



SUSTAIN

Alliance for healthy, just and sustainable food & farming
Working across Indigenous Territories / Ontario

Shift Wasted Food to be an Asset for Ontario's Economy

- Over 2 million tonnes of food are wasted annually in Ontario, costing the economy about \$1 billion each year.
- Food waste contributes to methane emissions from landfills, worsening climate change.
- Overproduction and cosmetic standards in agriculture create significant food waste.
- The province lacks coherent policies to address food waste across production, retail, consumption, and disposal.
- Redistributing food waste doesn't solve food insecurity, which is a deeper issue of income inequality and access to affordable food.
- Ontario's 2018 Food and Organic Waste Policy is outdated and needs funding, accountability, and a focus on circular economy practices.

Recommendations:

- **Update and Enact Ontario's Food and Organic Waste Policy (2018) and add accountability measures.**
- **Set clear food waste reduction targets** across supply chains and sectors.
- Create and expand **tax incentives to encourage businesses to reduce food waste.**
- **Improve infrastructure for food recovery and organic waste processing,** especially in rural areas.
- **Public Education:** Raise awareness about food waste's economic, environmental, and social impacts through campaigns.

These policies have been created with the input of 90+ Ontario organizations collaborating over 4 months and have been vetted by the Sustain Board as of February 4, 2025. For more information, please go to:
<https://sustainontario.com/vote2025/>