



- ✓ Providing an additional \$12 million over two years, starting in 2016–17, to market Canadian agricultural and agri-food products around the world.
- ✓ Providing \$5.7 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to help secure new market access for Canadian seal products.
- ✓ Providing \$3 million over three years, starting in 2015–16, for the International Maritime Centre to attract foreign shipping companies to establish their headquarters in Vancouver.
- ✓ Supporting a new tourism marketing campaign in the United States.
- ✓ Ensuring that Canada's trade remedy system operates in an effective, accessible and transparent manner.
- ✓ Continuing to implement the *Beyond the Border* and *Regulatory Cooperation Council* Action Plans with the United States to strengthen our long-term security and trade relationship.
- ✓ Creating an Internal Trade Promotion Office within Industry Canada to support efforts to renew the Agreement on Internal Trade.

Responsible Resource Development

- ✓ Providing accelerated capital cost allowance treatment for assets used in facilities that liquefy natural gas.
- ✓ Extending the Mineral Exploration Tax Credit until March 31, 2016.
- ✓ Continuing to support effective project approvals through the Major Projects Management Office Initiative, with \$135 million over five years, starting in 2015–16.
- ✓ Providing \$34 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to continue consultations with Canadians related to projects assessed under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.
- ✓ Dedicating \$80 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to the National Energy Board for safety and environmental protection and greater engagement with Canadians. This funding will be fully cost-recovered from industry.
- ✓ Providing \$30.8 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, for measures to enhance the safety of marine transportation in the Arctic and further strengthen marine incident prevention, preparedness and response in waters south of the 60th parallel.



- ✓ Providing \$22 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to Natural Resources Canada to renew the Targeted Geoscience Initiative.
- ✓ Dedicating \$23 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, from Natural Resources Canada to stimulate the technological innovation needed to separate and develop rare earth elements and chromite.
- ✓ Continuing to support the transformation of the forest sector by providing \$86 million over two years, starting in 2016–17, to extend the Forest Innovation Program and the Expanding Market Opportunities Program.

Low-Tax Plan to Help Families Make Ends Meet (Chapter 4.1)

Since 2006, the Government has introduced several measures to make life more affordable for Canadian families and individuals, while recognizing that they are better placed than governments to determine their own spending priorities.

Economic Action Plan 2015 builds on the Government's record of support for families and individuals by keeping taxes low and introducing new measures to help families make ends meet, support seniors, and protect consumers, such as:

Helping Families Make Ends Meet

- ✓ Increasing the Tax-Free Savings Account annual contribution limit to \$10,000.
- ✓ Reaffirming the Government's commitment to reduce Employment Insurance premiums for over 16 million Canadians in 2017.
- ✓ Extending Employment Insurance Compassionate Care Benefits from six weeks to six months to better support Canadians caring for gravely ill family members.

Supporting Seniors

- ✓ Reducing the minimum withdrawal factors for Registered Retirement Income Funds to permit seniors to preserve more of their retirement savings to better support their retirement income needs.
- ✓ Introducing a new Home Accessibility Tax Credit for seniors and persons with disabilities to help with the costs of ensuring their homes remain safe, secure and accessible.



Protecting Consumers and Enhancing Canada's Financial Sector

- ✓ Delivering a new and exclusive financial consumer protection framework for federally regulated banks.
- ✓ Expanding the voluntary mortgage prepayment disclosure commitment to non-federally regulated mortgage lenders.
- ✓ Launching a National Strategy to support improved financial literacy.
- ✓ Implementing the Taxpayer Protection and Bank Recapitalization regime for Canada's systemically important banks.

Building Strong Communities (Chapter 4.2)

Since 2006, the Government has fostered opportunities to work, live, and prosper in safe and vibrant communities. In addition, the Government's continued support for our natural and cultural heritage helps build stronger communities by bringing people together through shared artistic and cultural experiences and promoting a safe and clean environment. Economic Action Plan 2015 advances the Government's ongoing commitment by:

Supporting the Charitable and Non-Profit Sector

- ✓ Exempting donations involving private shares and real estate from capital gains tax.
- ✓ Providing charities with more flexibility to diversify their investments.

Taking Action for Veterans

- ✓ Introducing a new Retirement Income Security Benefit to provide additional financial security after the age of 65 for moderately to severely disabled veterans.
- ✓ Expanding access to the Permanent Impairment Allowance to help compensate disabled veterans for the loss of career opportunities associated with their disabilities.
- ✓ Modifying the Earnings Loss Benefit to ensure that part-time Reserve Force veterans have access to the same level of income support as Regular and full-time Reserve Force veterans.
- ✓ Creating a new tax-free Family Caregiver Relief Benefit to recognize the vital contributions of informal caregivers to the health and well-being of veterans.



- ✓ Increasing the level of individualized care to veterans requiring regular support by improving the ratio of veterans to case managers.

Supporting the Most Vulnerable in Communities

- ✓ Providing \$150 million over four years, starting in 2016–17, to allow cooperative and non-profit social housing providers to prepay long-term, non-renewable mortgages held with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation without penalty.
- ✓ Enhancing support for Child Advocacy Centres across Canada.

Helping Canadians With Disabilities

- ✓ Introducing a new Home Accessibility Tax Credit for persons with disabilities and seniors to help with the costs of ensuring their homes remain safe, secure and accessible.
- ✓ \$2.0 million in 2015–16 to support stakeholder consultations on a Canadian Autism Partnership.
- ✓ Extending the temporary measure that allows a qualifying family member to become the plan holder of a Registered Disability Savings Plan.
- ✓ Introducing amendments to the *Copyright Act* that will enable Canada to implement and accede to the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled.

Investing in the Health of Canadians

- ✓ Increasing transfers for health care by a projected \$27 billion over the next five years.
- ✓ Providing \$14 million over two years for the Canadian Foundation for Healthcare Improvement to help identify efficiencies in the health system.
- ✓ Renewing the mandate of the Mental Health Commission of Canada for another 10 years, beginning in 2017–18.
- ✓ Providing up to \$42 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to help improve seniors' health through innovation by establishing the Canadian Centre for Aging and Brain Health Innovation.



Investing in Aboriginal Communities

- ✓ Investing \$30.3 million over five years for the expansion of the First Nations Land Management Regime to create further opportunities for economic development on reserve.
- ✓ Providing \$200 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to improve First Nations education.
- ✓ Providing \$12 million over three years to Indspire to provide post-secondary scholarships and bursaries for First Nations and Inuit students.
- ✓ Investing \$2 million per year ongoing for mental wellness teams in First Nations Communities.

Assisting International Communities

- ✓ \$6 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to introduce measures that will help ensure Canadians have access to safe, reliable and lower-cost remittance services.
- ✓ \$22.8 million in 2016–17 for Grand Challenges Canada to continue its promising work towards solving global health challenges through innovation.
- ✓ Establishing the Development Finance Initiative to support effective international development by providing financing, technical assistance and business advisory services to firms operating in developing countries.

Celebrating Our Heritage

- ✓ Supporting activities and events to celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017, with \$210 million over four years, starting in 2015–16.
- ✓ Providing \$13.4 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, and \$2.8 million ongoing to support and modernize the Canadian Honours System and bring it closer to all Canadians.
- ✓ Investing up to \$20 million over four years, beginning in 2016–17, to support the next generation of Canadian Olympic and Paralympic athletes.
- ✓ Promoting arts and culture at Toronto's waterfront by providing \$25 million over five years, beginning in 2016–17, to renew the Harbourfront Centre Funding Program.
- ✓ Proposing changes to the *Copyright Act* to extend the term of protection of sound recordings and performances.



Protecting Canada's Environment

- ✓ Continuing to support, with \$75 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, the implementation of the *Species at Risk Act* to protect Canada's diverse species and secure the necessary actions for their recovery.
- ✓ Providing \$2.0 million in 2015–16 to the Pacific Salmon Foundation to support the Salish Sea Marine Survival Project.
- ✓ Extending the Recreational Fisheries Conservation Program by providing \$10 million per year for three years, starting in 2016–17, to support the conservation of recreational fisheries across the country.
- ✓ Dedicating \$34 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to continue to support meteorological and navigational warning services in the Arctic.
- ✓ Renewing the Chemicals Management Plan, with \$491.8 million over five years, starting in 2016–17, to continue to assess and manage the risks to human health and the environment from new and existing chemical substances.
- ✓ Renewing support for the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan with \$99.6 million over four years (\$1.35 billion on a cash basis), starting in 2016–17.

Protecting Canadians (Chapter 4.3)

The Government's foremost responsibility is to ensure the safety and security of Canadians and defend our sovereignty. Supporting Canadian men and women in uniform is a top priority of the Government. Economic Action Plan 2015 introduces new measures to strengthen national security and ensure Canadians feel safe and secure in their homes, online, and in their communities, such as:

Defending Canada

- ✓ Strengthening the Canadian Armed Forces by providing \$11.8 billion over 10 years through an increase to the annual escalator for National Defence's budget to 3 per cent, starting in 2017–18.
- ✓ Providing up to \$360.3 million in 2015–16 for the Canadian Armed Forces to extend its mission to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).
- ✓ Providing \$7.1 million in 2015–16 for the Canadian Armed Forces to deliver training assistance to the Ukrainian Security Forces.



- ✓ Providing \$23 million over four years on a cash basis, starting in 2015–16, to upgrade the physical security of Canadian Armed Forces bases.

Enhancing National Security

- ✓ Investing \$292.6 million over five years in intelligence and law enforcement agencies for additional investigative resources to counter terrorism.
- ✓ Providing \$12.5 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, and \$2.5 million ongoing thereafter, in additional funding to the Security Intelligence Review Committee to enhance its review of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.
- ✓ Providing \$58 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to further protect the Government of Canada’s essential cyber systems and critical infrastructure against cyber attacks.
- ✓ Investing \$36.4 million over five years to support the operators of Canada’s vital cyber systems in addressing cyber security threats, as required by new legislation.
- ✓ Providing \$60.4 million over three years on a cash basis to support an enhanced security model on Parliament Hill.

Protecting the Integrity of Our Borders

- ✓ Providing \$15.7 million over five years to expand eligibility for the Electronic Travel Authorization to low-risk travellers from Brazil, Bulgaria, Mexico and Romania to make it easier and faster for legitimate travellers from these countries to come to Canada.

Strengthening Community Safety

- ✓ Investing \$27 million over five years, starting in 2015–16, to enhance security measures at Canada’s federal courts and registry offices and the Supreme Court of Canada.
- ✓ Providing \$10 million over five years to the City of Ottawa to support policing services in the Nation’s Capital.
- ✓ Providing \$3 million over two years, starting in 2016–17, to take initial steps to establish a Public Safety Broadband Network, a high-speed mobile network dedicated to emergency management.
- ✓ Supporting a memorial for the three Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers killed in Moncton in June 2014.



Balancing the Budget (Chapter 5)

The Government is fulfilling its promise to balance the federal budget in 2015. The Government will return to balanced budgets while maintaining the lowest federal tax burden on Canadians in over half a century. Economic Action Plan 2015 introduces new efforts to build on our sound public finances and further modernize government operations.

- ✓ The Government is fulfilling its promise to balance the budget in 2015.
- ✓ Balanced budgets keep taxes low and ensure that taxpayer dollars are used to support the programs that Canadians depend on rather than paying interest costs.
- ✓ The deficit has been reduced from \$55.6 billion at the height of the global economic and financial crisis to a projected surplus of \$1.4 billion in 2015–16.
- ✓ The federal debt-to-GDP (gross domestic product) ratio is expected to fall to 27.9 per cent in 2017–18, below its pre-recession low, putting the Government on track to meeting its target of 25 per cent by 2021.
- ✓ Canada's total government net debt burden is the lowest of any Group of Seven (G-7) country and among the lowest of the advanced G-20 countries.
- ✓ The Government will introduce balanced budget legislation to enshrine in law its prudent approach to fiscal planning.
- ✓ To support debt reduction, the Government is planning on dedicating the amounts set aside for contingencies, if not required, to reduce the federal debt.
- ✓ To ensure that the Government continues to do business with ethical suppliers in Canada and abroad, a new government-wide procurement integrity framework will be introduced.
- ✓ The Government is also proposing new measures as part of its ongoing effort to strengthen tax compliance, and improve the fairness and integrity of the tax system, to ensure everyone pays their fair share.

