



FALL HARVEST

Produce and Politics

We know that Canadians are increasingly concerned with the rising costs of essentials, including food. At the same time, the pandemic, extreme weather events and other disruptions have demonstrated that government efforts across several departments can have a real impact on food availability and affordability in Canada.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2022, the Canadian fresh produce supply chain contributed nearly **\$15 billion** to Canada's GDP and supported more than **185,400 jobs** in rural, urban and suburban communities from coast to coast to coast.

Economic Footprint of Canada's fresh produce sector, 2023

DID YOU KNOW?

More than **26% of Canadians** have reduced their consumption of fruits and vegetables in the past year due to price increases.

University of Guelph, 2022

DID YOU KNOW?

Canada's climate funding lags far **behind other markets** at only **0.5%** of farm gate receipts compared to **1.7% in the U.S.** and **1.8% in the E.U.**

Royal Bank of Canada, 2023

DID YOU KNOW?

Produce packaging accounts for **only 2% of all plastics** entering the Canadian economy annually.

A Landscape Review of Plastics in the Canadian Fresh Produce Sector, 2019

More federal support is needed to make food a federal priority and to create the conditions necessary to enable an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable fresh produce industry in Canada while ensuring international competitiveness.



Competitiveness and cumulative regulatory burden

KEY ASK: Conduct a comprehensive review of government regulation and policy to enhance sector competitiveness, alleviate cumulative regulatory burden, and ensure that departmental objectives are aligned, for the betterment of Canada's fruit and vegetable supply chain.



Financial protection

KEY ASK: Prioritize the passage of Bill C-280, the Financial Protection for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Farmers Act to support the long-term viability of Canadian produce businesses.



Fresh produce packaging solutions

KEY ASK: Ensure that regulatory and policy initiatives related to produce packaging enable secure access to safe food for all Canadians, align with global practices and policies to safeguard the sustainability and competitiveness of the produce sector, and avoid unintentionally increasing the environmental footprint of the Canadian food supply.

