



HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

CANADA

**Written Submission for the Pre-Budget Consultations
in Advance of the 2019 Budget**

By: Humane Society International/Canada

Recommendation 1: That the government, in recognition of difficulties translating results of research based on rodent and other non-human animal models to clinical therapies, emphasize human relevance in research funding, with emphasis on driving Canadian innovation in human biology-based microphysiological and next-generation computational models for studying, and evaluating treatments for, human disease.

Recommendation 2: That the government provide funding to farmers who own livestock to help them retrofit barns with fire safety equipment (such as smoke and heat detectors, sprinkler systems, portable fire extinguishers and arc fault circuit breakers), in recognition of the fact that barn fires are very common and result in huge losses to farmers, their communities, and innocent animal lives.

Recommendation 3: That the government provide egg producers with funding to support their transition to a cage-free system by 2025 (the year by which all major grocery retailers and food companies in Canada intend to sell only cage-free eggs), in recognition of the substantial demand for higher-welfare food products, especially cage-free eggs.

Recommendation 4: That the government provide chicken producers with funding to support their transition to higher-welfare bird strains, reduced stocking densities, enriched environments and controlled-atmosphere processing, as well as auditing by a third party, in recognition of the opportunities for better animal welfare within the rearing and slaughtering of chickens raised for meat.

Recommendation 5: That the government provide funding to support food companies in implementing new practices and equipment to advance food safety and animal welfare (such as more frequent food, water and rest stops for shipments of livestock, and temperature-controlled vehicles), in recognition of the forthcoming updated Humane Transportation regulations.

Recommendation 6: That the government provide funding for research and development of plant proteins, building on the federal government's decision earlier this year to invest in an alliance of 120 companies and organizations focused on developing plant-based proteins and in recognition of Canadians' rising interest in healthier, more sustainable and more ethical food options.

Recommendation 7: That the government provides subsidies to low income Canadian for food items it recommends in the forthcoming new Canada Food Guide; especially vegetables, fruits, whole grains, healthy fats and plant-based proteins.

Recommendation 8: That the government provide additional funding to support enforcement and inspection activities by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, especially the recruitment of additional inspectors and veterinarians who can ensure high standards of animal care before and during transport and slaughter.