

Call to Action: Levy on Manufacturers of Sugary Drinks

Excessive sugary drink intake is a major risk factor for the development of unhealthy weights and resultant chronic illnesses, such as type 2 diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, stroke and some cancers.

Many Canadians drink unhealthy quantities of sugary drinks, which often leads to serious illness, lost productivity and significant health care costs to society.

As has been effectively done in places around the world such as several American cities, Mexico, Chile, France, Hungary, and the UK, the Government of Canada should introduce a levy on manufacturers of sugary drinks to reduce consumption and to partially recover related health care costs. The proceeds of a sugary drink levy on manufacturers should be used to fund healthy living initiatives including better public awareness of the harms of sugary drinks.

The following organizations and individuals endorse the call for a levy on manufacturers of sugary drinks in Canada, as outlined above.

- Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention
- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- Canadian Cancer Society
- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Men's Health Foundation
- Canadian Nurses Association
- Childhood Obesity Foundation
- Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada
- Community Food Centres Canada
- Diabetes Canada
- Dietitians of Canada
- Dr Yoni Freedhoff, obesity expert and long-time public health advocate
- Elgin St. Thomas Public Health
- Food Secure Canada
- Health Nexus
- Heart & Stroke
- The Kidney Foundation of Canada
- Middlesex London Health Unit
- NCDFREE
- Ontario Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance
- Quebec Coalition on Weight-Related Problems
- University of Saskatchewan School of Public Health
- Western University School of Public Health
- Yummy Lunch Club



Canadian Cancer Society
Société canadienne du cancer



Heart & Stroke
Cœur + AVC