



Food Security

Food security refers to the ability to feed oneself and one's family with enough nutritionally and culturally adequate food to maintain health and well-being. Unfortunately, food insecurity – that is, the inability to provide adequate food due to lack of resources – is an ongoing and growing problem in Canada.

One in eight households across the country struggles to put food on the table, and more than 3 million individuals were food insecure in 2014. Alarming, **nearly 865,000** people accessed a food bank per month in 2016.

Food insecurity is especially prevalent in the North; 46.8% of Nunavut households and 60% of Nunavut children are food insecure.

Suggested policy initiatives:

- ✓ **Develop a National Right to Food Policy as part of the CPRS**, in collaboration with: all levels of government (including Indigenous governments), food producers, community stakeholders, and food insecure people. The policy needs to recognize the right to adequate food as found in the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), include measurable goals and timelines, and include mechanisms to coordinate implementation of the policy and track progress. The policy also must include measures to address the unique needs of children/youth.
- ✓ **Increase federal investment to address very high levels of food insecurity among Indigenous peoples** in manner that is respectful of land sovereignty, cultural, community, and gender considerations.
- ✓ **Take action in Northern communities** to eliminate food insecurity and improve access to sanitation and safe water.
- ✓ **Increase funding and address the challenges associated with the Nutrition North Canada program.**