

# Food waste: complex problem, major opportunity

DIVERT NOVA SCOTIA – MARCH 2, 2017

Malcolm Brodie CHAIR, NATIONAL ZERO WASTE COUNCIL; MAYOR, CITY OF RICHMOND, BC

#### Vision

Canada united in the achievement of zero waste, now and for future generations.

# Mission

To act collaboratively with business, government and the community, at the national and international level, as an agent of change for waste prevention and reduction in the design, production and use of goods.





# Areas of focus

#### Food

Advocate for prevention of food waste by policy change, fiscal incentives, public engagement

#### Circular Economy

Engage leaders, facilitate adoption of circular approaches across Canadian economy



#### Product Design & Packaging

Convene conversations, promote best practices in product and packaging design for waste prevention

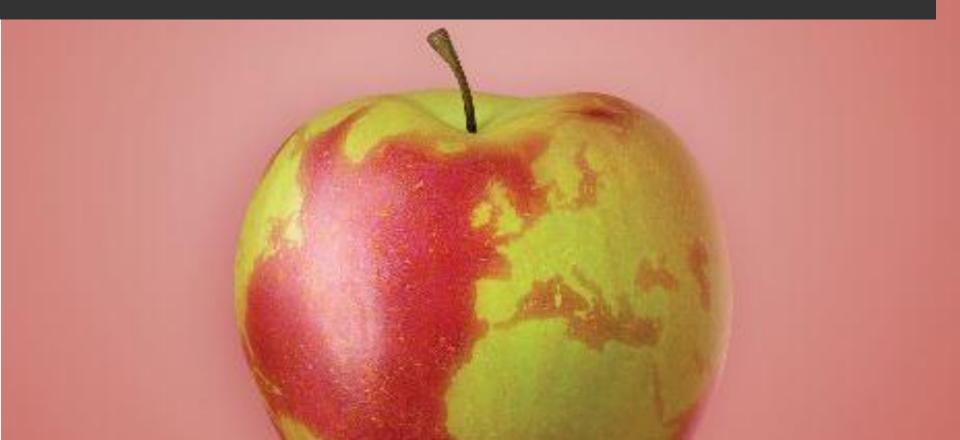
# Construction & Demolition

Advance waste prevention & reduction in the C&D sector

# Priority: Reducing food waste, nationwide

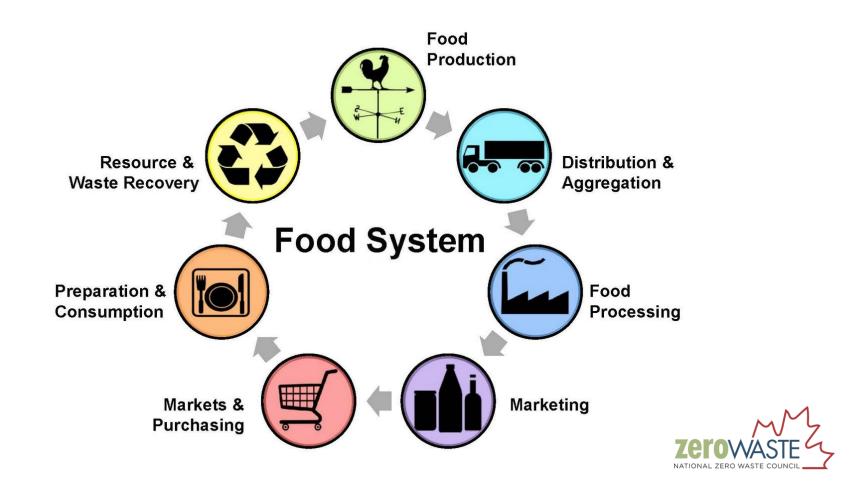


# Food Waste: a global problem



# Waste of labour, water, & energy





# \$1.2 trillion/year of food is lost or wasted



#### **Sustainable Development Goals**



Governments are beginning to act

Italy Spain France Denmark ance Denmark United States **Jnited States United Kingdon** Inited Kingdom Italy Spain Italy Spain France Denmark rance Denmark United States

# US target triggered action at different levels





# Businesses worldwide are seizing opportunities



# Preventing waste, building circular economies

# CIRCULAR

PREVENTING WASTE, BUILDING CIRCULAR ECONOMIES



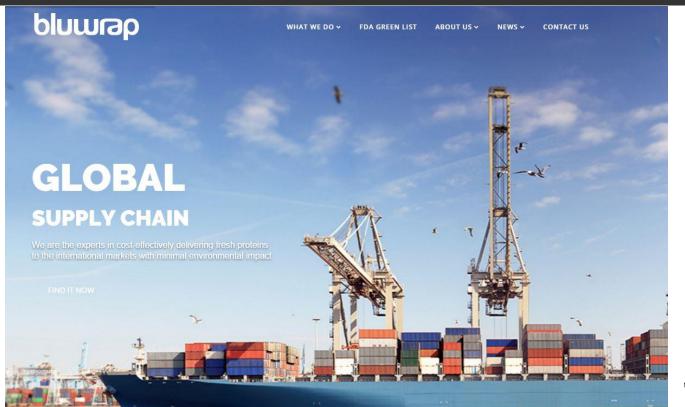
Honing in on food waste: A rich business opportunity, worldwide

BY THE NATIONAL ZERO WASTE COUNCIL | JANUARY 13, 2017

READ MORE

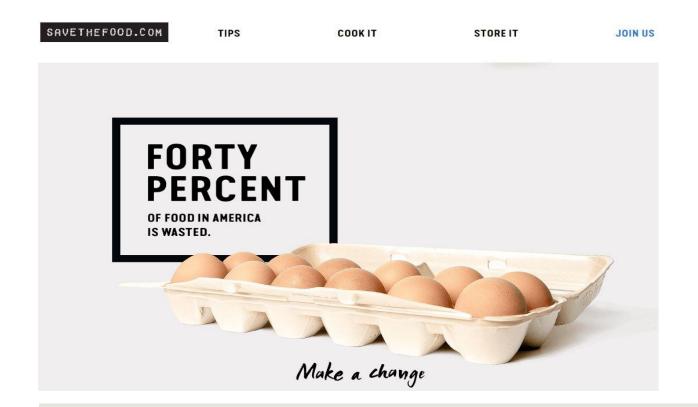


# Businesses of all kinds are cashing in





# Community groups are also major players





# Canada's food waste problem



# Distribution of Canadian food waste

#### Where food is wasted in Canada's food value chain



(Source: \$27 billion revisited: The cost of Canada's annual food waste, VCM International, 2014)

# Food waste burdens our economy



# Environmental impacts of food waste



#### LANDFILL

Underground, without exposure to oxygen, organics create methane gas.

# Total cost of wasted resources: \$100 billion

Wastes associated with uneaten food include:

- Energy
- Water
- Labour
- Capital investment
- Infrastructure
- Machinery
- Transport, etc.



#### Social cost of food waste in Canada



# Benefits of preventing food waste

- Economic
- Environmental
- Social



### Canadians are responding, but need national leadership



# NATIONAL FOOD WASTE REDUCTION **IRATEGY**

Support for one element of our strategy runs deep and wide: tax incentive



# What do you think of our strategic proposal?



# Thank-you

#### nzwc.ca

# Zerowaste NATIONAL ZERO WASTE COUNCIL

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