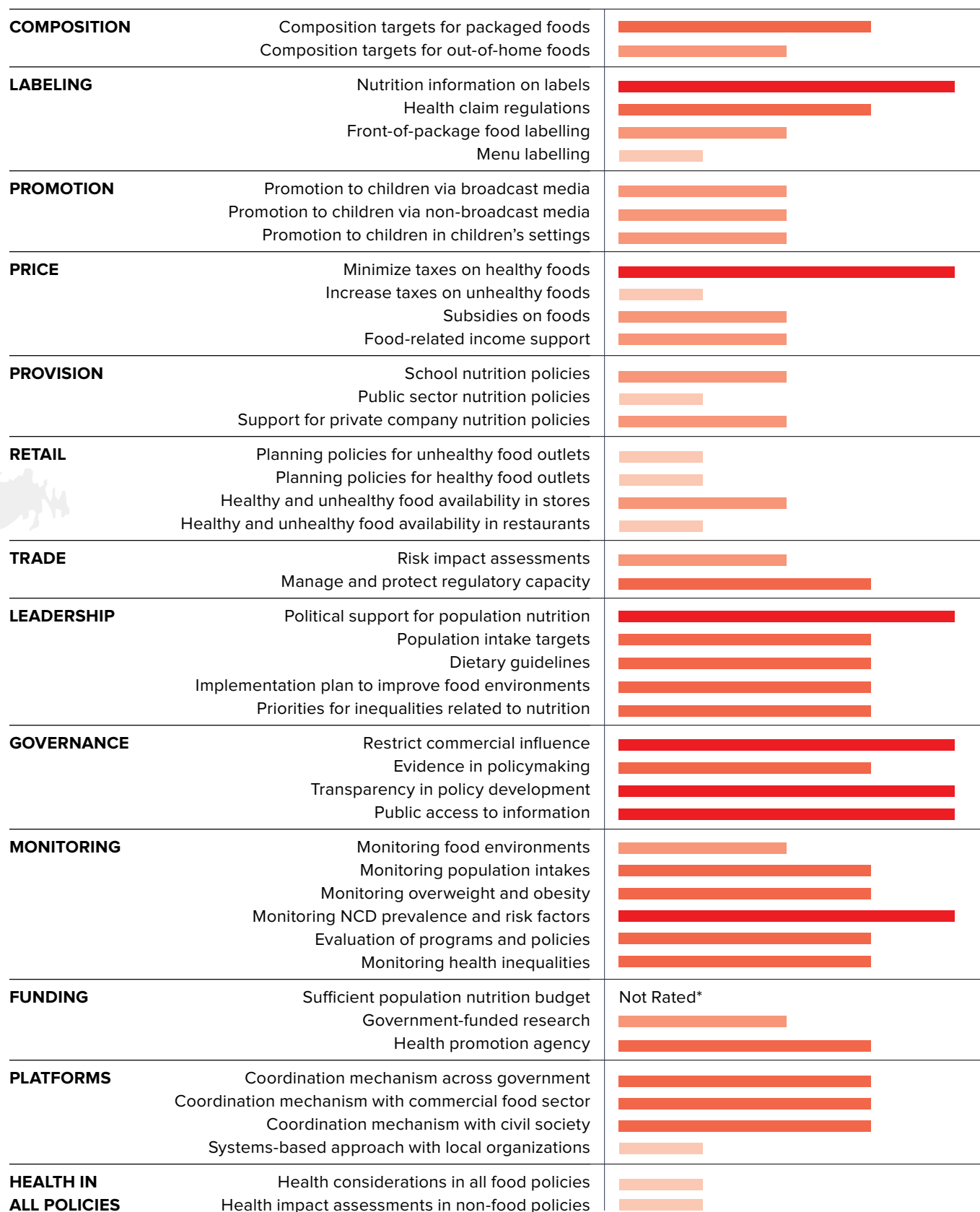
Areas where the federal government is doing particularly well:

- Comprehensive nutrition labels on food packages in line with Codex standards, including information for trans fat
- No federal sales taxes on basic groceries, including fresh fruits and vegetables, with some exceptions
- Strong, vocal political leadership from the Prime Minister and Minister of Health supporting healthy food environment policy
- Governance policies to restrict commercial influence on the policymaking process, provide transparency in policy development, and provide public access to information
- Monitoring non-communicable disease prevalence and related mortality, and surveillance of non-communicable disease risk-factors

Areas where little or no policy implementation was evident compared to some of the most promising international practices:

- National policies or strategies for menu labelling
- Taxation on foods high in nutrients of public health concern (such as sugary drinks)
- Nutritional standards or policies to support or promote healthier food choices in facilities funded by the federal government
- Support for retail-related policies (such as accessibility and zoning policies for healthier and less healthy food retail around schools or policies in stores and food service outlets to promote healthier items)
- Support for comprehensive local networks of programs or organizations to implement local food environment initiatives
- A health-in-all-policies approach for food and non-food policies

Figure 5. Expert ratings of implementation of 46 specific federal government policy areas



None or Very Little

Low

Moderate

High

*Note that 'Sufficient Population nutrition budget' was not rated, as 51% of participants rated this as 'cannot rate' due to the lack of public information on funding that is specific to diet-related NCDs, obesity or population nutrition, and a poorly defined international benchmark for this indicator.

Policy Actions Necessary to Support Healthy Food Environments

Full Recommendations for Top 6 Prioritized Policy Actions

1. Implement a comprehensive federal policy to prohibit advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 through all forms of media that are or can be targeted to children in this age group (including broadcast media, non-broadcast media and in children's settings), with an eventual goal to prohibit all advertising to children
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the food supply (packaged foods and restaurant foods) using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
3. Implement an excise tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
4. Include a declaration and percentage daily value (%DV) for free sugar content in the Nutrition Facts table and in front-of-package labelling schemes
5. Develop clear and consistent nutritional criteria that must be met in order for any food or drink products to carry a health claim or nutrient content claim; any foods that are high in nutrients of concern would not be permitted to carry a claim
6. Extend the current Nutrition Facts table requirements to require nutrition labelling be applied to centrally prepared, in-store take away foods, baked goods and pastries, packaged sandwiches and salads, meat products, baby foods, and alcohol, and require websites to display Nutrition Facts tables for any packaged foods that are sold online that carry a Nutrition Facts table on their package

Figure 6. Prioritized policy actions graphs

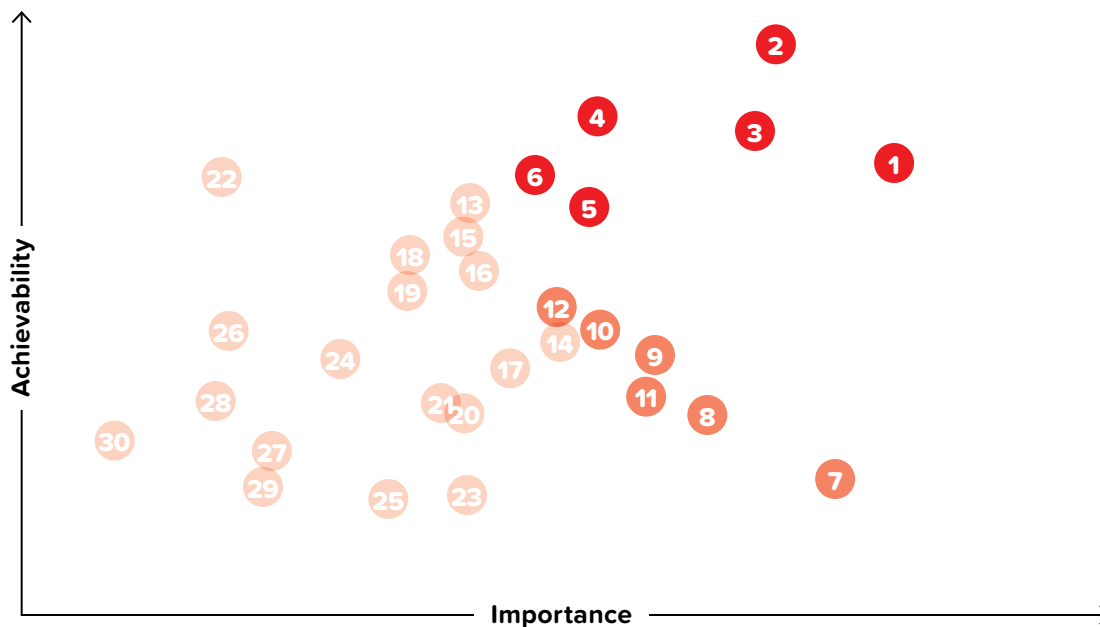


Table 3. List of abbreviated policy action recommendations for the Canadian federal government to improve food environments, in order of priority ranking according to policy experts

Proposed Policy Actions	
1	Prohibit advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages to children under the age of 17 through all forms of media, with an eventual goal to prohibit all advertising to children
2	Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in packaged and restaurant foods using a structured voluntary approach
3	Implement an excise tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue to address public health
4	Include a declaration and percentage daily value (%DV) for free sugar content in the Nutrition Facts table and in front-of-package labelling schemes
5	Develop nutritional criteria required for food or drink products to carry a health or nutrient content claim
6	Extend the Nutrition Facts table requirements to more foods, and require websites for packaged foods to display the Nutrition Facts table online
7	Implement a national minimum basic income for all people living in Canada, to enable all to afford healthy food
8	Develop agricultural policies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of unprocessed or minimally processed vegetables, fruit and legumes that are healthy, local and sustainable
9	Provide additional federal subsidies to increase local capacity for food production, innovation and community-based health promotion interventions in Canada's North to address food sovereignty issues
10	Continue to increase the scale and scope of programs and strategies (such as Nutrition North Canada) to provide improved equitable access to affordable, healthy food in Canada's North
11	Provide federal funding and support for 1) a national school feeding program and 2) fruit and vegetable programs to be implemented by provinces and territories in schools both on and off reserve
12	Implement a standardized, comprehensive labelling system on the front of packaged foods using a comprehensive nutrient profiling system
13	Develop policies including public procurement standards to support healthy food and beverage choices in food service outlets and activities under federal control
14	Alter GST/HST regulations such that exemptions are considered based upon the healthfulness of food and beverage products with a public awareness campaign on regulation reform
15	Develop resources and technical assistance to support provinces and territories in developing and implementing healthy nutrition standards in schools, early childhood education centres, and other public sector settings

16	Implement consistent, ongoing and transparent monitoring of nutrition labelling
17	Ensure specific provisions are included in trade and investment agreements to allow government to preserve regulatory capacity
18	Set portion size standards for packaged and restaurant foods using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period
19	Establish Federal/Provincial/Territorial guidelines for foods that are permitted to be provided or sold in early childhood education settings
20	Require mandatory implementation of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial guidelines for foods sold or provided in schools and early childhood education centres as a minimum that is required to be legislated by provinces and territories
21	Implement a national menu labelling policy requiring calorie and sodium information on menus for chain food service establishments including a comprehensive education campaign
22	Provide vocal support to the WHO to strengthen recommendations for public health nutrition
23	Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production
24	Develop national guidelines to support authorities to develop planning guidance and mechanisms in planning laws to enable policies to promote healthier food and discourage less healthy food options at a local level
25	Include public health nutrition and health risk assessments as part of national interest analysis on trade and investment agreements
26	Develop programs and support to stimulate and incentivize industry sectors and large employers to create pledges for healthier food environments in the workplace
27	Restrict offers on unlimited sugary drinks for free or at fixed prices in restaurants
28	Establish a mechanism to provide guidance and support to retailers and food service outlets to encourage them to provide healthier food choices
29	Extend front-of-package labelling policy to include restaurant foods
30	Explore interactive platforms to communicate interpretive nutrition information to consumers

The final list of the exact wording for all proposed federal policy actions (n=30) and infrastructure support actions (n=30) and proposed provincial and territorial actions (n varies by province or territory) can be found in Appendix B.

Expert ratings of the importance and achievability of the policy actions are shown in Figure 6.

Infrastructure Support Actions Necessary to Support Healthy Food Environments

Full Recommendations for Top 5 Prioritized Infrastructure Support Actions

1. Develop public targets for intake of sodium, saturated fat, free sugar, and vegetables and fruit; monitor progress and inequities in achieving targets over time
2. Implement evidenced-informed revisions for a more comprehensive, multi-component Canada's Food Guide, with recommendations for the public that promote a holistic view of the food environment and system and acknowledge environmental impact, sustainability and cultural appropriateness, in addition to a practical resource for practitioners and policy makers that includes a nutrient- and food-specific approach to public health
3. Monitor and revise the Healthy Eating Strategy on an on-going basis with a timeline for policy implementation and action, and establish a long-term vision for the Healthy Eating Strategy with a timeline that extends beyond the current election cycle, which includes a research agenda and evaluation plan that is adequately resourced and aligns with the objectives and outcomes of the Strategy.
4. Include specific actions and policies in the Healthy Eating Strategy and other food-related policies to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, with a broad definition of these groups (e.g., those with low SES, children and Indigenous peoples, among others exhibiting social and health disparities)
5. Mandate the regular collection of food security data in the Canadian Community Health Survey across all provinces and territories to comprehensively understand the state of food security across the country at a national and provincial/territorial level on an ongoing basis

27

Figure 7. Prioritized infrastructure support actions graph

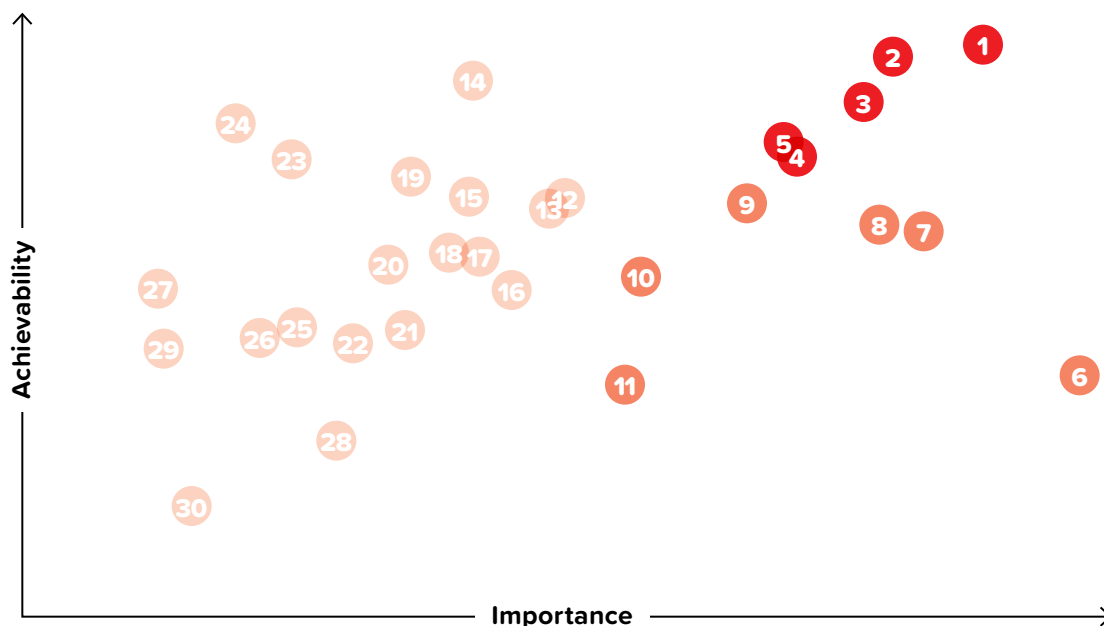


Table 4. Complete list of infrastructure support action recommendations the Canadian federal government could take to improve food environments

Infrastructure Support Actions		
28	1	Develop public targets for intake of sodium, saturated fat, and free sugar, and vegetables and fruit, and monitor progress over time
	2	Implement revisions for a more comprehensive, multi-component Canada's Food Guide including environmental impact, sustainability and cultural appropriateness, with resources for both the public and practitioners/policy makers
	3	Monitor and revise the Healthy Eating Strategy with a timeline for policy action and a long term vision for the Strategy beyond the current election cycle
	4	Include specific actions in the Healthy Eating Strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, broadly defined
	5	Mandate the regular collection of food security data in the Canadian Community Health Survey across all provinces and territories
	6	Comprehensively assess dietary intake among the entire population including vulnerable populations and those living in rural and remote areas at least every 5 years which includes biomarkers and evidence-based anthropometric measurements among a subset of the sample
	7	Establish a national Poverty Reduction Strategy that includes a specific focus on reducing household and community food insecurity and nutrition-related health inequities
	8	Establish a comprehensive food and agriculture policy for Canada with an increased focus on public health nutrition, environmental sustainability, and local food production that aligns with the Healthy Eating Strategy
	9	Establish a comprehensive nutrient profiling system that can be used and adapted across policy interventions
	10	Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
	11	Create a whole-of-government approach at the federal and F/P/T level around public health nutrition issues
	12	Increase accessibility and capacity to use provincial/territorial administrative databases by researchers to monitor health-related risk factors and outcomes
	13	Set clear guidelines for involvement of stakeholders in the policy development process to avoid conflict of interest for food industry representatives
	14	Expand implementation of the transparency policy being applied to the Healthy Eating Strategy to the development or revision of all food policies and regulations

15	Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all federal food policies
16	Establish a long term and timely funding initiative for population health intervention research and surveillance relating to diet-related non-communicable diseases
17	Regulate the disclosure of the amount and type of funding support provided by any industry to all researchers
18	Require formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
19	Publicly post the amount of money spent by industry on lobbying the federal government
20	Publish reports related to progress on the reduction of health inequities using available, nationally representative data
21	Ensure research funding allocation takes into account the diseases and conditions with the highest burden, and increase the proportion of research funding allocated to population nutrition and diet-related NCD prevention research
22	Implement a nutrition-sensitive program for agriculture in Canada to support and promote a food system that aligns with public health nutrition goals
23	Post all comments submitted to policy consultations and regulatory changes publicly, as is done in the US Dockets system
24	Develop capacity among civil society groups and organizations to participate in policy consultation and development
25	Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
26	Improve Public Health Agency of Canada's policy and surveillance capacity for public health nutrition
27	Provide support for local, community-based interventions to create healthy food environments by implementing and funding a knowledge translation and exchange platform
28	Establish a monitoring system for the nutritional quality of the food supply, foods served in school and early childhood education environments, food marketing to children and retail food environments
29	Establish an ongoing platform for improved communication and relationships between Health Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
30	Establish monitoring of traditional country food and water supply, food availability, and measures of food sovereignty in rural and remote areas

Expert ratings of the importance and achievability of the list of infrastructure support actions are shown in Figure 7.

Provincial & Territorial Results

Each province or territory was rated by 5–7 experts. The inter-rater reliability ranged from 0.33 to 0.92, with average inter-rater reliability of 0.64, and 9 of 12 jurisdictions with a coefficient greater than 0.5. A minimum of 3 experts conducted the prioritization activity for each province or territory.

The evidence documents summarizing the current policy status for all provinces and territories that were rated by experts are available at: www.labbelab.utoronto.ca/Food-EPI-Canada-2017.

30

Provincial and Territorial Policy Highlights

Provincial highlights and areas where provinces and territories are meeting international benchmarks:

- **Quebec** is an international benchmark for banning all marketing to children across all media and is a world leader in restricting marketing to children
- **Ontario** has implemented mandatory calorie labelling in chain restaurants and other regulated food service premises, meeting the international benchmark
- **British Columbia** has set limits for the composition of out-of-home foods with regards to trans fat in all foodservice outlets
- **Alberta** has mechanisms for funding food environment research and monitoring, and has funded large food environment research projects in the previous 12 months
- **Quebec** has taken steps to move towards a health-in-all-policies approach for both food and non-food policies
- **All provinces** and territories have some form of monitoring for NCD prevalence and risk factors
- **All provinces** and territories have legislation that makes government information available upon request, therefore increasing public access, and all provinces and territories have budgets available online

Areas where little or no policy implementation was evident across most provinces or territories compared to some of the most promising international practices:

- Policies regarding advertising to children
- Taxes on unhealthy foods or beverages
- Retail-related policies or support for retailers and food service outlets to offer and promote healthier food choices
- Monitoring of food environments
- Providing opportunities for communication with the food sector
- Concrete actions to incorporate health-in-all-policies approaches

Table 5. Provincial and territorial ratings regarding implementation for 39* policy and infrastructure support indicators

Indicator	AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NWT	NS	ON	PEI	QC	SK	YK
Composition targets for out-of-home foods												
Menu labelling												
Promotion to children via broadcast media												
Promotion to children via non-broadcast media												
Promotion to children in children's settings												
Minimize taxes on healthy foods												
Increase taxes on unhealthy foods												
Subsidies on foods												
Food-related income support												
School nutrition policies												
Public sector nutrition policies												
Support for public sector nutrition policies												
Support for private company nutrition policies												
Planning policies for unhealthy food outlets												
Planning policies for healthy food outlets												
Health and unhealthy food availability in stores												
Health and unhealthy food availability in restaurants												
Political support												
Population intake targets												
Strategy/plan to improve food environments												
Priorities for inequalities related to nutrition												
Restrict commercial influence												
Evidence in policymaking												
Transparency in policy development												
Public access to information												
Monitoring food environments												
Monitoring population intakes												
Monitoring overweight and obesity												
Monitoring NCD prevalence and risk factors												
Evaluation of programs and policies												
Monitoring health inequalities												
Sufficient population nutrition budget												
Government-funded research												
Health promotion agency												
Coordination mechanism across government												
Coordination mechanism with food sector												
Coordination mechanism with civil society												
Health considerations in all food policies												
Health impact assessments in non-food policies												

None or Very Little Low Moderate High

*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Provincial & Territorial Priorities

The priority rankings for the policy and infrastructure support actions across the 12 provinces and territories were examined to identify emerging patterns regarding actions that were frequently ranked as higher priority. The below list represents actions that were rated as highly important and achievable across many provinces and territories. Coordinated efforts from provincial and territorial governments to achieve these actions are likely to have a significant positive impact on the food environment in Canada.



The policy actions that were most consistently ranked as higher priority across the 12 provinces and territories included:

1. Provide a universal fruit and vegetable program in all schools
2. Strengthen school nutrition standards, and harmonize these standards to have a consistent guideline for foods served in settings where children gather, including early childhood education centres, and other public sector settings frequented by children
3. Strengthen nutrition standards and procurement policies for public sector settings and provide support for successful implementation of these policies, including long term care facilities, hospitals, recreation centres, and correctional services, etc.
4. Examine current school curricula with regards to food literacy, and introduce food literacy and food skills training as a mandatory component of school curricula
5. Introduce a comprehensive provincial or territorial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres with a sufficient enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance
6. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public



The infrastructure support actions that were most consistently ranked as higher priority across the 12 provinces and territories included:

33

1. Establish an up-to-date strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations, and specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
2. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of public health nutrition and obesity and non-communicable disease prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
3. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
4. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
5. Establish a Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups

Alberta

Prioritized Actions

Policy

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
2. Extend the implementation of provincial nutrition standards to be mandatory in all publicly-funded and child-directed settings, with adequate resources and supports in place to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the program
3. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods

Infrastructure Support

1. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations, with specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
2. Regularly report on provincial dietary intakes using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities
3. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
4. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks to support community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Alberta can be found in Figure 8.

34

Areas where the Alberta government is doing particularly well:

- No additional taxes on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- A strong school nutrition policy (although not mandatory) coordinated with provincial efforts to promote healthy foods in public sector and support mechanisms to implement the policies effectively
- Supporting research to understand and encourage healthy food environments

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Figure 8. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Alberta



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

British Columbia

Expert ratings of policy implementation for British Columbia can be found in Figure 9.

36

Areas where the British Columbia government is doing particularly well:

- Restrictions on trans fat in foodservice outlets
- No additional taxes on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- A strong, mandatory nutrition policy in schools and support for implementation
- Guidelines for improving food environments and offering healthier food choices in some public sector settings (i.e., vending machines, at sporting events, and in hospitals) with support for implementation
- A strategy or plan to improve food environments in BC (the Healthy Families BC Policy Framework)

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

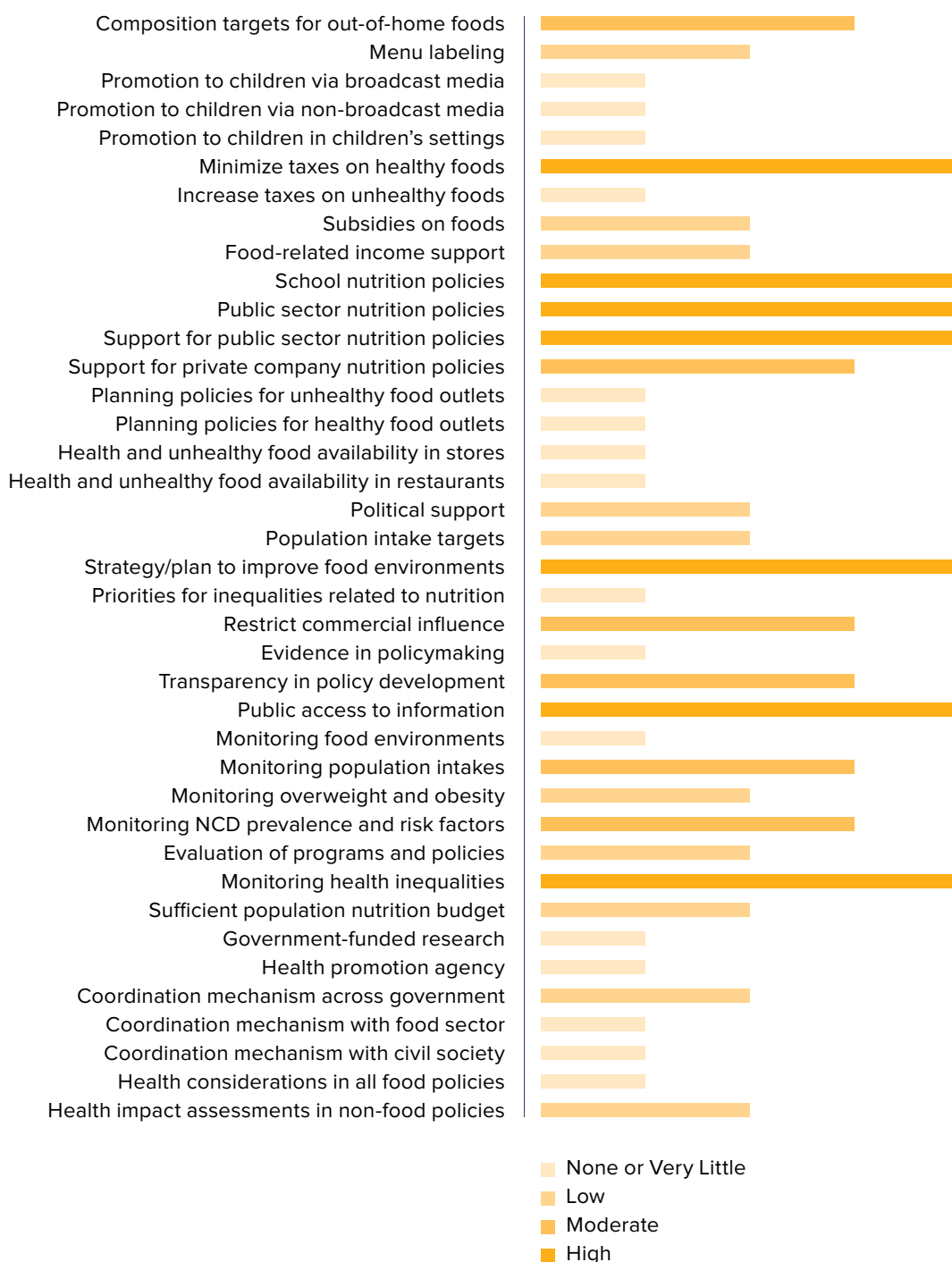
Policy

1. In the absence of federal action, implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
3. Require all programs involving supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the Guidelines for Food & Beverage Sales in BC Schools
4. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format

Infrastructure Support

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
3. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
4. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level

Figure 9. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for British Columbia



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Manitoba

Prioritized Actions

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Manitoba can be found in Figure 10.

38

Areas where the Manitoba government is doing particularly well:

- No additional taxes on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- Mandatory school nutrition standards for foods served in schools and support to implement those policies
- A strong platform for communication and coordination with civil society groups
- Monitoring of health inequalities in the province

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Policy

1. Require all programs involving subsidized or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet Manitoba's Nutrition Guidelines, and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
3. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
4. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds

Infrastructure Support

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
3. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the Healthy Child Manitoba Strategy, the AFFIRM strategy and the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative as well as the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
4. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings

Figure 10. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Manitoba



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

New Brunswick

Expert ratings of policy implementation for New Brunswick can be found in Figure 11.

40

Areas where the New Brunswick government is doing particularly well:

- The first mandatory nutrition standards for schools in Canada, with recent evaluation of the program and planned restructuring, and support for implementation
- Strong government priorities for reporting and monitoring health inequalities
- Strong inter-departmental coordination and platforms
- Strong coordination between government and civil society groups

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

Policy

1. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the provincial to meet Policy 711 and any other nutrition policies or guidelines implemented by schools or schoolboards, and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
3. Actively support the implementation of Policy AD-1709 to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) supported by the Government of New Brunswick
4. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development

Infrastructure Support

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Update the Public Health Nutrition Framework for Action with concrete actions to be taken and an implementation plan and timeline complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
3. Establish a health promotion agency in New Brunswick with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
4. Specifically incorporate health and obesity and non-communicable disease prevention into the Local Food and Beverages Strategy to support the production, retailing and consumption of healthful foods and beverages

Figure 11. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for New Brunswick



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Newfoundland & Labrador

Prioritized Actions

Policy

1. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy
2. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
3. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public

Infrastructure Support

1. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
2. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
3. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Newfoundland & Labrador can be found in Figure 12.

42

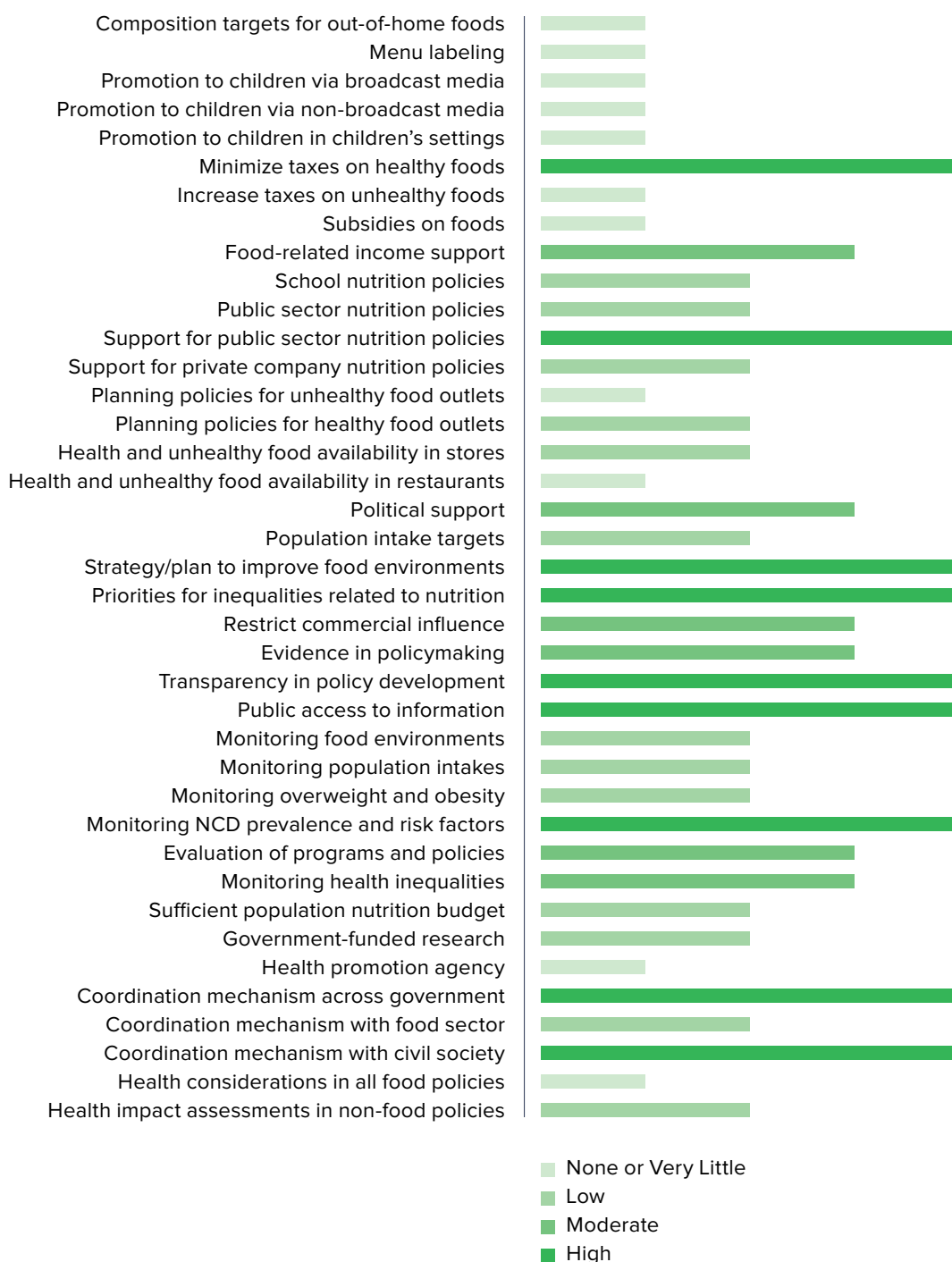
Areas where the Newfoundland and Labrador government is doing particularly well:

- Support for implementing nutrition policies in schools
- The Way Forward Plan which includes aspects of improving food environments
- Several committees to support strong inter-governmental coordination mechanisms, including the Provincial Food and Nutrition Framework Advisory Committee and the Food Security Interdepartmental Working Group
- Coordination mechanisms between government and civil society in the Provincial Wellness Advisory Committee

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Figure 12. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Newfoundland and Labrador



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Northwest Territories

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Northwest Territories can be found in Figure 13.

44

Areas where the Northwest Territories government is doing particularly well:

- Policies and programs to support healthy food production in NWT
- Guidelines for foods that can be served in schools and after school programs, and the Drop the Pop campaign in schools, and support for program implementation
- Public access to government information via the *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act*

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

Policy

1. Implement a territorial point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, and invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas of public health nutrition
2. Introduce a comprehensive territorial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children under the age of 17 in schools and early childhood education settings and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres
3. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in all schools
4. Expand the Small Scale Foods Program subsidies to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based interventions to address food sovereignty issues in NWT
5. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption

Infrastructure Support

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of territorial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, and speeches from the throne
2. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve
3. Establish a health promotion agency or department in NWT with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
4. Establish a territorial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups

Figure 13. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* territorial government policy areas from online ratings for Northwest Territories



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Nova Scotia

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Nova Scotia can be found in Figure 14.

46

Areas where the Nova Scotia government is doing particularly well:

- Little or no tax on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- Mandatory nutrition standards for foods served in schools and early childhood education centres, and support to implement those policies effectively
- Guidelines and policies to support healthy food provision in public sector settings, including recreation centres and public sector workplaces

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

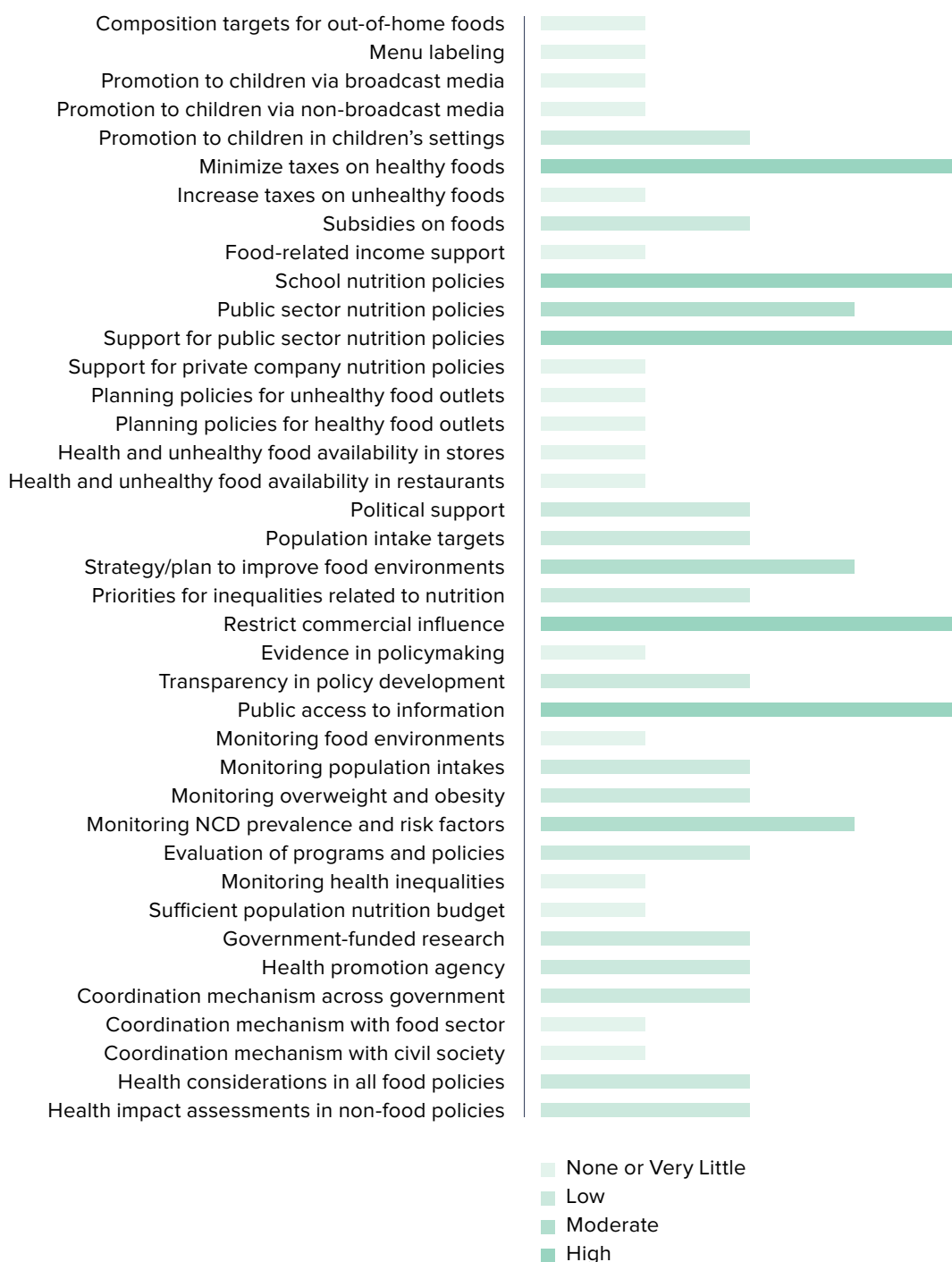
Policy

1. Implement the Guidelines for Healthy Eating in Recreation and Sport Settings as a mandatory policy in all recreation and sports settings
2. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers
3. Fund a universal provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools
4. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
5. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education

Infrastructure Support

1. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
2. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
3. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
5. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy to continue the Thrive! strategy for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations

Figure 14. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Nova Scotia



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Ontario

Prioritized Actions

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Ontario can be found in Figure 15.

48

Areas where the Ontario government is doing particularly well:

- Calorie labelling in regulated food service premises with 20 or more locations in Ontario
- Comprehensive, mandatory school nutrition standards (PPM 150) in place in all schools and resources to support implementation of the standards
- The Healthy Kids Strategy to establish a strategy and plan, with funding and support for implementation, to improve food environments
- A health promotion agency, Public Health Ontario (PHO), that supports diet and nutrition research and capacity

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



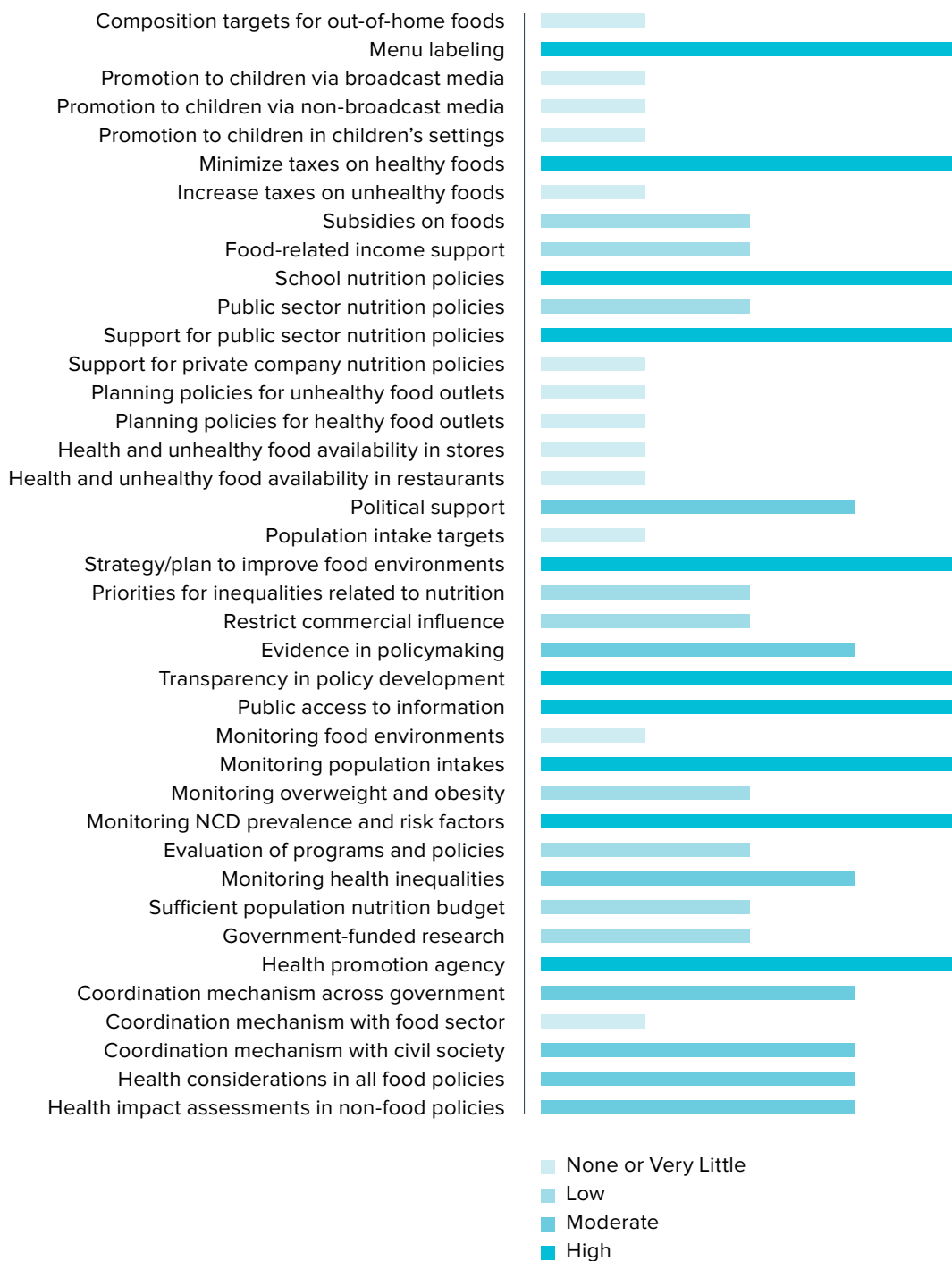
Policy

1. Update the Healthy Menu Choices Act to provide additional information for sodium on menus, and implement a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries to reformulate. In addition, require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
3. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
4. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education

Infrastructure Support

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Continue to support the Healthy Kids Community Challenge and invest in additional themes that promote healthy eating behaviours that have yet to be addressed
3. Create a multi-sectoral government body that includes participation from civil society to support and sustain the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy
4. Continue funding for the Nutrition Resource Centre as a health promotion resource centre for Ontario that supports capacity for planning, implementing and evaluating evidence-based healthy eating and nutrition, health promotion interventions across Ontario

Figure 15. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Ontario



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Prince Edward Island

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Prince Edward Island can be found in Figure 16.

50

Areas where the Prince Edward Island government is doing particularly well:

- The Wellness Strategy 2015-2017 which has actions to improve the food environment in schools and early learning centres, recreation centres, and healthy meeting guidelines
- Monitoring of food intake among school students using the SHAPES survey
- Priorities for monitoring health inequities

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

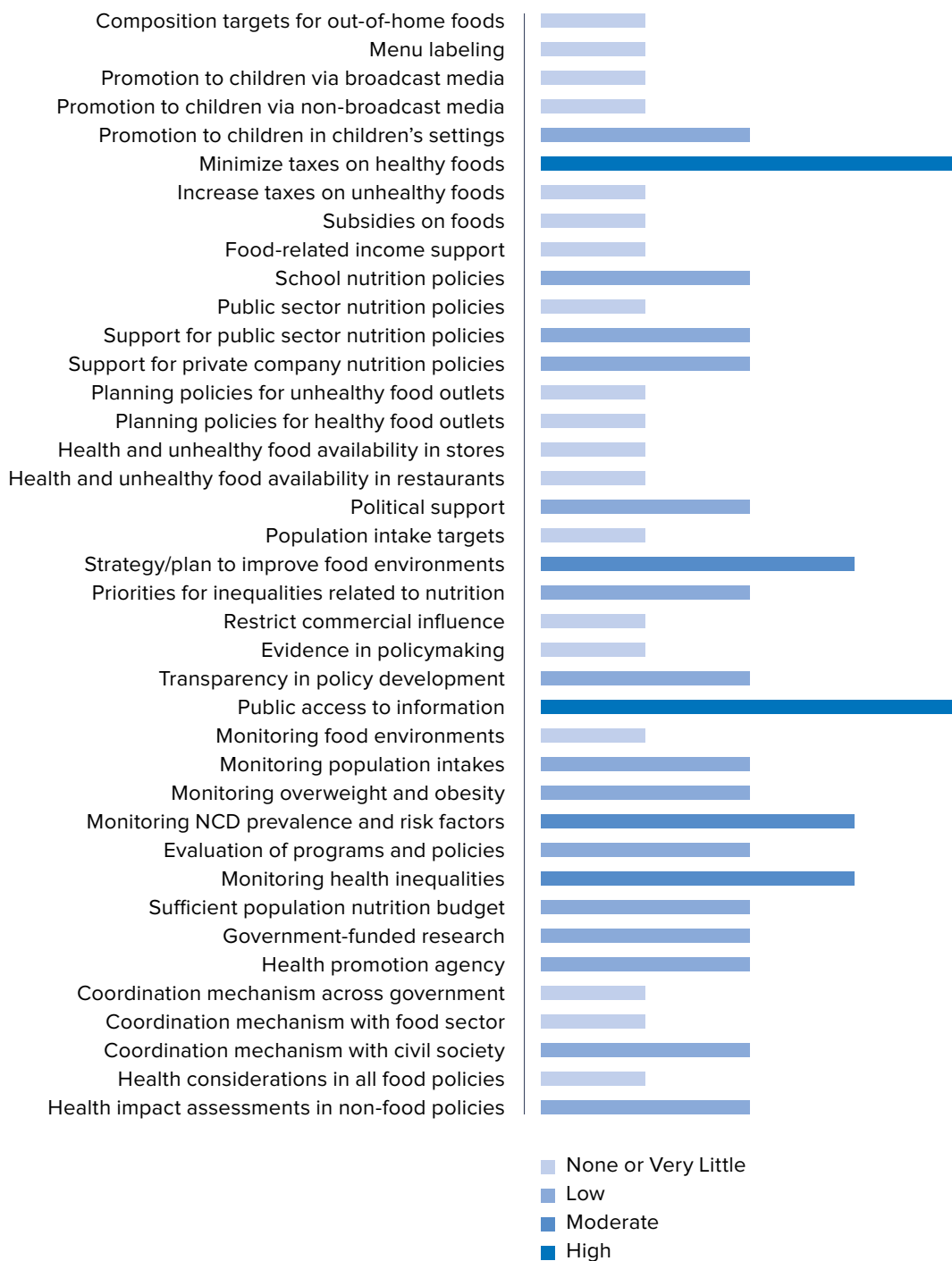
Policy

1. Require the implementation of the Healthy Living Guidelines for Early Learning and Child Care Centres on Prince Edward Island in all PEI early childhood education settings
2. Establish an ongoing support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
3. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the School Food and Nutrition Policy

Infrastructure Support

1. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy to maintain efforts from the PEI Healthy Eating Strategy and the Wellness Strategy with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable populations. Ensure that adequate, sustainable support positions are in place to support this work on an ongoing basis
2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
3. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)

Figure 16. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Prince Edward Island



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Quebec

Prioritized Actions

Policy

1. Evaluate the current school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets
4. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes
5. Alter QST regulations such that exemptions from QST are considered based upon the healthfulness of food and beverage products

Infrastructure Support

1. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
2. Implement, monitor and evaluate the *Politique gouvernementale de prévention en santé*
3. Establish regular provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
4. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
5. Develop and monitor public provincial targets for intake of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor inequities in achieving targets

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Quebec can be found in Figure 17.

52

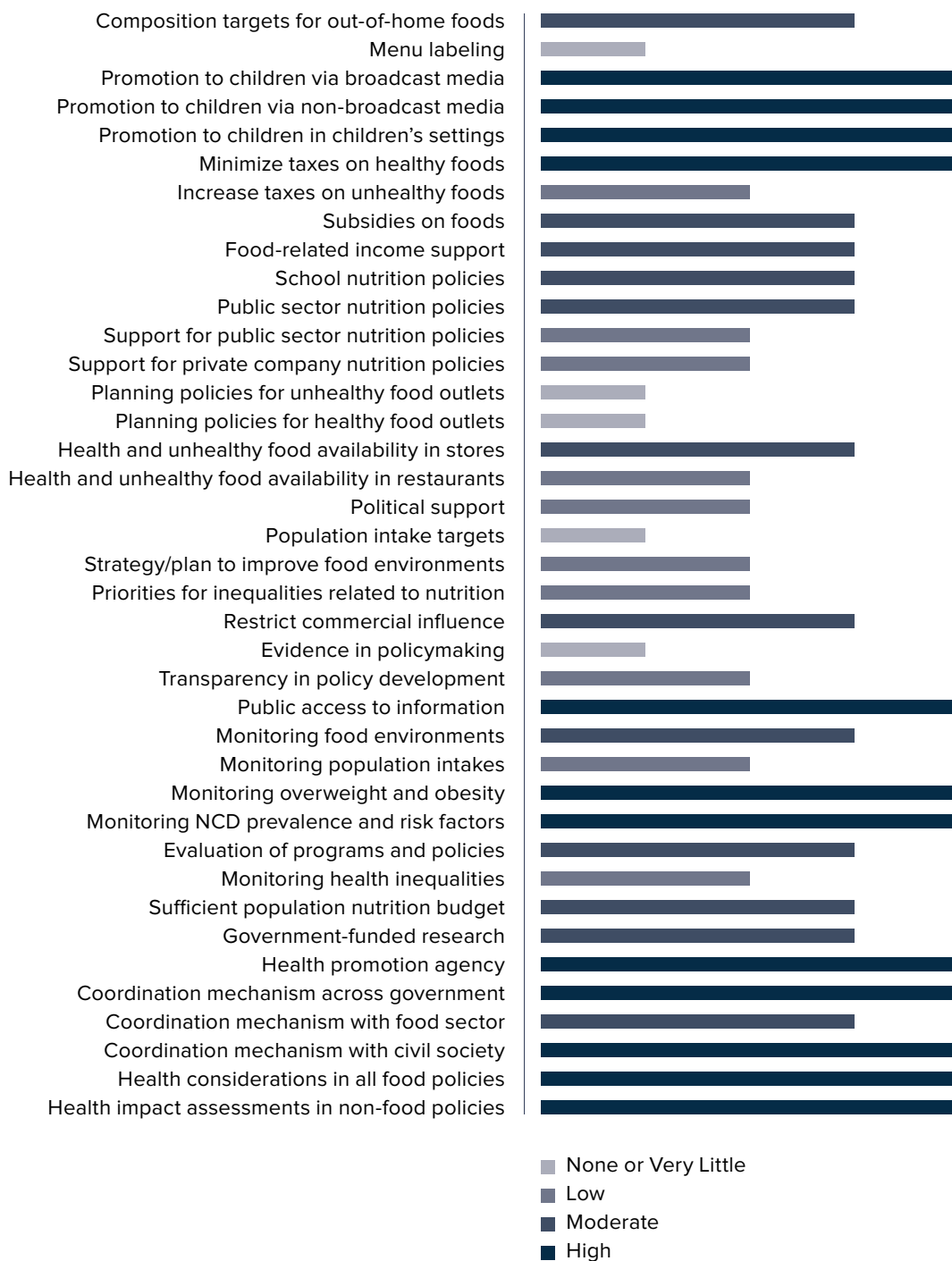
Areas where the Quebec government is doing particularly well:

- Restrictions on marketing to children across all media and in settings where children gather (also an international benchmark)
- No additional taxes on basic groceries, but Quebec sales tax (QST) does apply to all soft drinks, candy and potato chips
- Comprehensive monitoring of obesity and NCD prevalence and risk factors
- A centre for expertise in public health, the Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec (INSPQ) with specific work targeting food environments
- Ongoing, meaningful efforts to introduce a Health-in-all-policies approach to policymaking

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Figure 17. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Quebec



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Saskatchewan

Prioritized Actions

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Saskatchewan can be found in Figure 18.

54

Areas where the Saskatchewan government is doing particularly well:

- No additional tax on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- School nutrition guidelines (although not mandatory) for foods served in schools and early childhood education centres
- Monitoring of overweight and obesity and of NCD prevalence and risk factors among students in school-based surveys

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



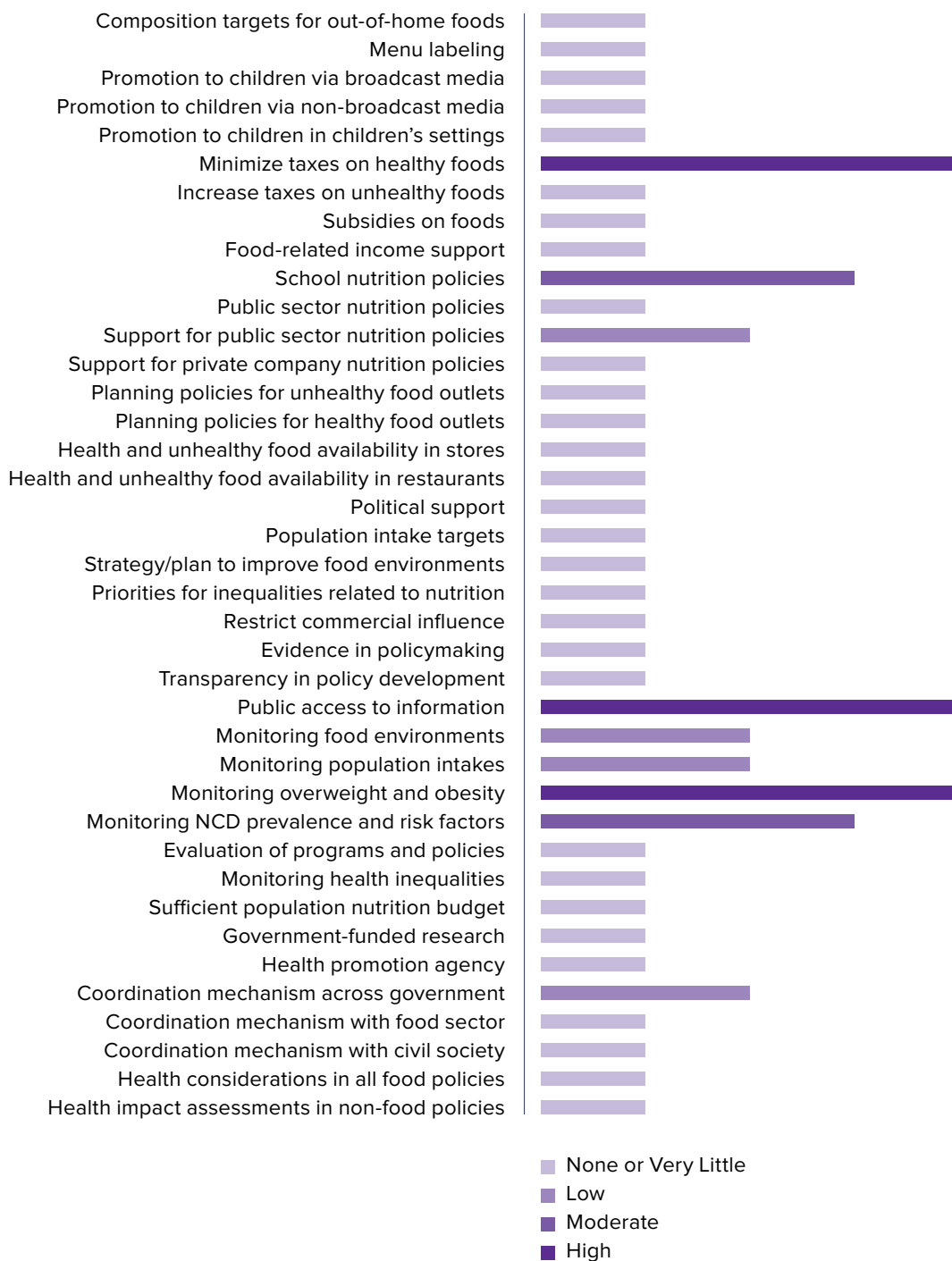
Policy

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
2. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the nutrition standards outlined in *Nourishing Minds: Towards Comprehensive School Community Health: Nutrition Policy Development in Saskatchewan Schools*
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets

Infrastructure Support

1. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health and establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
2. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
3. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
4. Restrict political donations by corporations

Figure 18. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* provincial government policy areas from online ratings for Saskatchewan



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Yukon

Expert ratings of policy implementation for Yukon can be found in Figure 19.

56

Areas where the Yukon government is doing particularly well:

- No additional taxes on basic groceries, which are typically healthier foods
- The establishment of plans and strategies that prioritize food environments, including the Wellness Plan for Yukon's Children and Families
- Efforts to address health-related inequalities
- Monitoring NCD prevalence and risk factors through the Health and Health-Related Behaviours Among Young People in Yukon survey

The full listing of proposed actions are available in Appendix B.



Prioritized Actions

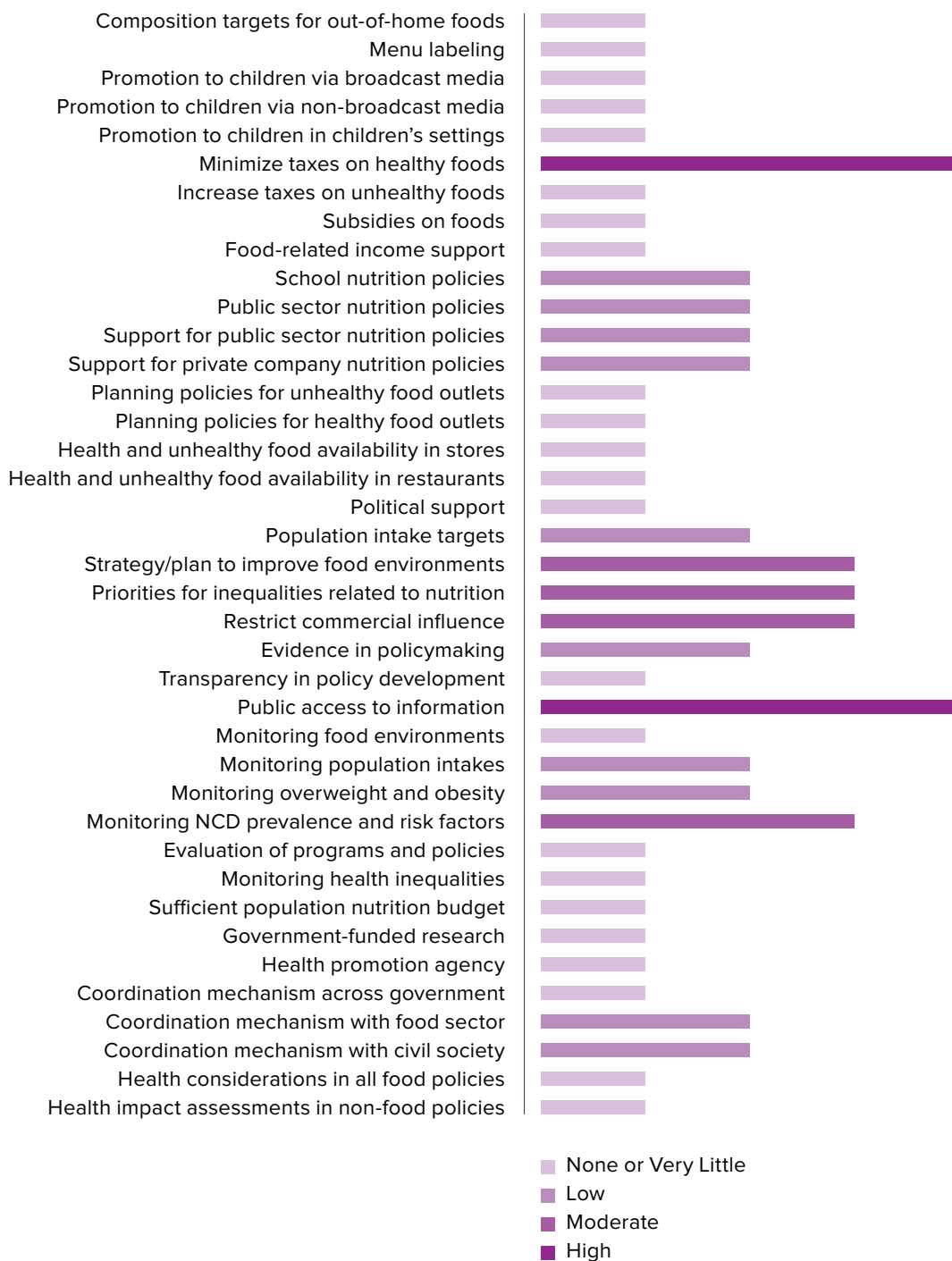
Policy

1. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in schools
2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
3. Develop a subsidy program to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based interventions to address food sovereignty issues in Yukon

Infrastructure Support

1. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
3. Establish an up-to-date territorial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations to follow the Yukon Nutrition Framework and to complement the Wellness Plan for Yukon's Children and Families, the Yukon Local Food Strategy and the Yukon Agriculture Policy that also complements the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
4. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions

Figure 19. Expert ratings of implementation of 39* territorial government policy areas from online ratings for Yukon



*Only 39 of the 47 Food-EPI indicators were identified as falling within provincial or territorial jurisdiction

Strengths, Challenges and Evaluation

Strengths of the Food-EPI Canada Process

INTERNATIONAL METHODS: Internationally-developed by leading experts in food environment policy in INFORMAS. A common methodology has been followed and implemented in 13 countries to date

BROAD EXPERTISE: A large expert panel with a broad range of expertise from across the country from a variety of types of organizations

REALISTIC COMPARISONS: Using the Food-EPI process, Canadian policies were compared to actual policies that have been implemented globally, resulting in recommendations grounded in realistic policies that are in place globally

TRANSPARENCY: There was involvement of government stakeholders throughout the process to increase transparency of the process and to inform the process at multiple steps

Challenges of the Food-EPI Canada Process

BENCHMARKS: During the workshops, experts had questions regarding the quality and applicability of some of the international benchmarks used in the process. While it is understood that the benchmarks change over time, some experts felt that several benchmarks lacked empirical evidence of impact. While this is largely due to limitations in the quantity of current policy research in this areas and the ongoing evolution and development of policies, this is an inherent limitation of the Food-EPI process

BIAS: Typically, an area of expertise for any expert in food environments is focused on one or two domains or policy areas, and few experts have a knowledge of all food environment policy areas. As a result, each expert brings a certain lens that is applied to their evaluation of the importance and achievability of these actions. This may have introduced some level of individual bias in each individual prioritization exercise; however, it is likely that using group mean scores may help to minimize this individual influence

SCOPE: The nature of regulatory jurisdiction in Canada occurring at the national and sub-national levels (i.e., within the provinces and territories) makes the scope of this work challenging. Having several levels of regulatory responsibility for some policy domains places policy responsibility in the hands of both levels of government. This process highlights the idea that leadership is needed at both levels to successfully develop and implement policy. This document does not include policy evaluation or recommendations for Nunavut. Also, it does not include local or municipal level policies, which is known to play a significant role in food environment policy, by implementing novel and unique policies at the local jurisdiction, as well as influencing policy at the provincial, territorial and federal level

INTERPRETATION: The Food-EPI process requires experts to apply knowledge and experience in food environment policy to conduct the ratings, which can lead to varied interpretation of both international benchmarks and policy implementation. In some instances, provinces and territories with similar or identical policies were rated differently. To address this, adjustments were made to the ratings for two indicators to ensure that provinces or territories meeting the international benchmark were rated as such

Outcome Evaluation

A post-workshop evaluation form was completed by 71 experts and observers, to evaluate both the Food-EPI process as well as personal development of the Expert Panel in Canada. Highlights of the results showed:

85% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that their knowledge of food environments and related food and nutrition policy increased

86% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they increased their knowledge of best practices that other governments are taking internationally in relation to food environment policy

73% agreed or strongly agreed that they had made new professional connections or strengthened existing relationships

Implications for Policy

Canadian provincial, territorial and federal governments met global best practice in some, but not all, policy areas that are the most critical to improve the food environment in Canada. Leadership is needed from all federal, provincial, and territorial decision makers to establish a comprehensive strategy to address unhealthy diets and rates of diet-related NCDs. This research demonstrates that food environment policies differ greatly across jurisdictions in Canada, and that there are many areas where governments could act to improve the food environment. Comprehensive, cohesive and coordinated action between jurisdictions, departments and agencies are often needed to provide a comprehensive policy framework to achieve targeted public health nutrition goals. It is our hope that this research will help guide the food and nutrition policy agenda in Canada in the coming years.

Policy makers and others are encouraged to also examine the broad range of policy actions in other Canadian and international jurisdictions beyond those rated as the current priority actions. These contain a wealth of additional actions for consideration, particularly as the policy landscape nationally and globally continues to strengthen and evolve in many areas.

Nutrition related risk factors account for the largest mortality burden in Canada and across the world. Globally, many governments are demonstrating significant leadership by implementing policies and government infrastructure to support healthier food environments, and to make the healthy choice the easier choice. High rates of NCDs are thought to be one of the greatest obstacles in achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. As international governments innovate with novel policies to address rising rates of diet-related NCDs and obesity, Canadian governments will need to continue to act and build upon current policies to ensure they do not fall behind in their duty to protect and promote the health and wellness of Canadians. Monitoring and evaluating policy implementation and impact is also critical to ensure that policies are achieving the desired results, and will contribute to our understanding of the effectiveness of these policies more broadly.

What next?

We will be repeating the Food-EPI Canada process in several years, to examine progress in implementing policy and infrastructure supports to improve the food environment. Ongoing monitoring of policies and efforts will increase accountability of governments to implement policies, and help establish the roadmap for food environment policy in Canada in the years to come.

Additionally, as governments world wide continue to introduce and evaluate innovated policies directed at improving the food environment, a richer inventory of possible policy actions for consideration will no doubt continue to develop.

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Appendix A

Indicators, Good Practice Statements and Examples of International Benchmarks

Abbreviated indicator name	Abbreviated good practice statement	Sample of international benchmark example
Composition targets for packaged foods	Food composition targets for processed foods for nutrients of concern in certain foods or food groups are in place	ARGENTINA: Mandatory maximum sodium levels in various food categories DENMARK: Ban on trans fat
Composition targets for out-of-home foods	Food composition targets for out-of-home meals in food service outlets for nutrients of concern in certain foods or food groups are in place	NETHERLANDS: Voluntary agreement with trade organization for nutrients of concern
Nutrition information on labels	Ingredient lists and nutrient declarations (including warning labels) in line with Codex recommendations are present on the labels of all packaged foods	MANY COUNTRIES (including Canada): require trans fat information on labels USA: To require added sugar on labels
Health claim regulations	Regulatory systems are in place for approving/reviewing claims on foods to protect consumers against unsubstantiated and misleading nutrition and health claims	AUSTRALIA: Regulations for health and nutrition claims on healthy products only
Front-of-package food labelling	A single, consistent, interpretive, evidence-informed front-of-pack (FOP) supplementary nutrition information system is applied to all packaged foods	CHILE: Warning labels for foods high in calories, saturated fat, sodium and sugar
Menu labelling	A consistent, single, simple, clearly-visible system of labelling the menu boards of all quick service restaurants (e.g., fast food chains) is applied by the government, which allows consumers to interpret the nutrient quality and/or energy content of foods and meals on sale	AUSTRALIA: 3 states require kilojoule labelling in chain restaurants
Promotion to children via broadcast media	Policies restrict exposure and power of promotion of unhealthy foods to children through broadcast media (TV, radio)	QUEBEC, CANADA: Prohibits all advertising to children under 13 years through all media
Promotion to children via non-broadcast media	Policies restrict exposure and power of promotion of unhealthy foods to children through non-broadcast media (e.g. Internet, social media, food packaging, sponsorship, outdoor and public transport advertising)	QUEBEC, CANADA: Prohibits all advertising to children under 13 years through all media

Abbreviated indicator name	Abbreviated good practice statement	Sample of international benchmark example
Promotion to children in children's settings	Policies restrict promotion of unhealthy foods to children in settings where children gather (e.g. preschools, schools, sport and cultural events)	CHILE: Restricts advertising to children under age 14 for foods high in nutrients of concern
Minimize taxes on healthy foods	Taxes on healthy foods are minimised to encourage healthy food choices where possible	POLAND: Tax exemption for basic foods TONGA: Reduced import duties on all types of fish
Increase taxes on unhealthy foods	Taxes on unhealthy foods are in place and increase the retail prices of these foods by at least 10% to discourage unhealthy food choices where possible, and these taxes are reinvested to improve population health	MEXICO: Introduced an excise duty on drinks with added sugar and calorically dense foods
Subsidies on foods	Existing subsidies on foods favour healthy rather than unhealthy foods	SINGAPORE: 'Healthier ingredient scheme' supports oil manufacturers to use healthy oils
Food-related income support	The government ensures that food-related income support programs are for healthy foods	USA: The Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) aims to provide healthier foods
School nutrition policies	Clear, consistent policies in schools and early childhood education and care services for food service activities provide and promote healthy food choices	CHILE: Limits foods sold in schools that are high in nutrients of concern
Public sector nutrition policies	Clear, consistent policies in public sector settings for food service activities provide and promote healthy food choices	LATVIA: Set sodium levels for foods in hospitals UK: Minimum standards for public sector buying and catering services
Support for private sector nutrition policies	Good support and training systems to help schools and other public sector organisations and their caterers meet the healthy food service policies and guidelines	JAPAN: Dietitians help implement nutrition programs in schools, public settings, etc.
Private company nutrition policies	Government actively encourages and supports private companies to provide and promote healthy foods and meals in their workplaces	SINGAPORE: Program provides grants and tools to private and public institutions to promote health in workplaces
Planning policies for unhealthy food outlets	Zoning laws provide robust mechanisms to place limits on the density or placement of outlets selling mainly unhealthy foods in communities	SOUTH KOREA: 'Green food zones' around 200 m of schools can sell healthy foods only
Planning policies for healthy food outlets	Zoning laws provide robust mechanisms to encourage the availability of outlets selling fresh fruit and vegetables	USA: Provides grants to states to attract healthier retail outlets in underserved areas

Abbreviated indicator name	Abbreviated good practice statement	Sample of international benchmark example
Health and unhealthy food availability in stores	Support systems encourage food stores to promote the in-store availability of healthy foods and to limit the in-store availability of unhealthy foods	USA: The WIC program requires authorized stores to stock healthier products
Healthy and unhealthy food availability in restaurants	Support systems encourage food service outlets to increase the promotion and availability of healthy foods and to decrease the promotion and availability of unhealthy foods	SINGAPORE: Program to support food vendors with healthier options FRANCE: Banned unlimited free refills in restaurants
Risk impact assessments	Risk impact assessments before and during the negotiation of trade and investment agreements identify and evaluate the impacts of agreements on population nutrition and health	USA: Environmental impact assessments sometimes incorporate Health Impact Assessments
Manage and protect regulatory capacity	The government adopts measures to manage investment and protect their regulatory capacity with respect to public health nutrition	MANY COUNTRIES: Sanitary and phytosanitary clauses in World Trade Organization agreements
Political support for population nutrition	There is strong, visible, political support for improving food environments, population nutrition, diet-related NCDs and related inequalities	BRAZIL: Minister of Health support for new dietary guidelines CARICOM COUNTRIES: NCD commissions in 6 member states
Population intake targets established	Clear population intake targets for the nutrients of concern have been established	BRAZIL: National targets for fruit and vegetable consumption and salt intake
Dietary guidelines	Clear, interpretive, evidence-informed food-based dietary guidelines have been established and implemented	BRAZIL: National dietary guidelines address healthy eating from a cultural, ethical and environmental perspective
Implementation plan to improve food environments	There is a comprehensive, transparent, up-to-date implementation plan to improve food environments, reduce the intake of the nutrients of concern, and reduce diet-related NCDs	EU: The European Food and Nutrition Action Plan 2015–20 outlines clear strategic goals, guiding principles, objectives, priorities and tools
Priorities for inequalities related to nutrition	Government priorities to reduce inequalities or protect vulnerable populations in relation to diet, nutrition, obesity and NCDs have been established	NEW ZEALAND: Reports estimates from health and nutrition surveys by ethnic group and area level deprivation index AUSTRALIA: the National Indigenous Reform Agreement (Closing the Gap)
Restrict commercial influence	Procedures to restrict commercial influences on the development of policies related to food environments where they have conflicts of interest are in place	USA: Federal and state lobby registries which must disclose amount spent on lobbying AUSTRALIA: Australian Public Service Commission's Values and Code of Conduct
Evidence in policymaking	Policies and procedures for using evidence in the development of food policies are in place	AUSTRALIA: The National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992 requires development of evidence-based guidelines

Abbreviated indicator name	Abbreviated good practice statement	Sample of international benchmark example
Transparency in policy development	Policies and procedures are implemented for ensuring transparency in the development of food policies	AUSTRALIA/NZ: Food Standards Australia New Zealand requires stakeholder engagement in the development of new standards
Public access to information	The government ensures public access to comprehensive information and key documents (e.g. budget documents, annual performance reviews and health indicators) related to public health nutrition and food environments	AUSTRALIA/NZ: The Freedom of Information Act and Open Access principles across governments
Monitoring food environments	Monitoring systems regularly monitor food environments	NEW ZEALAND: Measures food environments in all schools and ECEs
Monitoring population intakes	There is regular monitoring of adult and childhood nutrition status and population intakes against specified intake targets or recommended daily intake levels	USA: The NHANES assesses health and nutritional status of representative samples of adults and children annually
Monitoring overweight and obesity	There is regular monitoring of adult and childhood overweight and obesity prevalence using anthropometric measurements	UK: Measures all children in England in the first and last years of primary school.
Monitoring NCD prevalence and risk factors	There is regular monitoring of the prevalence of NCD risk factors and occurrence rates (e.g. prevalence, incidence, mortality) for the main diet-related NCDs	OECD COUNTRIES: Have regular, robust prevalence, incidence and mortality data for diet-related NCDs and risk factors
Evaluation of programs and policies	Evaluation of major programs and policies to assess effectiveness and contribution to achieving the nutrition and health goals	USA: The NIH provides dedicated research funding for natural experiments evaluating policies that may influence obesity and health
Monitoring health inequalities	Regular monitoring of progress towards reducing health inequalities or health impacts in vulnerable populations and social determinants of health	NEW ZEALAND: Aall annual surveys report estimates by subpopulations (including ethnicity)
Sufficient population nutrition budget	The 'population nutrition' budget, as a proportion of total health spending and/or in relation to the diet-related NCD burden is sufficient to reduce diet-related NCDs	NEW ZEALAND: Funding for population nutrition was estimated at 0.6% of the health budget
Government-funded research	Government funded research is targeted for improving food environments, reducing obesity, NCDs and their related inequalities	AUSTRALIA: Obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular health have been designated as National Health Priority Areas
Health promotion agency	There is a statutory health promotion agency in place that includes an objective to improve population nutrition	AUSTRALIA: The Victorian Health Promotion Foundation was created in 19687

Abbreviated indicator name	Abbreviated good practice statement	Sample of international benchmark example
Coordination mechanism across government	Coordination mechanisms across departments and levels of government (national and state) to ensure policy coherence, alignment, and integration of food-related policies across governments	MALTA: Established an inter-ministerial Advisory Council on Healthy Lifestyles
Coordination mechanism with commercial food sector	There are formal platforms between government and the commercial food sector to implement healthy food policies	UK: The UK 'Responsibility Deal' initiative brought together food companies and NGOs to voluntarily take steps to address NCDs
Coordination mechanism with civil society	There are formal platforms for regular interactions between government and civil society on food policies and other strategies to improve population nutrition	BRAZIL: The National Council of Food and Nutrition Security (CONSEA) includes civil society actors as advisors
Systems-based approach with local organizations	Broad, coherent, effective, integrated and sustainable systems-based approach with local organisations to improve food environments at a national level	NEW ZEALAND: Healthy Families NZ supports community-led initiatives for better health
Health considerations in all food policies	Population nutrition, health outcomes and reducing health inequalities or health impacts in vulnerable populations are considered and prioritised in the development of all government policies relating to food	SLOVENIA: Undertook a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) to assess the health effects of national agricultural policy
Health impact assessments in non-food policies	There are processes (e.g. HIAs) to assess and consider health impacts during the development of other non-food policies	FINLAND: Has worked towards health-in-all-policies for over four decades

Appendix B

Complete list of proposed actions for the federal, provincial and territorial governments to improve the food environment, in order of priority ranking according to policy experts

Table A1. Complete List of Federal Actions

1. Implement a comprehensive federal policy to prohibit advertising of unhealthy foods and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 through all forms of media that are or can be targeted to children in this age group (including broadcast media, non-broadcast media and in children's settings), with an eventual goal to prohibit all advertising to children
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the food supply (packaged foods and restaurant foods) using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
3. Implement an excise tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
4. Include a declaration and percentage daily value (%DV) for free sugar content in the Nutrition Facts table and in front-of-package labelling schemes
5. Develop clear and consistent nutritional criteria that must be met in order for any food or drink products to carry a health claim or nutrient content claim; any foods that are high in nutrients of concern would not be permitted to carry a claim
6. Extend the current Nutrition Facts table requirements to require nutrition labelling be applied to centrally prepared, in-store take away foods, baked goods and pastries, packaged sandwiches and salads, meat products, baby foods, and alcohol, and require websites to display Nutrition Facts tables for any packaged foods that are sold online that carry a Nutrition Facts table on their package
7. Implement a national minimum basic income for all people living in Canada, to enable all to afford healthy food, as part of a comprehensive Poverty Reduction Strategy for Canada
8. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of unprocessed or minimally processed vegetables, fruit and legumes that are healthy, local and sustainable
9. Provide federal subsidies to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based health promotion interventions in the provincial Norths and far North to address food sovereignty issues
10. Continue to increase the scale and scope of programs and strategies (such as Nutrition North Canada) to provide improved equitable access to affordable, healthy food among Canada's provincial Norths and far North
11. Provide federal funding and support for 1) a national school feeding program and 2) fruit and vegetable programs to be implemented by provinces and territories in schools both on and off reserve
12. Implement a standardized, comprehensive labelling system on the front of packaged foods and on restaurant foods that has been developed using a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to provide consumers with simple, interpretive information on the healthfulness of products at the point of sale

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13. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food and beverage choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in settings under federal government control (government buildings, national parks) using a coordinated approach
-
14. Alter GST/HST regulations such that exemptions from GST are considered based upon the healthfulness of food and beverage products, using a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system, and complement this with a public awareness campaign to inform consumers of the changes to sales tax regulations in grocery stores
-
15. Develop available resources and provide technical assistance and guidance to the provinces and territories to develop and implement healthy nutrition standards in schools and early childhood education settings and other publicly-funded settings
-
16. Implement consistent and ongoing monitoring and enforcement of nutrition labelling, and ensure that the system and results are transparent and available to the public
-
17. Ensure that specific and explicit provisions are included in trade and investment agreements that allow the government to preserve its regulatory capacity to protect and promote public health nutrition
-
18. Use a structured voluntary approach to set portion size standards for both packaged and restaurant foods in line with dietary guidance
-
19. Establish Federal/Provincial/Territorial guidelines for foods that are permitted to be provided or sold in early childhood education settings
-
20. Require mandatory implementation of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial guidelines for foods sold or provided in schools and similar consistent guidelines for early childhood education centres as a minimum that is required to be legislated by provinces and territories
-
21. Implement a national menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service establishments nationwide with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries. In addition, require chain food service establishments to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size for foods and beverages in an online format
-
22. Provide vocal support to the World Health Organization to strengthen recommendations for public health nutrition
-
23. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
24. Develop national guidelines to support provincial/territorial authorities to develop supplementary planning guidance and simplified mechanisms within planning laws to enable the development of policies to promote and equitably access healthier food options and/or discourage less healthy food options at the local level
-
25. Include formal and explicit public health nutrition and health risk assessments as part of national interest analysis on trade and investment agreements, and include considerations regarding the economic burden of diet-related NCDs in trade and investment analyses
-
26. Develop programs and support to stimulate and incentivize industry sectors and large employers to create pledges for healthier food environments in the workplace
-
27. Restrict offers on unlimited sugary drinks for free or at fixed prices in restaurants
-
28. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
29. Explore opportunities to extend FOP labelling policy implemented for packaged foods to restaurant foods to provide additional information on nutrients of concern at the point of sale
-
30. Explore interactive platforms to clearly communicate interpretive front-of-package information to consumers (using tablets and smartphones)
-

Complete list of Federal Infrastructure Support Actions

1. Develop public targets for intake of sodium, saturated fat, and free sugar, and vegetables and fruit, monitor progress and inequities in achieving targets over time
2. Implement evidenced-informed revisions for a more comprehensive, multi-component Canada's Food Guide, with recommendations for the public that promote a holistic view of the food environment and system and acknowledge environmental impact, sustainability and cultural appropriateness, in addition to a practical resource for practitioners and policy makers that includes a nutrient- and food-specific approach to public health
3. Monitor and revise the Healthy Eating Strategy on an on-going basis with a timeline for policy implementation and action, and establish a long-term vision for the Healthy Eating Strategy with a timeline that extends beyond the current election cycle, which includes a research agenda and evaluation plan that is adequately resourced and aligns with the objectives and outcomes of the Strategy
4. Include specific actions and policies in the Healthy Eating Strategy and other food-related policies to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, with a broad definition of these groups (e.g., those with low SES, children and Indigenous peoples, among others exhibiting social and health disparities)
5. Mandate the regular collection of food security data in the Canadian Community Health Survey across all provinces and territories to comprehensively understand the state of food security across the country at a national and provincial/territorial level on an ongoing basis
6. Comprehensively assess dietary intake among the entire population including vulnerable populations and those living in rural and remote areas at least every 5 years, working with representatives from each province and territory, and incorporate specific biomarkers and evidence-based anthropometric measurements to be collected alongside dietary intake data among a subset of the sample
7. Establish a national Poverty Reduction Strategy that includes a specific focus on reducing household and community food insecurity and nutrition-related health inequities
8. Establish a comprehensive food and agriculture policy for Canada with an increased focus on public health nutrition, environmental sustainability, and local food production with strong collaboration across sectors and between federal and provincial/territorial governments that aligns with the Healthy Eating Strategy and is particularly mindful of vulnerable groups
9. Establish a comprehensive nutrient profiling system, in alignment with national dietary guidance, that can be used and adapted across policy interventions to simplify implementation, maintenance and monitoring across policies
10. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
11. Create a whole-of-government approach at the federal and F/P/T level around nutrition issues
12. Increase accessibility and capacity to use provincial/territorial administrative databases by researchers to monitor health-related risk factors and outcomes, such as NCD rates
13. Set clear guidelines for involvement of different stakeholders in policy development processes, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
14. Expand implementation of the transparency policy being applied to the Healthy Eating Strategy to the development or revision of all food policies
15. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all federal food policies
16. Establish a long term and timely funding initiative for population health intervention research and surveillance relating to diet-related NCDs

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17. Regulate the disclosure of the amount and type of funding support provided by any industry (including the food industry and commodity sectors) to all researchers
-
18. Require formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
-
19. Publicly post the amount of money spent by industry on lobbying the federal government as part of the Lobbying Act and the Lobbying Registry Act
-
20. Publish reports related to progress on the reduction of health inequities using available, nationally representative data
-
21. Ensure research funding allocation takes into account the diseases and conditions with the highest burden, including an increase in the proportion of research funding that is allocated specifically to improving population nutrition and diet-related NCD prevention research
-
22. Implement a nutrition-sensitive program for agriculture in Canada to support and promote a food system that aligns with public health nutrition goals
-
23. Post all comments submitted to policy consultations and regulatory changes publicly, as is done in the US Dockets system
-
24. Develop capacity among civil society groups and organizations to participate in policy consultation and development, including provision of appropriate platforms and resources to allow groups to participate fully in consultations and policy development, and ensuring accessibility of policy conversations by addressing language barriers, literacy, and access to technology
-
25. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
-
26. Improve Public Health Agency of Canada's policy and surveillance capacity for public health nutrition
-
27. Provide support for local, community-based interventions to create healthy food environments by implementing and funding a knowledge translation and exchange platform to provide advice, promote best practice, and offer networking opportunities, such as an up-to-date best practices portal
-
28. Establish an ongoing and publicly-disclosed monitoring system for the nutritional quality of the food supply, foods served in school and early childhood education environments, food marketing to children and retail food environments
-
29. Establish an ongoing platform for improved communication and relationships between Health Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
-
30. Establish monitoring of traditional country food and water supply, food availability, and measures of food sovereignty in rural and remote areas
-

Alberta

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
2. Extend the implementation of the ANGCY so that the standards are mandatory in all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings), with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the program
3. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
4. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
5. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy
6. Introduce food literacy and food skills training as part of school curricula
7. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
8. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
9. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
10. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
11. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
12. Implement a provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries. In addition, require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size for foods and beverages in an online format
13. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
14. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
15. Extend efforts to provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness

-
16. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
-
17. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
18. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
-

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT ACTIONS

1. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth and the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines for Adults as well as federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
-
2. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
-
3. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
4. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
-
5. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
-
6. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
-
7. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
-
8. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
-
9. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
-
10. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
-
11. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
-
12. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
-
13. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
-

-
14. Establish a health promotion agency in Alberta with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
-
15. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
-
16. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
-

British Columbia

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
-
2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
-
3. Require all programs involving supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the Guidelines For Food & Beverage Sales in BC Schools
-
4. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
-
5. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
-
6. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy
-
7. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
-
8. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
-
9. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
10. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
11. Expand the Buy Local, Grow Local program, with a particular focus on remote areas to promote food sovereignty
-
12. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
-

-
13. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
-
14. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
-
15. Extend the Guidelines For Food & Beverage Sales in BC Schools to develop and implement a clear, consistent policy including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.) , and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
-
16. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
17. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
-
18. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
-
19. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
-
20. Revise current PST policy to include foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets to promote the consumption of foods prepared at home
-

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT ACTIONS

-
1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
-
2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
3. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
-
4. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
-
5. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
-
6. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
-
7. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
-

8. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
9. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
10. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
11. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
12. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
13. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
14. Publicize a comprehensive province-wide healthy eating strategy to improve population nutrition that complements the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy and specifically focuses on vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
15. Establish a health promotion agency in BC with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
16. Monitor and publicly report progress in achieving the target of 55% of British Columbians (age 12+) who consume fruit and vegetables at least 5 times per day
17. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
18. Restrict political donations by corporations

Manitoba Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet Manitoba's Nutrition Guidelines, and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
3. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
4. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds

-
5. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
-
6. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
-
7. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
-
8. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
-
9. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
-
10. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
-
11. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
12. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
13. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
-
14. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
-
15. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
-
16. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
-
17. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
18. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy
-
19. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
-

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT ACTIONS

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
3. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the Healthy Child Manitoba Strategy, the AFFIRM strategy and the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative as well as the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
4. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
5. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
6. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
7. Continue to fund the Manitoba Youth Health Survey
8. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
9. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) to complement the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative and the Manitoba Healthy Food in Schools Advisory Committee, with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups.
10. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
11. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
12. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
13. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
14. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
15. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
16. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
17. Establish a health promotion agency in Manitoba with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues

New Brunswick

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the provincial to meet Policy 711 and any other nutrition policies or guidelines implemented by schools or schoolboards, and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
2. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
3. Actively support the implementation of Policy AD-1709 to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) supported by the Government of New Brunswick
4. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
5. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
6. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
7. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
8. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
9. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
10. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
11. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
12. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
13. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
14. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy

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15. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
16. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
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17. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
-
18. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
-
19. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
20. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
-

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

-
1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
-
2. Update the Public Health Nutrition Framework for Action with concrete actions to be taken and an implementation plan and timeline complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
-
3. Establish a health promotion agency in New Brunswick with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
-
4. Include specific incorporation of health and obesity and NCD prevention in the Local Food and Beverages Strategy to support the production, retailing and consumption of healthful foods and beverages
-
5. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
6. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
-
7. Restrict political donations by corporations
-
8. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
-
9. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
-
10. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
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11. Continue to support community-wide structures or networks such as the Wellness Networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions and add a specific target to these networks to create and maintain healthy food environments across settings
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12. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
-
13. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
-
14. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health
-
15. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
-
16. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
-
17. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
-

Newfoundland & Labrador

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy
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2. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
-
3. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
-
4. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
-
5. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the provincial to meet the provincial nutrition guidelines, and ensure that these guidelines reflect the current Canada's Food Guide
-
6. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
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7. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
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8. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
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9. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
-
10. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
-
11. Provide funding and resources to implement Action 2.15 of The Way Forward vision strategy to support healthy eating and breastfeeding in communities
-
12. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
-
13. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
14. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
-
15. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
-
16. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
-
17. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
-
18. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
-
19. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
-
20. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
21. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

1. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
2. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
3. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research
4. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework to continue the Provincial Food and Nutrition Framework and Action Plan for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement ongoing frameworks within NL, and the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
5. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
6. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
7. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
8. Restrict political donations by corporations
9. Establish a current Provincial Food and Nutrition Framework Advisory Committee and broaden representation from all sectors (including the private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
10. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
11. Implement the Health-in-all-Policies approach as outlined in The Way Forward document
12. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
13. Update the Agriculture and Agrifoods Strategy with a specific lens on nutrition, and include nutrition as a lens in the development of all agricultural policy
14. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
15. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
16. Continue to support community-wide structures or networks such as the Wellness Networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions and add a specific target to these networks to create and maintain healthy food environments across settings
17. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
18. Establish a health promotion agency in Newfoundland & Labrador with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues

Northwest Territories

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
2. Introduce a comprehensive territorial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and early childhood education settings and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres
3. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in all schools
4. Expand the Small Scale Foods Program subsidies to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based interventions to address food sovereignty issues in NWT
5. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
6. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
7. Implement a territorial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
8. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines
9. Remove sugary drinks from the premises of all public sector settings beyond just the Legislative Assembly
10. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under government control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, etc.)
11. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
12. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
13. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
14. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
15. Develop and implement territorial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development

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16. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
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17. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
-
18. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
19. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
-
20. Implement a territorial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets
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INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT ACTIONS

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of territorial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, and speeches from the throne
-
2. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
-
3. Establish a health promotion agency or department in NWT with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
-
4. Establish a territorial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
-
5. Establish territorial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in school food environments and public sector settings
-
6. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
7. Establish an up-to-date territorial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
-
8. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
-
9. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health (a health-in-all-policies approach)
-
10. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies in NWT
-
11. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the territorial and local level
-
12. Develop clear territorial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
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13. In the absence of regular federal monitoring of dietary intake in NWT, implement a territorial survey to assess dietary intake survey, food security and anthropometrics, and report the results stratified by socio-demographics associated with inequalities (income, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)

 14. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities

 15. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for locally developed and informed community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings

 16. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all territorial food policies

 17. Establish a lobbying registry, and have lobbying information publicly accessible

 18. Restrict political donations by corporations

Nova Scotia

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Implement the Guidelines for Healthy Eating in Recreation and Sport Settings as a mandatory policy in all recreation and sports settings

2. Implement a mandatory provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format

3. Fund a universal provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools

4. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings

5. Evaluate what is currently in the school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education

6. Implement a provincial minimum basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, as part of a comprehensive provincial Poverty Reduction Strategy

7. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices

8. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance

9. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable

10. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for vegetable, fruit and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption

11. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
12. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
13. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
14. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
15. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
16. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
17. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
18. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
19. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT ACTIONS

1. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies in NS
2. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
3. Establish provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
4. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
5. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy to continue the Thrive! strategy for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
6. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health (a health-in-all-policies approach) as per the recommendations in the Thrive! plan
7. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies

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8. Establish a health promotion agency or department in Nova Scotia with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
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9. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
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10. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
-
11. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
-
12. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
-
13. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
14. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee with a focus on population nutrition and healthy eating environments with broad representation from all sectors (including the private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
-
15. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
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16. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
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Ontario Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

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1. Update the Healthy Menu Choices Act to provide additional information for sodium on menus, and implement a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries to reformulate. In addition, require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
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2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
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3. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
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4. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
-
5. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local (within Ontario) and sustainable
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6. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
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7. Include specific provisions regarding the healthfulness of foods purchased by the Government of Ontario in the Local Food Procurement Policy
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8. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
-
9. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
-
10. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement the guidelines for foods sold or provided free of charge in child-directed settings
-
11. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for fruit, vegetable and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase their consumption, with a specific emphasis on distribution to northern and remote communities with limited access to fresh produce
-
12. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
-
13. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
14. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
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15. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
16. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in schools and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres and via other non-broadcast media
-
17. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
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18. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets, informed by the current pilot program in Ontario
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19. Establish a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, food service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
-
20. Expand the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program to include all schools in the province
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INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

1. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
2. Continue to support the Healthy Kids Community Challenge and invest in additional themes that promote healthy eating behaviours that have yet to be addressed
3. Create a multi-sectoral government body that includes participation from civil society to support and sustain the Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy
4. Continue funding for the Nutrition Resource Centre as a health promotion resource centre for Ontario that supports capacity for planning, implementing and evaluating evidence-based healthy eating and nutrition, health promotion interventions across Ontario
5. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
6. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
7. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
8. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
9. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health (a health-in-all-policies approach)
10. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
11. Establish regular provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
12. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies in Ontario
13. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
14. Continue to revise the Ontario Healthy Kids Strategy to complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the Healthy Kids Strategy to specifically improve public health nutrition among vulnerable populations
15. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) and health equity impact assessment (HEIA) capacity, including training and funding for HIAs and HEIAs at the provincial and local level
16. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
17. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings

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18. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee with a focus on population nutrition and healthy eating environments with broad representation from all sectors (including the private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
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Prince Edward Island

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Require the implementation of the Healthy Living Guidelines for Early Learning and Child Care Centres on Prince Edward Island in all PEI early childhood education settings
 2. Establish an ongoing support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
 3. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the School Food and Nutrition Policy
 4. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
 5. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
 6. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
 7. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
 8. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
 9. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets
 10. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
 11. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
 12. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres with a sufficient enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance
 13. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
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14. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public

 15. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance

 16. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development

 17. Implement a provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format

 18. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for fruit, vegetable and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption

 19. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable

 20. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines for foods sold or provided free of charge in child-directed settings

 21. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

1. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy to maintain efforts from the PEI Healthy Eating Strategy and the Wellness Strategy with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable populations. Ensure that adequate, sustainable support positions are in place to support this work on an ongoing basis

2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action

3. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)

4. Re-establish the Healthy Eating Alliance of PEI or a similar healthy eating committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups

5. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne

6. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions

7. Establish regular provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
8. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies in PEI
9. Implement health into food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health, as outlined in the CPHO Strategic Plan 2016 -2018
10. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
11. Establish a provincial Lobbying Act and a lobbying registry, and make lobbying information publicly accessible
12. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
13. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
14. Restrict political donations by corporations
15. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
16. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
17. Establish a health promotion agency in PEI with a secure funding stream and expertise to address public health nutrition issues
18. Establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level

Quebec Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
2. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance, as outlined in the *Politique gouvernementale de prévention en santé*
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets
4. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
5. Alter QST regulations such that exemptions from QST are considered based upon the healthfulness of food and beverage products, using a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system, and complement this with a public awareness campaign to inform consumers of the changes to sales tax regulations in grocery stores

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6. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
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7. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
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8. Strengthen the Consumer Protection Act to children under 17 years of age, and implement systematic monitoring to ensure compliance
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9. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
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10. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
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11. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines for foods sold or provided free of charge in child-directed settings
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12. Expand upon current incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines) guided by the Guide à l'intention des restaurateurs pour accroître la présence d'aliments à haute valeur nutritive dans les menus, highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
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13. Implement a provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
-
14. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
15. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
-
16. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
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17. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the Going the Healthy Route at School guidelines
-
18. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for fruit, vegetable and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
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19. Expand current supports for policy implementation by establishing a support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, food service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
-
20. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
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21. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
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INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

1. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies in Quebec
2. Implement, monitor and evaluate the *Politique gouvernementale de prévention en santé*
3. Establish regular provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
4. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
5. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for intake of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor inequities in achieving targets, as outlined in the *Politique gouvernementale de prévention en santé*, and publicly monitor the achievement of the intake target for fruits and vegetables (five per day in more than half of the population) and the achievement of established targets for nutrients of public health concern (sodium, free sugar, saturated fat)
6. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
7. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
8. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
9. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
10. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
11. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
12. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
13. Strengthen and reinforce existing policies relating to Health Impact Assessments conducted in Quebec

Saskatchewan

Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

1. Fund a provincial fruit and vegetable program in schools, with a focus on schools with a high proportion of children from lower socio-economic backgrounds
2. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the province to meet the nutrition standards outlined in *Nourishing Minds: Towards Comprehensive School Community Health: Nutrition Policy Development in Saskatchewan Schools*
3. Implement a provincial basic income guarantee to provide adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets
4. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under provincial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
5. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
6. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines for foods sold or provided free of charge in child-directed settings
7. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
8. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
9. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
10. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to provincial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
11. Introduce a comprehensive provincial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres with a sufficient enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance
12. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for fruit, vegetable and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in domestic markets and increase consumption
13. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises
14. Establish an ongoing support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings

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15. Develop and implement provincial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
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16. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
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17. Implement a provincial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
-
18. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
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19. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
-
20. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

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1. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health, and establish health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the provincial and local level
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2. In the absence of federal targets, develop public provincial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
-
3. Develop clear provincial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
-
4. Restrict political donations by corporations
-
5. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
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6. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of provincial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
-
7. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
-
8. Establish regular provincial monitoring for the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in child-directed food environments and public sector settings
-
9. Establish stable and ongoing provincial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies
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10. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all provincial food policies
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11. Establish an up-to-date provincial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations that complement provincial initiatives such as the Poverty Reduction Strategy and the Saskatchewan Early Years Plan as well as federal actions in the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
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12. Establish a provincial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups.
-
13. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
-
14. Regularly report on provincial dietary intake using data from national surveys, stratified by socio-demographic factors associated with health inequities (income, education, gender, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
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15. Establish a health promotion agency in Saskatchewan with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
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16. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
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Yukon Proposed Actions

POLICY ACTIONS

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1. Fund a universal territorial fruit and vegetable program in schools
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2. Implement a point-of-sale sales tax on all sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria. Invest the revenue from the tax to targeted areas that address public health as appropriate to territorial context, and advertise the re-investment of the tax dollars to the public
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3. Develop a subsidy program to increase local capacity for food production and innovation and community-based interventions to address food sovereignty issues in Yukon
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4. Implement targeted commodity subsidies and subsidized transportation for fruit, vegetable and legume producers that support local and sustainable production to reduce costs in local markets and increase consumption
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5. Develop agricultural policies and subsidies that incentivize production, processing, distribution and consumption of vegetables, fruits and legumes that are unprocessed or minimally processed, local and sustainable
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6. Introduce a comprehensive territorial policy restricting marketing of unhealthy food and beverages as identified by a comprehensive, evidence-based nutrient profiling system to children under the age of 17 in school and early childhood education settings and public settings frequented by children, such as arenas and community centres with a sufficient enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance
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7. Remove sugary drinks, as defined by comprehensive, evidence based nutrient profiling criteria, from the premises of all public sector settings
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8. Require all programs involving subsidised or supplied food for children (e.g., school breakfast programs) that are funded by the territory to meet nutritional criteria for the healthiness of foods that is at least as stringent as the Provincial and Territorial Guidance Document for the Development of Nutrient Criteria for Foods and Beverages in Schools 2013, and provide support to meet this criteria
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9. Implement a territorial basic income to ensure that social assistance provides adequate financial support to cover the costs of living, including the cost of purchasing healthy, nutrient-rich diets in Yukon
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10. Develop a harmonized nutrition guideline for children and youth, applied to all publicly-funded and child-directed settings (including schools, childcare settings and recreation settings) such that they are mandatory by legislation, with adequate resources and supports in place to increase capacity among providers, educators and food service operators to successfully implement, monitor and enforce the guidelines for foods sold or provided free of charge in child-directed settings
-
11. Evaluate what is currently in school curricula regarding food literacy and food skills training, and require this as a mandatory component of primary and secondary school education
-
12. Establish a mechanism to provide synthesized, evidence-based guidance and support for retailers and food service outlets to both encourage and enable them to provide healthier food choices
-
13. Establish an ongoing support service delivered by experienced dietitians to train cooks, chefs, foods service and other key staff in developing healthier recipes, and offer food ideas and other helpful resources to provide healthier menus and food products for various public sector settings
-
14. Develop supplementary planning guidance to support municipal zoning efforts that restrict unhealthy food vendors, such as fast food chains or food trucks, within certain distances from schools or other settings where children typically gather
-
15. Implement targets for sodium, free sugar, and saturated fat in the foods provided in restaurant and food service outlets using a structured voluntary approach with the threat of mandatory requirements if compliance is poor after an established time period, and implement a monitoring system for nutrients of concern in the food supply to track compliance
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16. Implement a territorial menu labelling policy with calorie and sodium information on menus and menu boards for all chain food service providers with a comprehensive menu labelling education campaign and added fiscal incentive for industries, and require chain food service providers to fully disclose amounts of energy and the core nutrients found on the Nutrition Facts table per serving size in an online format
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17. Reduce restrictions for zoning requirements to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables, with a particular focus in designated, underserved neighbourhoods
-
18. Provide incentives and information appropriate to all private organisations (especially small- and medium-sized enterprises) to promote and sustain the provision of healthy food in workplaces (including in employee cafeterias and in vending machines), highlighting the benefits of a healthier workplace food environment on employee health, productivity and wellness
-
19. Develop and implement clear, consistent policies including public procurement standards to provide and promote healthy food choices in food service activities (cafeterias, vending machines, food at events, fundraising, promotions, etc.) in public sector settings under territorial control (long term care facilities, hospitals, and recreation centres, correctional services, etc.)
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20. Develop and implement territorial policies that require local zoning acts to consider public health nutrition in their development
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21. Prohibit restrictive covenant caveats that prevent the establishment of grocery stores or other healthy food vendors in specific areas or premises

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT

1. Develop and implement community-wide structures or networks, with associated resources, to provide broad and coordinated support for community-based interventions designed to create and maintain healthy food environments across multiple settings
2. Establish measurable goals to identify and close the gaps in health outcomes between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and publish annual progress reports and assess long-term trends, as recommended in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action
3. Establish an up-to-date territorial strategy or framework for public health nutrition and healthy eating with comprehensive food environment considerations to follow the Yukon Nutrition Framework and to complement the Wellness Plan for Yukon's Children and Families, the Yukon Local Food Strategy and the Yukon Agriculture Policy that also complements the federal actions of the Healthy Eating Strategy, and include specific actions and policies in the health strategy to improve population nutrition among vulnerable and disadvantaged populations
4. Work with First Nations/ Inuit/ Metis leadership and others to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote access, availability, and affordability of healthy foods for Indigenous populations on and off reserve within the context of local foodways and cultural traditions
5. Establish a territorial Healthy Eating Committee that includes representation from all sectors (government, private sector and civil society) with sufficient resources to support participation of non-governmental groups
6. Establish requirements and a process for the collection and use of evidence in all territorial food policies
7. Implement formal health impact assessments as part of food and non-food policy development and proposal processes, including explicit details about the consideration of potential impacts of policies on population nutrition and health as outlined in the Yukon Health and Social Services Strategic Plan 2014-2019
8. Acknowledge and endorse the importance of territorial public health nutrition and obesity and NCD prevention strategies in political platforms, mandate letters and speeches from the throne
9. In the absence of regular federal monitoring of dietary intake in Yukon, implement a territorial survey to assess dietary intake survey, food security and anthropometrics, and report the results stratified by socio-demographics associated with inequalities (income, Aboriginal status, geographic location, etc. as relevant)
10. Establish territorial monitoring of the nutritional quality of foods served and marketed in school food environments and public sector settings
11. Establish stable and ongoing territorial research funding opportunities for food environment and obesity and NCD prevention research in collaboration with and with support of existing research bodies
12. Increase the opportunity for policy-maker and researcher partnerships and provide infrastructure support for the development, monitoring and evaluation of government policies
13. Establish a health promotion agency in Yukon with a secure funding stream and expertise to address population nutrition issues
14. In the absence of federal targets, develop public territorial targets for population intakes of all nutrients of public health concern and monitor the achievement of targets and disparities in intakes across subpopulations which could contribute to health inequities
15. Restrict political donations by corporations
16. Establish a health impact assessment (HIA) capacity, including funding for HIAs at the territorial and local level
17. Develop clear territorial guidelines for establishing relationships with the food industry, including policy development and public private partnerships, ensuring that food industry representatives are not involved in setting policy objectives and agendas where they have conflicts of interest with improving population nutrition
18. Establish a lobbying registry, and have lobbying information publicly accessible

List of Canadian Experts

The experts that contributed to the provincial, territorial and federal assessment of policies and prioritization, and their respective affiliations, are listed below. Note that participants may or may not have lived and worked in the province or territory that they rated. All experts took part on their own behalf, and were not formally representing the organizations to which they belong. Experts were involved in the ratings and scoring for the prioritization exercise. The final preparation of this report and the contents here within are solely the responsibility of the authors, and experts have not explicitly endorsed the contents of this report.

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This study was approved by the University of Toronto Research Ethics Board (REB Application #33249).

Notes



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