

School Food Financing and Fundraising

Knowledge-Sharing Webinar

March 26, 2024

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Land Acknowledgment





Agenda

- Welcome (11:00)
- Provincial & national updates (11:05)
- Presentations (11:15)
 - Ulla Knowles
 - Chris Peacock
 - Kellie Brace & Jenn Barrett
- Q & A and Group Discussion (11:45)
- Closing (12:00)





Ontario Chapter of the Coalition for Healthy School Food



- Formed in 2021
- Made up of 85+ members and endorsers organizations
- Goals:
 - Support replication, networking and sharing of best practices among school food programs in the province
 - Strengthen school food commitments from the government of Ontario, local governments and school communities.
 - Amplify the work of the national Coalition



THE COALITION
FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL FOOD



- 290+ non-profit **member organizations** and 135+ endorsers in every province and territory
- Non-partisan
- National staff in ON and QUE; active chapters in BC, QUE, NS, AL, ON staff in BC, QUE, NS, SASK, NL
- Collaboration with researchers across Canada



Coalition's 2024 Federal Pre-Budget Submission

- Allocate **\$1 billion over five years in Budget 2024** to establish a National School Nutritious Meal Program with a minimum of \$200 million this year to provinces, territories and First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners.
- Negotiate agreements with Indigenous leaders for the creation and/or enhancement of permanent **independent distinctions-based First Nation, Métis and Inuit school meal programs.**
- Dedicated **\$50 million school food infrastructure fund.**

Have plenty of
vegetables and fruits

Eat protein foods



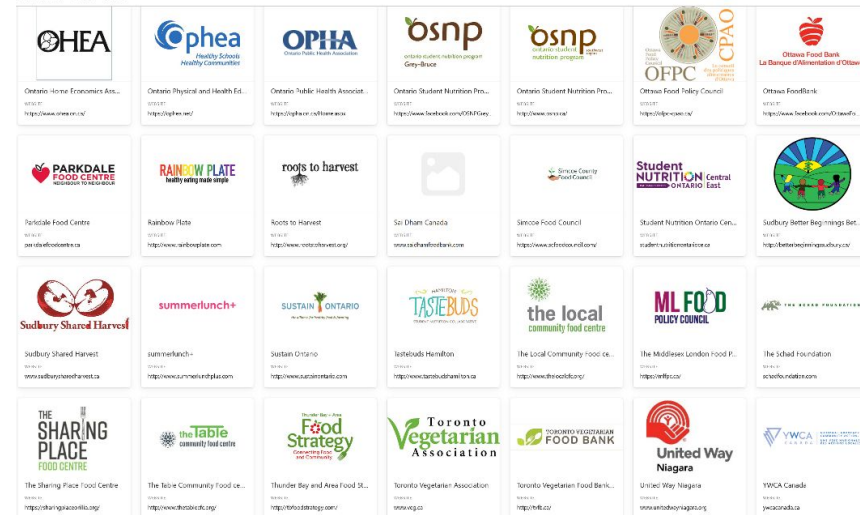
Make water
your drink
of choice

Choose
whole grain
foods



Ontario Chapter's 2024 Pre-Budget Submission

- Double the Student Nutrition Program (\$28.1 million/yr) and First Nation Student Nutrition Program (\$4.1 million/yr) to **\$64.4 million/year in Budget 2024**
- Allocate **\$20 million for infrastructure over 3 years**





Provincial/Territorial funding increases in 2022-24

April 2023-present:

- NS - \$18.8 million (2024-25 school yr.)
- QU - \$6.8 million
- AB - \$1.5 million; \$5 million (one-time)
- PEI - \$1 million
- SK - \$25K
- MB - \$2.9 million; Sept '24: \$30M (total)
- YT - \$500K (one-time)
- ON - \$6.1 million (one-time)
- NL - \$10 million

April 2022-March 2023:

- BC - \$71.5 million (214M over 3 years)
- MB - \$1.3 million
- QU - \$7+ million
- NB - \$2 million
- NS - \$2 million (one-time)
- PEI - \$2.2 million



To acknowledge the rising costs of food and services, Alberta's government is providing an extra \$5 million in additional funding to support student nutrition until





Ready for Implementation

- Provinces, territories, cities provide approximately **over \$284 million/year** with 2024-25 funds.
- Programs exist across the country. They can immediately put to good use \$200 million per year, including in Year 1. Funding would go to children who most need it.
- Provinces and territories have been writing to Minister of Finance and ESDC to say that they are ready to work in collaboration on a cost-shared program.



Economic Rationale for School Food Investment

Arrell Family Foundation & Ruetz Consulting [report](#) prepared for the
Government of Canada

School food programs:

- Provide immediate relief to household budgets
- Improve student learning outcomes and lifetime earnings; reduce social inequalities
- Increase maternal workforce participation
- Create jobs and strengthen local food systems
- Improve health and food security
- Strengthen Indigenous communities



**Return on investment between 2.5 and 7x
every dollar invested**



Over 220,000 are taking the Great Big Crunch for Healthy School Food!





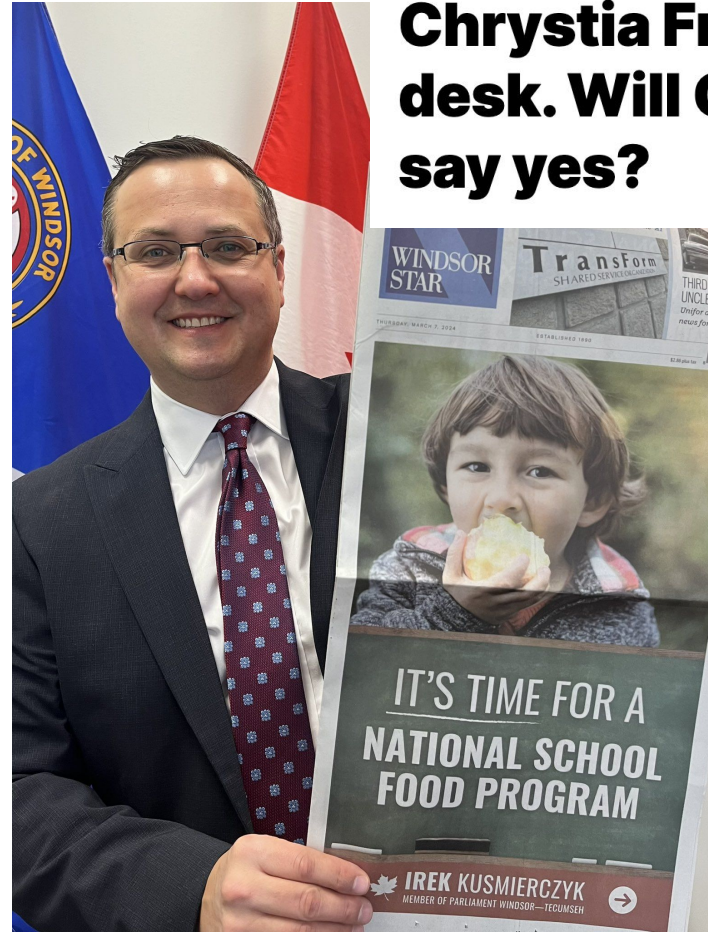
Where are we now?

Federal

🏠 OPINION POLLS NEWS INTERNATIONAL PODS HEALTH

- Strong MP support
- Support from federal Ministers
- Media attention
- NDP support - March press conference
- Support from provincial and national education organizations
- [Letters](#) to Minister Freeland and the Prime Minister in advance of **Budget 2024 - April 16th**

A national school food framework is on Chrystia Freeland's desk. Will Ottawa say yes?





Where are we now?

Ontario

- 2023: one-time \$6.15 million from Ontario, SNP Roundtable
- Challenges persist: [Canadian Press](#) and [CTV Your Morning Show](#), etc.
- Working towards significant core increase in Budget 2024 (or 2025)
- Building MPP relationships, awareness, support
- Build membership to have strong collective voice - [join us!](#)



July 2023 SNP Roundtable with Minister Parsa



School Food Financing & Fundraising: Presentations

