

## Recommendations for a National School Nutritious Meal Program

With 200+ organizational members and 80+ endorsers, the Coalition for Healthy School Food is the largest school food network in Canada. Our vision is a Canada in which every school-aged child and youth has a healthy meal or snack at school daily. As the Government of Canada begins to consult with provinces and territories, municipalities, Indigenous partners and stakeholders to develop a National School Food Policy and national school nutritious meal program we offer the following recommendations:

Allocate \$1 billion over five years and collaborate with provinces, territories, and Indigenous partners to provide them with an initial \$200 million as soon as possible to fund their existing school food programs.

### Short term recommendations (up to Budget 2023)

Invest an additional \$200 million from pre-allocated infrastructure funding in a separate School Food Fund grants program that would provide infrastructure and capacity building funding.

Enter into discussions with First Nation, Inuit and Métis leadership to negotiate independent School Food Policy agreements for long-term and sustainable funding for Indigenous school nutritious meal programs.



**Medium-term  
(1 - 2 years)**

**Negotiate funding agreements with provinces and territories** that show willingness and readiness to implement a program that complements the national Policy.

**Negotiate independent School Food Policy agreements for long-term and sustainable funding** for Indigenous school nutritious meal programs **with Indigenous Nations and leaders.**

**Establish a National School Food Policy** that reflects [the Coalition's 8 Guiding Principles](#), which are based on best practices.

Work towards a set of **common metrics and standards for monitoring and reporting.**

Join 60+ countries in **signing the Declaration of the global School Meals Coalition.**

**Continue to finance School Food Fund grants** to support school infrastructure and capacity building.



**Longer-term  
(2+ years)**

Continue and expand funding to provinces, territories and Indigenous partners.

Use results from monitoring, research and practice to inform the ongoing evolution of programs.



**WE NEED DEDICATED FUNDS FOR SCHOOL FOOD**

**#NOURISH KIDS NOW  
IN #YOURBUDGET**

**TAKE ACTION NOW !**