

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Canada's Annual Food Waste – \$31 Billion

New report revisits the original \$27 billion reported in 2010

OAKVILLE, Canada, December 10, 2014 — Value Chain Management International (VCM) has revisited its 2010 “Food Waste in Canada” report, which estimated that Canadians waste a staggering \$27 billion of food annually.

Four years later, **VCM has ascertained that the figure is in fact 15% greater — the quantifiable value of food waste in Canada is actually \$31 billion**. This 15% increase stems from new knowledge and insights that were not known to VCM in 2010. The report explains this in detail and can be accessed [HERE](#).

And for consumers — how does this affect food waste in the home? Although the overall percentage has decreased from 51% to 47%, the dollar value of consumers’ waste has actually increased from 2010’s report estimation of \$13.7 billion to **\$14.6 billion!**

Five key takeaways from the 2014 report

1. Canada’s annual quantifiable food waste cost is \$31 billion.
2. The true cost of food waste in Canada is \$107 billion.
 - This is calculated by taking United Nation’s Food and Agricultural Organization’s estimation of the value of food wasted representing only 29 percent of the true cost.
3. For businesses – the total cost of waste along a value chain can exceed the combined margins of the involved companies.
4. For consumers – avoidable food waste can increase the cost of food by 10 percent or more.
5. Through reducing food waste, businesses can reduce operating costs by 15 to 20 percent and increase profitability by the equivalent of 5 to 11 percent.

VCM’s Previous Three Reports on Food Waste in Canada

1. [Food Waste in Canada – November 2010](#)
2. [Cut Waste, GROW PROFIT™ – October 2012](#)
3. [Cut Waste, GROW PROFIT™ - Food and Associated Wastes – May 2013](#)

About Value Chain Management International (VCMI)

VCMI, formerly the Value Chain Management Centre, is dedicated to improving the profitability and competitiveness of commercial businesses – primarily in the agriculture, aquaculture, marine, and food industries – through promoting and enabling the improved management of the value chains in which they operate. VCMI achieves this by assisting businesses to develop closer strategic relationships with customers and suppliers, resulting in them being able to realize greater profits than otherwise possible.

VCMI has co-authored several publications on food waste and is a leading public and industry voice in bringing awareness to the opportunities and solutions surrounding food waste reduction, traceability, and the environment. The company has worked extensively in the international field of food waste reduction and traceability. VCMI applies specialized value chain diagnostic tools to detect where waste occurs, how to eliminate it, and then participates in the elimination implementation to ensure successful outcomes.

For more information on VCMI, please visit the company's website: www.vcm-international.com

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