



CPMA recommendations in Budget 2025

CPMA Recommendations to Finance Canada	Budget 2025 Outcome
Prioritizing access to food and food production	
1. Support a strengthened food system and food security for all Canadians by adopting a whole-of-government approach to agriculture and food production, prioritizing food production and access to food in legislation, policy and crisis management, and by establishing an Agri-food Supply Chain Advisory Council.	Partially addressed – While the Budget did not commit to establishing an Advisory Council, agriculture and agri-food are identified as priority strategic sectors and recognized as part of Canada’s economic advantage.
Enabling trade opportunities for Canadian produce	
2. Dedicate federal government resources to advance Canada’s free and fair trade agenda, including a robust North American free trade agreement, remove regulatory barriers impeding Canada’s competitiveness in the global marketplace, and enable further expansion of mutual recognition efforts with other key trading countries.	Addressed – Budget 2025 makes significant commitments to trade supports and increasing food exports, including through \$5 billion Trade Diversification Corridors Fund, \$75 million for AgriMarketing, more than \$68.5 million for enhancements to CanExport, and \$46.5 million for the SME Export Readiness Initiative, as well as dedicated resources to support trade and market access efforts and modernised digital trade tools and services at CFIA. While not mentioned in Budget 2025, the government has indicated it is developing the necessary regulations to implement Bill C-280.
3. Prioritize the implementation of Bill C-280, the Financial Protection for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Farmers Act, to provide critical financial protection to produce sellers.	
Fueling a competitive and resilient produce supply chain	

<p>4. Deliver sufficient, ongoing capital investment under the National Supply Chain Strategy and the National Trade Corridor Fund to enable trade and transportation infrastructure improvements, including the enhancement of cold chain infrastructure.</p>	<p>Addressed – Budget 2025 makes significant investments in trade and supply chain infrastructure, including through the \$5 billion Trade Diversification Corridors Fund, \$115B infrastructure and \$213.8 million for the Major Projects Office, with expanded potential resources through the Canada Infrastructure Bank. The Budget also specifically notes the government’s intention to identify opportunities to expand port import and export capacity.</p>
<p>5. Work with the Government of Ontario to provide \$125 million to support infrastructure improvements and enable growth opportunities at the Ontario Food Terminal.</p>	<p>Not addressed – While funding for the Ontario Food Terminal was not specifically included in Budget 2025, CPMA will explore potential funding opportunities through the new Build Communities Strong Fund.</p>
<p>6. Establish priority lanes at ports of entry and implement a dedicated Trusted Trader pilot program to further streamline the movement of essential and perishable products across the Canadian border.</p>	<p>Partially addressed – Budget 2025 provides more than \$600 million for enhanced CBSA resources, including 1,000 new CBSA officers. While priority lanes and a Trusted Trader pilot are not explicitly mentioned, Budget 2025 does note the government’s intention to advance pre-clearance access, which could provide an important basis for future projects.</p>
<p>7. Implement measures to prioritize the movement of food and essential goods through ports of entry in the event of emergency events or disruptions, and work to address the root causes of labour disruptions impacting critical supply chain infrastructure.</p>	
<p>8. Provide targeted support for agriculture and food businesses to adopt innovative AI tools and implement cybersecurity measures to protect Canada’s food supply chain.</p>	<p>Partially addressed – While Budget 2025 includes general tech incentives, there is no agri-food-specific program noted.</p>

<p>9. Deliver sufficient, dedicated federal funding to invest in rural infrastructure, including roads, energy, affordable housing, public transportation and service infrastructure.</p>	<p>Addressed – Budget 2025 announces the government’s intention to invest \$51 billion to create a new Build Communities Strong Fund, which will support a wide range of community infrastructure projects.</p>
<p><i>Increasing produce consumption for healthier communities</i></p>	
<p>10. Invest in the health of Canadians using a “Food as Medicine” approach and support measures to reduce diet-related diseases and hunger and mitigate health care costs associated with food insecurity and poor nutrition.</p>	<p>Not addressed – Budget 2025 does not make any commitments to nutrition-based health programs.</p>
<p>11. Advance measures promoting the Canada Food Guide recommendation to fill Half Your Plate with fruits and vegetables, including in public procurement and government programming.</p>	<p>Not addressed – While Budget 2025 does not make any specific commitment to public procurement of fruits and vegetables, CPMA will explore potential opportunities for procurement of Canadian fruits and vegetables under the new Buy Canadian Policy and the new Small and Medium Business Procurement Program.</p>
<p>12. Work with the provinces and territories to advance the development and implementation of the National School Food Program, ensuring that enhancing nutrition and promoting healthy eating practices, including through the consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables, are core objectives of the program.</p>	<p>Addressed – Budget 2025 announces the government’s intention to introduce legislation to make the National School Food Program permanent, and commits ongoing funding of \$216.6M/year.</p>
<p><i>Workforce</i></p>	
<p>13. Advance a National Workforce Strategy to meet immediate labour needs and generate future interest in careers across the food supply chain through education, training and skills development.</p>	<p>Not addressed – While no agriculture or agri-food specific workforce strategy is mentioned in Budget 2025, the government does note that it recognises the role temporary foreign workers play in some sectors of the economy and in some parts of</p>
<p>14. Preserve the distinction between SAWP and other streams within the TFW program, and establish a permanent Recognized Employer Program under the TFWP.</p>	

<p>15. Return and make permanent the previous temporary measure that allowed employers in key industries demonstrating labour shortages, including food manufacturing, to employ up to 30% of their workforce through the TFWP.</p>	<p>the country, and that the 2026-2028 Immigration Levels Plan will consider industries and sectors impacted by tariffs and the unique needs of rural and remote communities.</p> <p>CPMA will also explore potential opportunities for members under the new Workforce Innovation Fund.</p>
<p><i>Sustainability</i></p>	
<p>16. Align efforts, standards and systems to effectively achieve environmental sustainability goals, while ensuring that economic and social considerations are treated as equal pillars of long-term sustainability.</p>	<p>Addressed – Budget 2025 outlines the new government’s Climate Competitiveness Strategy, which is focused on “creating the conditions for the investment needed to build an affordable net-zero future in which Canadian businesses are well-positioned to compete and succeed in the global economy.”</p> <p>AAFC’s funding reductions will also re-focus the government on providing supports for industry to innovate and adopt clean technologies, while staying competitive in the global market.</p>
<p>17. Deliver federal funding and resources for expanded efforts to reduce food loss and waste across the fresh produce supply chain.</p>	<p>Not addressed – Budget 2025 does not include any new programs or funding related to reducing food loss and waste.</p>
<p>18. Support the development of harmonized, efficient and cost-effective recycling and composting collection within communities across Canada.</p>	<p>Partially addressed – While there is not specific mention of improvements to recycling and composting collection, there is potential for these types of infrastructure projects to be funded through the new Build Communities Strong Fund.</p>

<p>19. Support and invest in industry innovation efforts to develop, certify and scale up the availability of sustainable food packaging solutions.</p>	<p>Not addressed – Budget 2025 does not include specific reference to direct support or funding for sustainable food packaging.</p>
<p><i>Regulatory modernization and enhancing competitiveness</i></p>	
<p>20. Create an enabling regulatory environment for new products, technologies and business practices, including sufficient resourcing for PMRA.</p>	<p>Partially addressed – While there is not a specific reference to a competitiveness lens in Budget 2025, there is a consistent emphasis on supports and measures to enhance the competitiveness of Canadian businesses.</p> <p>Of particular note, Budget 2025 proposes to amend legislation to remove cyclical pesticide re-evaluations to enable modern, risk-based oversight.</p> <p>In addition, while initiated prior to the release of Budget 2025, all government departments have launched Red Tape Reviews, and Treasury Board has indicated their intention to advance regulatory coordination under these efforts.</p>
<p>21. Implement a consistent competitiveness lens to regulation-making and review.</p>	
<p>22. Enhance regulatory coordination across federal departments and other levels of government.</p>	