

The Canadian Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative:

2018 Compliance Report


Ad Standards™



About Ad Standards

Ad Standards is committed to fostering community confidence in Canadian advertising and to ensuring the integrity and viability of advertising through effective industry self-regulation. As an independent, not-for-profit body, we administer the *Canadian Code of Advertising Standards*, the principal instrument of advertising self-regulation in Canada, and a national mechanism for accepting and responding to consumer complaints about ads. Ad Standards Clearance Services reviews creative and offers consultative services in five categories, to help ensure advertising complies with relevant regulations.

Foreword

Through the Canadian Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative (CAI), industry took a leadership role 11 years ago to address responsible food and beverage advertising to children. Leading food and beverage advertisers, representing an overwhelming majority of food and beverage advertising on children's programming, committed to continually improve the CAI and with it the landscape of advertising to children under 12 years of age. The landscape has changed in recent years, both in Canada and internationally, with increased global concern about issues of childhood obesity. The CAI program has meanwhile continued to evolve and improve.

One significant CAI improvement of note was with category-specific uniform nutrition criteria to replace individual company specific nutrition criteria. Many Participants reformulated products to meet the criteria, and others designated products which would no longer be advertised to children. The uniform criteria resulted in significant enhancements in the nutritional profile of

foods advertised to children, for example, by reducing sodium, sugar, and saturated fat in products. The collective efforts of the Participants demonstrate how the industry can affect positive change. Participants either only advertise products that meet the CAI's nutrition criteria to children under 12 or do not direct advertising to children under 12.

Participants also commit to be publicly accountable, and as the independent program administrator, Ad Standards is pleased to report that Participants have fully complied with their individual program commitments. Details can be found in the report that follows and we invite you to review this report, and to visit www.adstandards.ca/about/childrens-advertising-initiative to learn more about the CAI.

Jani Yates
President & CEO
Ad Standards

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Executive Summary

The Canadian Children's Food & Beverage Advertising Initiative: 2018 Compliance Report (Report) documents the continuing progress made by the participating companies (Participants) in the Canadian Children's Food & Beverage Advertising Initiative (CAI or Program). As Canada's national, independent, not-for-profit advertising self-regulatory body, Advertising Standards Canada (Ad Standards) serves as the CAI administrator. The Report provides an assessment of the Participants' performance in implementing and meeting their CAI commitments from January 1 to December 31, 2018.

The Report sets out the CAI key principles and criteria, and assesses the Participants' compliance with each principle.

The Participants reviewed in this Report are: Campbell Company of Canada; Coca-Cola Ltd.; Danone Inc.; Ferrero Canada Ltd.; General Mills Canada Corporation; Hershey Canada Inc.; Kellogg Canada Inc.; Kraft Heinz Canada; Mars Canada Inc.; Maple Leaf Foods Inc.; McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited; Mondelēz Canada; Nestlé Canada Inc.; Parmalat Canada; PepsiCo Canada ULC; and Unilever Canada Inc.

Ten Participants did not engage in advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age. The balance committed to include only better-for-you products¹ in child-directed advertising².

In assessing Participant compliance, Ad Standards' methodology consisted of an independent assessment process, as well as a detailed review of reports and documentation submitted by each Participant.

Performance

Ad Standards is pleased to report compliance by all Participants with their commitments. This is consistent with findings over the previous ten years and demonstrates the commitment to the CAI by each of the Participants and their advertising and media buying partners.

Uniform Nutrition Criteria

Since 2016, Participants have complied with category-specific Uniform Nutrition Criteria. These are strict criteria which set out not only Nutrition Components to Limit, but also requirements for Nutrition Components to Encourage in any food advertised directly to children under 12.

¹ In this Report, the terms "better-for-you" and "healthy dietary choices" are used interchangeably.

² In this Report, the phrase "child-directed advertising" is used interchangeably with the phrase "advertising directed primarily to children under 12".



I. Report Overview

The *2018 Compliance Report* (Report) documents the performance of the participating companies (Participants) in the Canadian Children's Food & Beverage Advertising Initiative (CAI or Program), in complying with their public commitments under the Program. This Report covers the period from January 1, 2018, to December 31, 2018.

The following Participants are assessed in this Report:

1. Campbell Company of Canada (Campbell Canada)
2. Coca-Cola Ltd. (Coca-Cola)
3. Danone Inc. (Danone)
4. Ferrero Canada Ltd. (Ferrero)
5. General Mills Canada Corporation (General Mills)
6. Hershey Canada Inc. (Hershey)
7. Kellogg Canada Inc. (Kellogg)
8. Kraft Heinz Canada (Kraft Heinz)
9. Mars Canada Inc. (Mars)
10. Maple Leaf Foods Inc. (Maple Leaf)
11. McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited (McDonald's)
12. Mondelēz Canada (Mondelēz)
13. Nestlé Canada Inc. (Nestlé)
14. Parmalat Canada (Parmalat)
15. PepsiCo Canada ULC (PepsiCo)
16. Unilever Canada Inc. (Unilever)



II. Background

As the issue of childhood health and obesity came to the forefront as a serious and complex global issue, leading Canadian food and beverage advertising companies recognized they could make a meaningful contribution to support the health of Canadian children. To this end, the CAI was launched in 2007. The Program was developed to promote better-for-you dietary choices and healthy lifestyles to children under 12, and to shift the emphasis in children's advertising by the Participants to food and beverages that are consistent with the principles of sound nutrition guidance. In 2015, Uniform Nutrition Criteria were introduced as a mandatory component of the Program, requiring that products be reformulated or that they not be advertised directly to children under 12.

A. CAI Core Principles

There are five Core Principles under the Program.

1. Advertising Messaging and Content Principle

Participants devote 100% of their advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age in covered media to products that represent healthier dietary choices (better-for-you products). As of December 31, 2015, all products featured in advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age must meet the Uniform Nutrition Criteria (Appendix 3). Alternatively, Participants may commit to not direct advertising primarily to children under 12 years of age.

Media covered:

- television, radio, print and Internet advertising;
- video and computer games rated Early Childhood (EC) that are inherently directed primarily to children under 12, and other games that are age-graded on the label and packaging as being directed primarily to children under 12;
- DVDs of G-rated movies in which content is directed primarily to children under 12, and other DVDs in which content is directed primarily to children under 12; and
- both mobile media, such as cellphones, tablets, and through word of mouth³, where advertising is directed primarily to children under 12.

2. Use of Products in Interactive Games

Incorporate only products that represent healthier dietary choices in interactive games directed primarily to children under 12 years of age.

3. Use of Licensed Characters, Celebrities and Movie Tie-Ins

Reduce the use of third-party licensed characters in advertising directed primarily to children under 12 for products that do not meet the CAI's product criteria.⁴

4. Product Placement

Do not pay for or actively seek to place food and beverage products in program/editorial content of any medium directed primarily to children under 12 years of age.

³ The commitment regarding word of mouth advertising refers to advertising where a Participant provides incentives (financial or otherwise), product samples or other support to individuals or groups who are not employees to promote consumption of branded food or beverage products or to promote discussion of such products, and the advertising is directed primarily to children under 12 years of age.

⁴ This criterion applies to advertising in media other than broadcast advertising, as the use of licensed characters in children's broadcast advertising is already restricted under *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children*.

5. Advertising in Schools

Do not advertise food or beverage products in elementary schools.⁵

In consultation with Ad Standards, each Participant develops, and updates as necessary, its individual commitment that, once approved by Ad Standards, is published on a dedicated section of Ad Standards' website at: <https://adstandards.ca/about/childrens-advertising-initiative/participant-commitments/>

Complete details of the CAI Core Principles can be found in Appendix 5 of this Report.

B. Definition of Advertising Directed Primarily to Children Under 12⁶

The CAI's Advertising Messaging and Content Principle requires Participants to commit that 100% of their advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age, in media covered by the program, will be for the promotion of better-for-you products, or that they will not direct advertising to children under 12.

In the case of a measured medium, such as television, Participants use a threshold definition of "advertising directed primarily to children" that is tied to audience composition percentages. These audience composition percentages are derived from third-party measurements, such as Numeris for broadcast or ComScore for Internet, and supplemented by a company's existing corporate policies and procedures. Most CAI Participants have committed to definitions of advertising to children as advertising in programming for which the percentage of viewers who are children under 12 is greater than 35, as shown in the table on page 3.

⁵ This limitation does not apply to displays of food and beverage products, charitable/not-for-profit activities including fundraising, public service messaging or educational programs.

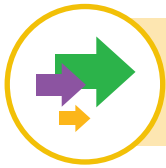
⁶ The CAI does not extend to Quebec, where the Quebec *Consumer Protection Act* prohibits advertising in that province to children under the age of 13.

Summary of Participants' Definitions of Advertising Directed Primarily to Children Under 12 Years of Age

	Threshold Audience % Under 12	Status
Campbell Company of Canada	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
Coca-Cola Ltd.	35% or more of audience	No advertising
Danone Inc.	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
Ferrero Canada Ltd.	30% or more of audience	No advertising
General Mills Canada Corporation	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
Hershey Canada Inc.	30% or more of audience	No advertising
Kellogg Canada Inc.	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
Kraft Heinz Canada	35% or more of audience	No advertising
Mars Canada Inc.	25% or more of audience	No advertising
Maple Leaf Foods Inc.	35% or more of audience	No advertising
McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
Mondelēz Canada	35% or more of audience	No advertising
Nestlé Canada Inc.	25% or more of audience	No advertising
Parmalat Canada	35% or more of audience	Advertise approved products only
PepsiCo Canada ULC	35% or more of audience	No advertising
Unilever Canada Inc.	35% or more of audience	No advertising

It is important to note that the Participants' commitments address only advertising directed primarily to children under 12. As a result, advertising directed primarily to parents/care-givers or aired in family programming or non-children's programming where viewership by children under 12 is less than 35% falls outside the scope of the CAI.

For non-measured media, such as interactive games, a number of factors are used to determine if advertising is directed primarily to children, such as the overall impression of the advertisement, the target demographic, whether the medium is used primarily by children under 12 years of age, and whether age-screening mechanisms are in place.



III. The Changing Landscape

Ad Standards' Review of Television Food and Beverage Advertising to Children Under 12 Years of Age

Ad Standards reviewed all commercials approved by its Clearance Services for airing in children's programming. These spanned a variety of categories in addition to food and beverage products, and included movies, video games, DVDs, attractions, and toys. In fact, of the 1415 commercials cleared by Ad Standards' Clearance Services as meeting the provisions of *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children* and acceptable for broadcast in children's programming, only 6% were for food and beverage products.

Ad Standards Television Spot Check of Food and Beverage Advertising to Children

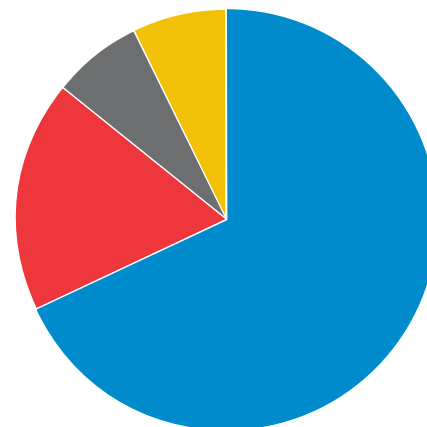
In addition to ongoing monitoring, Ad Standards also conducted a spot check of children's advertising. In 2018, Ad Standards monitored eight days of child-directed television advertising on three Canadian stations that broadcast programming specifically intended for the under-12 audience. Each station classifies "children's programming" based on program content and audience viewership. While these stations also identify "co-viewing" and "family" programming for which the majority of viewers are over the age of 12, the spot check was limited to advertising broadcast during children's programming only.

Stations and children's programming covered by the spot check were⁷:

Teletoon	9am – 5pm weekdays
YTV	6am – 12pm weekdays; 6pm – 9pm weekdays
Nickelodeon	9am – 6pm weekdays; 3pm – 6pm Sunday; 6pm – 9pm Saturday

In total, the spot check covered 42 hours of children's programming, during which 649 commercials aired. As noted in previous reports, by far the majority of television advertising directed to children is for toys, games, DVDs, in-theatre movies and attractions. Food and beverage commercials accounted for 20% of the commercials broadcast during children's programming on the surveyed stations. Of these, 81% were commercials sponsored by CAI Participants for products that met the Uniform Nutrition Criteria under the CAI. Of these Participants' commercials: 68% of the commercials were for Ready-to-Eat Cereals, 18% were for other grain products, seven percent were for dairy products, and the remaining seven percent for snack products. The balance of the commercials was for food products advertised by non-participating companies.

CAI Commercials by Product Type



⁷ Under CRTC policy, public service announcements, program promotions and statements of sponsorship that identify the sponsor of the program or the station are not considered to be commercial messages and were not covered by the spot check.



IV. Evaluation of Commitment Compliance

Of the 16 Participants evaluated in 2018:

- Ten Participants did not direct advertising to children under 12 years of age: Coca-Cola, Ferrero, Hershey, Kraft Heinz, Maple Leaf, Mars, Mondelēz, Nestlé, PepsiCo, and Unilever.
- Six Participants committed to advertise only products meeting the Uniform Nutrition Criteria: Campbell Canada, Danone, General Mills, Kellogg, McDonald's, and Parmalat. These Participants all committed to devote 100% of their television, radio, print, Internet, movie DVD, video and computer game, and mobile media advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age to better-for-you products.

Methodology

Ad Standards evaluated each Participant's compliance with its individual commitment through an independent audit and a detailed review of the Participant's compliance report, completed by each Participant and certified as complete and accurate by a senior corporate officer.

A. Independent Audit

Ad Standards audits Participants' compliance in the following manner.

Television Advertising

As a condition of broadcast license by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, all children's commercials must be pre-cleared by Ad Standards' Children's Clearance Committee under *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children*, and carry a valid Ad Standards approval number.

Ad Standards conducts a second review of these commercials to ensure that the advertised products are those approved for inclusion in the Participants' CAI commitments. As an additional compliance check, Ad Standards conducts an annual independent spot check of advertising directed to children on major children's channels.

Radio Advertising

No Participants utilized this medium to advertise to children under 12.

Print Advertising

No Participants utilized this medium to advertise to children under 12.

Out-of-Home Advertising

No Participants utilized this medium to advertise to children under 12.

Internet Advertising

Ad Standards regularly monitors both company-owned and third-party websites whose primary audience is children under 12.

B. Consumer Complaints Review

All consumer complaints submitted to Ad Standards in 2018 were reviewed to identify any concerns from members of the public with regard to a Participant's compliance with its CAI commitment. Of the 91 complaints involving advertising by food manufacturers, retailers and restaurants that were submitted to Ad Standards in 2018, none involved concerns about Participant compliance with CAI commitments.

C. Participant Compliance Reports

Each CAI Participant was required to submit a comprehensive report detailing its compliance during the reporting period. Those Participants that committed not to advertise directly to children under 12 submitted data demonstrating compliance with their commitments. Participants that engaged in advertising primarily directed to children under 12 submitted reports that included documentation from their advertising and media buying groups and copies of child-directed advertising. Each Participant's report was certified by a senior executive or officer of the company as to the veracity and completeness of the report.

Participant compliance reports include details of: all products advertised directly to children under 12 years of age; the placement of these advertisements by both specific media and the programs or magazines in which the advertisements were run; and the percentage of the audience by age for the programs or magazines at the time the advertisements were placed.

D. Compliance Assessment

Overall Compliance Evaluation

Participants' compliance with their respective commitments in 2018 was excellent. The following are the results of Ad Standards' compliance evaluation.

1. Advertising in Measured and Unmeasured Media, Company-Owned and Third Party Websites

Television Advertising

Television advertising is a key compliance element, despite the proliferation of new media. It is therefore noteworthy that Ad Standards' audit and spot check revealed full compliance.

Radio Advertising

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

Print Advertising

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

Out-of-Home Advertising

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

Company Owned and Third Party Websites

The independent audit conducted by Ad Standards, as well as the individual Participant compliance reports, were used to assess compliance with this CAI principle. Ad Standards did not identify any infractions of this principle.

2. Use of Licensed Characters

The independent audit conducted by Ad Standards, as well as the individual Participant compliance reports, were used to assess compliance with this CAI principle. Ad Standards did not identify any infractions of this principle.

3. Use of Products in Interactive Games

Two of the Participants that direct advertising to children incorporated interactive games on their own websites that are directed to children under 12. Only the better-for-you products that were included in the Participants' commitments were incorporated into these interactive games. Ad Standards did not identify any instances of non-compliance.

4. Product Placement

As per their commitments, no Participant engaged in product placement.

5. Advertising in Schools

The CAI requires Participants to adhere to standards established by schools individually and by school boards overall. In addition, they are required to commit to not advertise food and beverage products in schools. All of the Participants complied with this principle. Excluded from the CAI are charitable and not-for-profit activities, such as school-approved fundraising and educational programs, public service messaging, and displays of food and beverage products (for example in school cafeterias).

As detailed in Appendix 4, several Participants engaged in sponsorship of educational and other not-for-profit and charitable activities, as allowed under the CAI.

6. Video and Computer Games⁸

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

7. DVDs of Movies

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

8. Mobile Media

No Participant utilized this medium for advertising primarily directed to children under 12.

⁸ Video and computer games rated Early Childhood (EC), which are inherently directed primarily to children under 12, and other games that are age-graded on the label and packaging as being directed primarily to children under 12.

Appendix 1

List of Advertised Products in 2018

Campbell Company of Canada

GOLDFISH® BAKED SNACK CRACKERS – CHEDDAR
GOLDFISH® BAKED SNACK CRACKERS – COLOURS

Coca-Cola Ltd.

None

Danone Inc.

Danino Drinkable
Danone Creamy

Ferrero Canada Ltd.

None

General Mills Canada Corporation

Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal
Chocolate Lucky Charms cereal
Chocolate Peanut Butter Cheerios cereal
Despicable Me cereal
Despicable Me Fruit Flavoured Snacks
Fruit by the Foot Fruit Flavoured Snacks
Honey Nut Cheerios cereal
Lucky Charms cereal
Yoplait Tubes

Hershey Canada Inc.

None

Kellogg Canada Inc.

Froot Loops cereal
Rice Krispies Squares cereal bars (Original)
Eggo Waffles (Original and Original Minis)

Kraft Heinz Canada

None

Mars Canada Inc.

None

McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited

Happy Meal box with 1% white milk
and Apple Slices

Mondelēz Canada

None

Nestlé Canada Inc.

None

Parmalat Canada

Black Diamond Ficello Cheestrings (4 flavours)

PepsiCo Canada ULC

None

Unilever Canada Inc.

None

Appendix 2

List of Child-Directed Company-Owned Websites in 2018

Campbell Company of Canada

None¹

Coca-Cola Ltd.

None

Danone Inc.

www.danone.ca/en/products/danino/
(game removed August 2018)

Ferrero Canada Ltd.

None

General Mills Canada Corporation

None

Hershey Canada Inc.

None

Kellogg Canada Inc.

None

Kraft Heinz Canada

None

Maple Leaf Foods Inc.

None

Mars Canada Inc.

None

Maple Leaf Foods Inc.

None

McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited

None

Mondelēz Canada

None

Nestlé Canada Inc.

None

Parmalat Canada Inc.

www.cheestrings.ca
www.ficello.ca

PepsiCo Canada ULC

None

Unilever Canada Inc.

None

¹ Canadian children may have the ability to access www.goldfishfun.com, maintained by the U.S. Biscuits and Bakery division of the Campbell Soup Company in the United States. The games and other content on the site comply with the Campbell Soup Company's commitment pursuant to the Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative in the United States (US Commitment Program). Details of the US Commitment Program may be found at: <https://www.bbbprograms.org/programs/cfbai/>

Appendix 3

Uniform Nutrition Criteria

Summary Table of New Uniform Nutrition Criteria by Product Category

Product	Unit ⁶	Components Required to Limit				Components Required to Encourage
		Calories (kcal)	Sat Fat (g) ¹	Sodium (mg)	Total Sugars (g)	
1. MILK AND ALTERNATIVES						
Milks and Milk Substitutes	250 mL	≤170	≤2	≤200	≤25	1 serving Milk and Alternatives
Yogurts and Yogurt-type Products	175 g	≤175	≤2	≤140	≤24	1 serving Milk and Alternatives AND ≥5% DV calcium
Dairy-based Desserts	125 mL	≤120	≤2	≤110	≤20	≥¼ cup milk AND ≥5% DV calcium
Cheese and Cheese Products (except as listed separately below)	30 g	≤125	≤3	≤480	≤2	≥¼ serving Milk and Alternatives AND ≥5% DV calcium
Cottage Cheese and Ricotta	110 g	≤150	≤7	≤480	≤7	≥¼ serving Milk and Alternatives AND ≥5% DV calcium
Hard Grated Parmesan and Romano Cheese	15 g	≤75	≤4.5	≤380	N/A	N/A
2. GRAIN						
Small Reference Amount, Lighter Density Products	LSS ⁷	≤150	≤1.5	≤190	≤10	8 g whole grain OR 2 g fibre OR ≥5%* DV any essential nutrient except sodium (*≥15% DV if cereals)
Large Reference Amount, Higher Density Products	LSS ⁷	≤200	≤2	≤250 ≤360 (for products that require leavening e.g., pancakes and waffles)	≤12	8 g whole grain OR 2 g fibre OR ≥5%* DV any essential nutrient except sodium (*≥15% DV if cereals)
3. SOUPS						
	LSS ⁷	≤200	≤2	≤480	≤6 ≤12 (tomato-based)	≥½ serving Vegetables and Fruit or Milk and Alternatives OR 8 g whole grain OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
4. MEAT AND ALTERNATIVES						
Meat Products (including fish and poultry)	60 g	≤120	≤2	≤480	NA	≥30 g meat, fish or poultry AND ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
For labelled serving sizes ≤30 g	30 g	≤60	≤1	≤240	NA	
Meat Alternatives (except Peanut Butter)	30 g	≤230	≤3.5	≤140	≤4	≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
Peanut Butter	15 g	≤115	≤1.9	≤65	≤2	≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
5. VEGETABLES AND FRUIT						
Vegetable- and Fruit-based Beverages	LSS ⁷	≤160	0	≤140	No added sugars	≥½ serving Vegetables and Fruit OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium

Product	Unit ⁶	Components Required to Limit				Components Required to Encourage
		Calories (kcal)	Sat Fat (g) ¹	Sodium (mg)	Total Sugars (g)	
Vegetable- and Fruit-based Snacks	125 mL 60 g (if dried)	≤150	≤2	≤140	No added sugars	≥½ serving of Vegetables and Fruit OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
6. OCCASIONAL SNACKS						
Chips, popcorn and extruded snacks	LSS ⁷	≤200	≤2	≤360	≤12	8 g whole grain OR 2 g fibre OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
Other Snacks (snack items not in other categories)	LSS ⁷	≤150	≤1.5	≤190	≤10	8 g whole grain OR 2 g fibre OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
7. MIXED DISHES						
Side Dishes (single foods)	LSS ⁷	≤280	≤2.5	≤375	≤10	≥½ serving of any one of Vegetables and Fruit, Grain Products (with 8 g whole grain or 2 g fibre), Meat and Alternatives or Milk and Alternatives OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
Centre of Plate (combination foods and side dishes)	LSS ⁷	≤450	≤10% of calories	≤480	≤15	≥1 serving of any one of Vegetables and Fruit, Grain Products (with 8 g whole grain or 2 g fibre), Meat and Alternatives or Milk and Alternatives OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
Complete Meals (main dishes and retail meal products that meet the “meal” regulatory definition)	LSS ⁷	≤500	≤10% of calories ²	≤600	≤17 ³ OR ≤12 ³	≥1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit or Grain Products (with 8 g whole grain or 2 g fibre) AND ≥1 serving of Meat and Alternatives or Milk and Alternatives OR ≥5% DV any essential nutrient except sodium
8. MEALS ON THE GO						
Meals On The Go	Meal	≤510	≤10% of calories meets Health Canada’s voluntary trans fat limits	≤660	≤20 ⁴ OR ≤15 ⁵	≥1 serving of Vegetables and Fruit or Grain Products (with 8 g whole grain or 2 g fibre) AND ≥1 serving of Meat and Alternatives or Milk and Alternatives

¹ The trans fat limit across all categories is 0 g labelled; for foods in the Milk and Alternatives and Meat and Alternatives categories that are served either as individual foods or as part of mixed dishes or meals, naturally occurring trans fats are permitted.

² Saturated fat from a cheese component present in a Complete Meal is not counted if the cheese component meets its corresponding Milk and Alternatives category criteria.

³ Sugars from qualifying Milk and Alternatives or Vegetables and Fruit products present in a Complete Meal are not counted, but the total sugars limit is set to account for sugars from all other items – the higher limit reflects when one such item is present and the limit is reduced if two such items are present.

⁴ Sugars from a beverage present in a meal are not counted if the beverage is a Milk and Alternatives category beverage and contains ≤25 g total sugars per 250 mL (consistent with the Milk and Alternatives category) or if it is 100% fruit juice; sugars from a yogurt or fruit product present in a meal are not counted if the product meets its corresponding Milk and Alternatives or Vegetables and Fruit category criteria and if the yogurt product is ≥175 g and ≤24 g total sugars (consistent with the Milk and Alternatives category) or if the fruit product is ≥½ serving fruit and contains no added sugar (consistent with the Vegetables and Fruit category).

⁵ If any combination of two or more of the above qualifying beverage, yogurt and fruit products is present in a meal, sugars from the products are not counted, but the total sugars limit is reduced to 15 g.

⁶ Any future changes to CFIA’s serving size guidance, or legislation by Health Canada, will require a review of the Uniform Nutrition Criteria by CAI Participants.

⁷ Labelled Serving Size

Appendix 4

Examples of Participants' 2018 Healthy Active Living Messaging, Initiatives and Programs

Campbell Company of Canada

- Until October of 2018, Campbell Canada continued to implement *Labels for Education*, a program that is a school fundraising program with a focus on encouraging healthy eating and living habits in children. Eligible registered schools can collect labels from participating Campbell products and redeem them for educational resources ranging from sports equipment and musical instruments, to health and wellness videos and books. All *Labels for Education* communication is directed to adults (teachers and parents).

Coca-Cola Ltd.

- Coca-Cola has been a supporter of *Breakfast Club of Canada* for over 15 years, helping to deliver more than 25 million free breakfasts annually to over 163,000 children across Canada.
- Coca-Cola was among the first companies to provide calorie information on the front of its packages and played a leadership role in developing and implementing *Clear on Calories*, the beverage industry's voluntary national front-of-package labelling initiative to help Canadians to make informed beverage choices for themselves and their families.
- Lastly, Coca-Cola was a leader with the Canadian Beverage Association and the Conference Board of Canada on the *Balance Calorie Initiative* (BCI), which has a goal of reducing the non-alcoholic beverage calories consumed per person in Canada by 20% by

2025. This industry initiative leverages the company's marketing and innovation strengths to increase access to beverages with reduced calories, smaller package sizes, and to promote calorie balance where consumers purchase products. The BCI is being tracked over its 10-year duration by the Conference Board of Canada which, in its 2018 monitoring report, stated that "the CBA has achieved almost half of its caloric target in the first two years of the initiative".

Ferrero Canada Ltd.

- Ferrero is a signatory to the International Food & Beverage Alliance (IFBA) Global Policy on Advertising and Marketing Communications to Children, formed in 2008, in response to the World Health Organization (WHO) 2004 Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health. This commits all Ferrero brands not to advertise at all to media audiences with more than 35% children under 12. In Canada, Ferrero has committed not to advertise at all to media audiences with more than 30% children under 12.
- More than 95% of Ferrero's products globally are sold in portion sizes of less than 150 calories, as part of a global commitment to deliver great-tasting, high quality products that help consumers eat mindfully. Additionally, Ferrero puts strong focus on developing and packaging products in individually wrapped portions.

General Mills Canada Corporation

- General Mills provides philanthropic funding to support *Breakfast Club of Canada*, enabling over 3,000 children and youth to have daily access to a nourishing school breakfast each day by supporting 11 breakfast club programs in 6 provinces, including two new breakfast clubs launched in 2018. These breakfast programs ensure that all students have reliable access to nutritious food in a safe and supportive environment, in order to positively impact health and learning.
- General Mills' support for *Breakfast Club of Canada* also provides continued support for the infrastructure and operation of a school greenhouse northern Alberta, serving the nearby First Nations community. The fresh produce from the greenhouse is used in school breakfast and school lunch programs.

Kellogg Canada Inc.

- Kellogg has been a long-time supporter of hunger relief programs in Canada and around the world through its global purpose *Breakfasts for Better Days*® which was launched in 2013. In 2016, Kellogg increased its commitment by setting a goal to create 3 billion Better Days for people worldwide by 2025. Since launching in 2016, Kellogg has delivered more than 1.2 billion Better Days by donating 1.1 billion servings of food; reaching 1.1 million children with feeding programs; supporting 322,000 farmers and securing 18,100 volunteer days.
- Building on its 10+ year partnership with *Breakfast Club of Canada* (BCC), Kellogg continued working to support breakfast programs across the country and advocate for the important role that breakfast plays in the diet. In partnership with BCC, Kellogg rolled out the *Kellogg Canada Adopt-A-School Employee*

Volunteer Initiative. Launched in September 2018, and running through the 2018/2019 school year, Kellogg employees volunteer their time two days a week at a school in close proximity to Corporate Head Office.

- In addition, Kellogg Canada continued its long-standing support of *Food Banks Canada* (FBC) through product and financial donations and with their support of FBC's *After the Bell* initiative, which provides children who are experiencing hunger during the summer months (when the programs that they have come to rely on during the school year close for the summer holiday) increased access to much needed nutritious food.

McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Limited

- McDonald's is a part of the Clinton Global Initiative and partners with the Alliance for a Healthier Generation and the Clinton Foundation. Under this partnership, McDonald's has made a global commitment to leverage its menu and marketing power to educate, empower and encourage its guests to make informed choices so they can live a balanced, healthy lifestyle. Under this commitment, McDonald's promotes only water, milk and juice as the Happy Meal beverage on menu boards, and in-restaurant and external advertising.
- To support guests in making informed choices, McDonald's was one of the first foodservice companies to display calorie information on menu boards in all restaurants across Canada.
- McDonald's supports minor hockey in communities across the country by offering young players a unique opportunity to build their sense of teamwork and focus on the joy of playing. Through its *Atom* and *Equipe McDo* (in Quebec) house league hockey programs, McDonald's sponsors more than 53,000 *Atom* and *Bantam* players across Canada each year.

- In support of childhood literacy, in May 2017 McDonald's partnered with Kids Can Press to introduce a book program so families can choose a book or a toy with their Happy Meal purchase. Since its launch, over 7 million Canadian authored and illustrated children's books have been distributed through the program, which aims to foster in children a deeper love of reading and encourage families to share story time together. As part of the program launch, McDonald's made a contribution to First Book Canada, a leading literacy organization that provides books and educational resources to educators who exclusively serve children in need. This allowed a further 20,000 assorted children's books to be distributed across Canada.

Mars Canada Inc.

- Mars has extended its multi-year partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC) of Canada, through which the company contributes financially and through national volunteer efforts across the RMHC network.
- Mars Food Associates are provided with opportunities to improve well-being through nutrition education, on-site cooking facilities and healthier food options.
- Mars launched a bold Sustainable in a Generation Plan in 2017, focused on three areas: Healthy Planet, Thriving People and Nourishing Wellbeing. The company brings this plan to life in Canada through support for local communities, local sourcing where available and inclusivity in its workplace.

Mondelēz Canada

- Mondelēz Canada continued to partner with Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada to support its *Cool Moves* program, which provides education to children aged 7 – 12 on healthy eating and nutritious snacks, and active play.
- Mondelēz Canada also continues to support the United Way and directs all corporate donations to children's programs focused on increasing access to healthy food and active play.
- As a partner of Food Banks Canada (FBC), Mondelēz Canada continued its commitment to helping FBC secure fresh food for Canadians and expand its national fresh food program.

Nestlé Canada Inc.

- Nestlé is committed to enhancing quality of life and contributing to a healthier future generation. Globally, Nestlé has pledged to help 50 million children lead healthier lives by 2030. As part of this mandate, in 2018, Nestlé launched a new Nestlé for Healthier Kids initiative focused on how Nestlé can positively impact the health of children and families in the local communities surrounding its operations.
- Nutritional Compass – 90% of Nestlé's packaging includes information to help consumers make informed choices by highlighting a nutrient, such as calcium, or an ingredient, such as whole grain, and discussing how the product fits into an overall diet. This continues to evolve based on consumer insights within each product category.
- Nestlé is a founding sponsor of Kids Help Phone, a national, bilingual, 24-hour, toll-free telephone and e-mail counselling service that provides the immediate support children and youth need and deserve. Nestlé continues to support this service on an annual basis.
- Nestlé donates regularly to Food Banks Canada.

- Nestlé is committed to helping Canadians make informed food choices and has Guideline Daily Amounts for calories on the front of its packaging, accompanied by information to encourage responsible portion decisions on all of its children and all-family products. Between 2014 and 2016, Nestlé reduced sodium and saturated fat by 10% and sugar by 8% across its portfolio, and has made further reduction commitments to be achieved by the end of 2020.

Parmalat Canada

- Parmalat is committed to the healthy bodies and minds of Canadian youth.
- Parmalat is a founding sponsor of the Grocery Foundation (40 years in Canada). The Grocery Foundation exists to feed hungry children in Canada and helps to ensure tens of thousands of school-aged children and youth have universal access to proper nutrition while at school. This is achieved through industry fundraising events, such as Night to Nurture, through campaigns, such as Toonies for Tummies, and other programs, including the Breakfast for Learning School Voucher program, which helps make nutritious foods more affordable to school programs. Parmalat actively participates in all these programs.
- Toonies for Tummies is an industry on-shelf program that raises funds in stores and online to support school breakfast programs. Black Diamond Cheestrings participates in and supports the Toonies for Tummies program.
- Through the Grocery Foundation School Voucher program and its support of Breakfast for Learning, children are well nourished and ready to learn throughout the school day in more than 1,600 schools every year by bringing together people in numerous communities to engage local expertise and resources to meet the needs of their child nutrition programs.

- Parmalat is also a founding sponsor of Kids Help Phone (celebrating its 30th year in Canada), a national, bilingual, 24-hour, toll-free telephone, messaging and email counselling service that provides the immediate support children and youth need and deserve.
- In May 2018, Black Diamond Cheestrings supported the 17th Annual Megan’s Walk and Hug, a meaningful way to honour the spirit of Mother’s Day and be a part of a community that raises hope and awareness for childhood cancer research.
- In order to continue helping consumers make informed choices about the snack foods they consume, Black Diamond Cheestrings revised its website to include detailed nutritional information about all products in its portfolio.
- Black Diamond Cheestrings partnered with the NBA to run NBA Fit clinics for kids (ages 5 to 13) across Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec. These NBA Fit clinics are a health and wellness platform that encourages children and their families to be active, eat healthy and play together.

Pepsico Canada ULC

PepsiCo is committed to playing a responsible and supportive role in the health and wellness of Canadians by encouraging people to adopt healthy, active lifestyles. Recent examples include:

- Partnered with the beverage industry, to launch “Clear on Calories”, a front of pack calorie labelling initiative designed to help Canadians understand the caloric content of beverages, so they can make more informed purchasing and consumption decisions for themselves and their families.
- Supported charitable organizations and program sponsorships including: the YMCA Strong Kids Events, Right to Play, Food Banks Canada, United Way, and ONEXONE First Nations breakfast program.

- Supported nutrition research through sponsorship with the Canadian Foundation for Dietetic Research.
- Complies with voluntary guidelines through the Canadian Beverage Association regarding the sale of healthier beverages in schools, ensuring that students have greater access to nutritious and lower-calorie beverages.
- Partnered with the beverage industry, the Canadian Beverage Association (CBA) and the Conference Board of Canada to launch a new beverage industry effort called “*Balance Calories*”, the goal of which is to reduce per capita beverage calories consumed by 20% by 2025.

Appendix 5

CAI Core Principles (updated July 2018)

Our Vision

The food and beverage industry in Canada is committed to advertising and marketing products to Canadian children in a responsible way to help prepare them to make wise decisions about nutrition and health. We recognize that the special nature and needs of children requires particular care and diligence on the part of advertisers.

Our Commitment

The food and beverage industry plays a significant role in supporting the health of Canadians, especially children. Accordingly, companies participating in this initiative are committed to shifting their children's advertising and marketing emphasis to foods and beverages that are consistent with the principles of sound nutrition guidance, including those that are lower in total calories, fats, salt and added sugars and that are higher in nutrients that are significant to public health.

These commitments are realized through the five Core Principles that follow. The principles have been expanded, since they were first developed in 2007, to reflect the ongoing commitment of the Participants to continue to broaden their efforts to support healthier dietary choices and healthy lifestyles to children under 12 years of age.

Core Principles

Advertising messaging and content

Participants commit that 100% of their television, radio, print and internet advertising directed primarily to children under 12 years of age¹ will be for products that represent healthier dietary choices (better-for-you products) pursuant to the Canadian Children's Food

and Beverage Advertising Initiative's category-specific Uniform Nutrition Criteria, set out in the "Uniform Nutrition Criteria White Paper", and attached as Appendix A. Alternatively, Participants may commit to not direct advertising primarily to children under 12 years of age².

Child-Directed Content

This principle also applies to advertising that is primarily directed to children in the following media:

- company-owned websites or micro-sites primarily directed to children under 12 years of age;
- video and computer games rated "Early Childhood" or "EC," which are inherently primarily directed to children under 12, and other games that are age-graded on the label and packaging as being primarily directed to children under 12;
- DVDs of movies that are rated "G" whose content is primarily directed to children under 12, and other DVDs whose content is primarily directed to children under 12;
- mobile media such as cell phones, smart phones, tablets, other personal digital devices and through word of mouth³ where advertising on those media is primarily directed to children under 12.

Use of Products in Interactive Games

Participants commit that, in any interactive game primarily directed to children under 12 (in whatever format: online, disk or cartridge) where the company's food or beverage products are incorporated into the game, the interactive game must incorporate or be accompanied by products representing better-for-you products.

¹ Measured in media impressions at the time the advertising is purchased, as determined by reliable third party data such as Numeris ratings for TV and radio, ComScore for Internet, Vividata for print, COMB (Canadian Outdoor Measured Bureau) for outdoor and others. The commitment will be calculated separately for each advertising medium. Measurement of advertising on company-owned websites will be determined in accordance with standards established as part of the company's commitment.

² Participants also are encouraged to disseminate healthy lifestyle messaging. This could include messaging that encourages physical activity or good dietary habits, consistent with established scientific and/or government standards.

³ The commitment regarding word of mouth advertising refers to advertising where a Participant provides incentives (financial or otherwise), product samples or other support to individuals or groups who are not employees to promote consumption of branded food or beverage products or to promote discussion of such products, and the advertising is primarily directed to children under 12 years of age.

Use of Licensed Characters, Celebrities and Movie Tie-ins

While the use of licensed characters, celebrities and movie tie-ins is already restricted in children's broadcast advertising⁴, participants also commit to ensure that their use of third-party licensed characters, celebrities and movie tie-ins in advertising that appears in other media primarily directed to children under 12⁵ complies with the messaging and content principles set out above.

Product Placement

Participating companies commit to not paying for or actively seeking to place their food or beverage products in the program/editorial content of any medium primarily directed to children under 12 for the purpose of promoting the sale of those products.

Advertising in Schools

Participating companies remain committed to adhering to standards established by schools individually and by school boards overall. Furthermore, participants will commit to not advertising food or beverage products in elementary schools – pre-kindergarten through Grade 6.⁶

Implementation

Each participating company formalizes and publishes an individual plan, commitment details, and implementation schedule that have been approved by Advertising Standards Canada (Ad Standards), the program administrator. A copy of each participating company's current commitment document is posted on the Canadian Children's Food and Beverage Advertising Initiative section of Ad Standards' website: <https://adstandards.ca/about/childrens-advertising-initiative/>

Auditing and Enforcement

The plans for each participating company, including their specific commitments are established in consultation with Ad Standards.

Ad Standards is responsible for auditing commitments by participating companies. In order to confirm compliance by participating companies, auditing includes the review of advertising materials, product information, and media impression information (see footnote 1 above) submitted to Ad Standards on a confidential basis.

Ad Standards publishes annual compliance reports identifying those companies that meet their commitments as well as those who have failed to do so. Ad Standards also responds to all public inquiries relating to these reports.

⁴ *Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children – Clause 7: Promotion by Program Characters, Advertising-Generated Characters, and Personal Endorsements.*

⁵ This commitment does not extend to the use of licensed characters on packaging, provided the packaging does not appear in advertising directed to children under 12. This limitation will not apply to the use of company-created/owned characters.

⁶ *This limitation will not apply to displays of food and beverage products, charitable /not-for-profit activities including fundraising, public service messaging and educational programs.*

Appendix 6

Framework for Regulating Children’s Advertising in Canada^{††}

Overview

Canada has a robust framework for regulating children’s advertising, including both regulatory and self-regulatory components. Broadcast advertising for food and beverages are subject to *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children (Children’s Broadcast Code)*. Adherence to the *Children’s Broadcast Code* requires preclearance of each children’s commercial by Ad Standards’ Children’s Clearance Committee in advance of airing, and is a condition of broadcast license by the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). The Children’s Clearance Committee includes industry and public representatives, as well as a CRTC representative.

In addition to clearance under the *Children’s Broadcast Code*, food and beverage commercials undergo preclearance review to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of the federal *Food and Drugs Act* and *Regulations* and related applicable guidelines issued by Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Furthermore, all children’s television commercials must receive clearance from thinktv Telecaster Services prior to being aired by its private broadcaster members. In accordance with thinktv’s Rating Code Guideline, a “C” rating informs the member broadcasters that a commercial has received approval from Ad Standards’ Children’s Clearance Committee and that the commercial may air in children’s programming.

Canada’s self-regulatory system also includes a rigorous system for responding to complaints from the public about advertisements in all media, including the internet, under the provisions of the *Canadian Code of Advertising Standards* which covers all media. The *Canadian Code of Advertising Standards* and its *Interpretation Guidelines* include special provisions regarding advertising to children.



Excerpts from *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children*

II. THE CODE

1. Definitions

- (a) “Children’s Advertising” refers to any paid commercial message that is carried in or immediately adjacent to a children’s program. Children’s advertising also includes any commercial message that is determined by the broadcaster as being directed to children and is carried in or immediately adjacent to any other program.
- (b) Children – “Children” refers to persons under 12 years of age.
- (c) A Child Directed Message – “A child directed message” refers to a commercial message on behalf of a product or service for which children are the only users or form a substantial part of the market as users, and the message (i.e. language, selling points, visuals) is presented in a manner that is directed primarily to children.

^{††} The Quebec *Consumer Protection Act* prohibits advertising in that province to children under the age of 13.

- (d) Children’s Program – A “children’s program” refers to a program that is directed to the under-12 audience, as defined by the broadcaster.
- (e) Commercial Message – A “commercial message” has the same meaning as that defined in the Television Broadcasting Regulations, 1987.
- (f) Premium – A “premium” is anything offered with or without additional cost, and is conditional upon the purchase of the advertiser’s regular product or service.
- (g) The Code – This Code shall be known as “The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children” and shall hereinafter be referred to as “the Code”.

2. Jurisdiction

All Children’s advertising must conform to the Code, be precleared in accordance with the procedures set out from time to time by the Ad Standards and have the requisite Ad Standards clearance number.

3. Factual Presentation

- (a) No children’s advertising may employ any device or technique that attempts to transmit messages below the threshold of normal awareness.
- (b) Written, sound, photographic and other visual presentations must not exaggerate service, product or premium characteristics, such as performance, speed, size, colour, durability, etc.
- (c) The relative size of the product must be clearly established.
- (d) When children’s advertising shows results from a drawing, construction, craft or modelling toy or kit, the results should be reasonably attainable by an average child.
- (e) The words “new”, “introducing”, “introduces” or similar words may be used in the same context in any children’s advertising for a period of up to one year only.

4. Product Prohibitions

- (a) Products not intended for use by children advertised either directly or through promotions that are primarily child-oriented.
- (b) Drugs, proprietary medicines and vitamins in any pharmaceutical form, with the exception of children’s fluoride toothpastes.

5. Avoiding Undue Pressure

- (a) Children’s advertising must not directly urge children to purchase or urge them to ask their parents to make inquiries or purchases.
- (b) Direct response techniques that invite the audience to purchase products or services by mail or telephone are prohibited in children’s advertising.
- (c) In children’s advertising which promotes premiums or contests, the product must receive at least equal emphasis. Promotion of the premium or contest must not exceed one-half of the commercial time. In promoting contests which have an age restriction that excludes children, this must be made clear orally or visually.

6. Scheduling

- (a) The same commercial message or more than one commercial message promoting the same product cannot be aired more than once in a half-hour children’s program. In children’s programs of longer duration, the same commercial message or more than one commercial message promoting the same product must not appear more than once in any half-hour period.
- (b) No station or network may carry more than four minutes of commercial messages in any one half-hour of children’s programming or more than an average of 8 minutes per hour in children’s programs of longer duration.

- (c) In children’s programs, only paid commercial messages are included in the four minutes per half-hour limitation. Promotions and public service announcements may occupy the time difference between the Code limit and the CRTC regulation limit. Broadcasters will, however, consider the appropriateness of the content of public service announcements before scheduling in children’s programs.
- (d) For the purposes of this section, the time devoted to the broadcasting of a children’s program includes any time devoted to a commercial message that is inserted within the program and/or immediately adjacent to the end of the program and also includes any time devoted to a child-directed commercial message inserted between the end of the program and the beginning of the following program.

7. Promotion by Program Characters, Advertiser-Generated Characters, and Personal Endorsements

- (a) Puppets, persons and characters (including cartoon characters) well-known to children and/or featured on children’s programs must not be used to endorse or personally promote products, premiums or services. The mere presence of such well-known puppets, persons or characters in a commercial message does not necessarily constitute endorsement or personal promotion. (For example, film clips or animation are acceptable as a mood or theme-setting short introduction to commercial messages before presenting the subject of the commercial message itself.) These puppets, persons and characters may not handle, consume, mention or endorse in any other way the product being advertised.
- (b) This prohibition does not apply to puppets, persons and characters created by an advertiser which may be used by advertisers to sell the products they were designed to sell as well as other products produced by the same advertiser or by other advertisers licensed to use these characters for promotional purposes.

- (c) Professional actors or announcers who are not identified with characters in programs appealing to children may be used as spokespersons in advertising directed to children.
- (d) Puppets, persons and characters well-known to children may present factual and relevant generic statements about nutrition, safety, education, etc. in children’s advertising.

8. Price and Purchase Terms

- (a) Price and purchase terms, when used, must be clear and complete. When parts or accessories that a child might reasonably suppose to be part of the normal purchase are available only at extra cost, this must be made clear in audio and video.
- (b) The cost must not be minimized as by the use of “only”, “just”, “bargain price”, “lowest price(s)”, etc.
- (c) The statement in audio, “it has to be put together” or a similar phrase in language easily understood by children must be included when it might normally be assumed that the article would be delivered assembled.
- (d) When more than one toy is featured in a commercial message it must be made clear in audio and video, which toys are sold separately (this includes accessories).

9. Comparison Claims

- (a) Commercial messages shall not make comparisons with a competitor’s product or service when the effect is to diminish the value of other products or services.
- (b) In the case of toys or children’s possessions, comparisons should not be made with the previous year’s model, even when the statements or claims are valid.

10. Safety

- (a) Commercial messages, except specific safety messages, must not portray adults or children in clearly unsafe acts or situations (e.g. the use of flame or fire is not permitted in children's advertising).
- (b) Commercial messages must not show products being used in an unsafe or dangerous manner.(e.g. tossing a food item into the air and attempting to catch it in the mouth, etc.)

11. Social Values

- (a) Children's advertising must not encourage or portray a range of values that are inconsistent with the moral, ethical or legal standards of contemporary Canadian society.
- (b) Children's advertising must not imply that possession or use of a product makes the owner superior or that without it the child will be open to ridicule or contempt. This prohibition does not apply to true statements regarding educational or health benefits.

Interpretation Guidelines for Clause 11

- i. Child-directed messages for food products in broadcast advertising that are inconsistent with the pertinent provisions of the *Food and Drugs Act and Regulations*, or the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's *Guide to Food Labelling and Advertising* shall be deemed to violate Clause 11 (Social Values) of the *Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children*. This Interpretation Guideline is intended, among other purposes, to ensure that advertisements representing mealtime clearly and adequately depict the role of the product within the framework of a balanced diet, and snack foods are clearly presented as such, not as substitutes for meals.*

- ii. Every "child-directed message" for a product or service should encourage responsible use of the advertised product or service with a view toward the healthy development of the child.**
- iii. Advertising of food products should not discourage or disparage healthy lifestyle choices or the consumption of fruits or vegetables, or other foods recommended for increased consumption in Canada's *Food Guide to Healthy Eating*, and Health Canada's nutrition policies and recommendations applicable to children under 12.**
- iv. The amount of food product featured in a "child-directed message" should not be excessive or more than would be reasonable to acquire, use or, where applicable, consume, by a person in the situation depicted.**
- v. If an advertisement depicts food being consumed by a person in the advertisement, or suggests that the food will be consumed, the quantity of food shown should not exceed the labelled serving size on the Nutrition Facts Panel (where no such serving size is applicable, the quantity of food shown should not exceed a single serving size that would be appropriate for consumption by a person of the age depicted).**

12. Substantiation Required

Where measurable claims are made regarding specific products - performance, safety, speed, durability, etc., the advertiser must be prepared on request to provide the Children's Advertising Section with evidence supporting such claims, and/or a sample of the product.

13. Assessment

Each commercial message shall be judged on its individual merit.

* April 2004

** September 2007

Note: These Guidelines do not form part of the *Children's Broadcast Code*. They are intended to provide guidance regarding the interpretation and application of Clause 11 to food product advertising.

Excerpts from the *CANADIAN CODE OF ADVERTISING STANDARDS*

12. Advertising to Children

Advertising that is directed to children must not exploit their credulity, lack of experience or their sense of loyalty, and must not present information or illustrations that might result in their physical, emotional or moral harm.

Child-directed advertising in the broadcast media is separately regulated by *The Broadcast Code for Advertising to Children*, also administered by Ad Standards. Advertising to children in Quebec is prohibited by the *Quebec Consumer Protection Act*.

13. Advertising to Minors

Products prohibited from sale to minors must not be advertised in such a way as to appeal particularly to persons under legal age, and people featured in advertisements for such products must be, and clearly seen to be, adults under the law.

Interpretation Guideline #2 – Advertising to Children

2.1 As used in Clause 12 of the *Code*, the phrase “advertising that is directed to children”, (advertising to children), includes a commercial message on behalf of a product or service for which children are the only users or form a substantial part of the market as users, and the message (i.e. language, selling points, visuals) is presented in a manner that is directed primarily to children under the age of 12.

2.2 Advertising to children that appears in any medium (other than the media specifically excluded under the *Code* from the definition “medium” and from the application of the *Code*) shall be deemed to violate Clause 12 of the *Code* if the advertising does not comply with any of the following principles or practices:

- a. **Food Product Advertising to Children¹**
 - i. Food product advertising addressed to children must not be inconsistent with the pertinent provisions of the *Food and Drugs Act and Regulations* and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency’s *Food Labelling for Industry (CFIA Industry Labelling Tool)*. This *Code Interpretation Guideline* is intended, among other purposes, to ensure that advertisements representing mealtime clearly and adequately depict the role of the advertised product within the framework of a balanced diet, and that snack foods are clearly presented as such, not as substitutes for meals.
- b. **Healthy, Active Living³**
 - i. Advertising to children for a product or service should encourage responsible use of the advertised product or service with a view toward the healthy development of the child.
 - ii. Advertising of food products should not discourage or disparage healthy lifestyle choices or the consumption of fruits or vegetables, or other foods recommended for increased consumption in *Canada’s Food Guide to Healthy Eating*, and in Health Canada’s nutrition policies and recommendations applicable to children under 12.
- c. **Excessive Consumption³**
 - i. The amount of product featured in food advertising to children should not be excessive or more than would be reasonable to acquire, use or, where applicable, consume, by a person in the situation depicted.
 - ii. If an advertisement depicts food being consumed by a person in the advertisement, or suggests that the food will be consumed, the quantity of food shown should not exceed the labelled serving size on the Nutrition Facts Panel (where no such serving size is applicable,

¹ April 2004

² April 2006

³ September 2007

the quantity of food shown should not exceed a single serving size that would be appropriate for consumption by a person of the age depicted).

d. Factual Presentation³

- i. Audio or visual presentations must not exaggerate service, product or premium characteristics, such as performance, speed, size, colour, durability, etc.
- ii. Advertising to children must not misrepresent the size of the product.
- iii. When showing results from a drawing, construction, craft or modelling toy or kit, the results should be reasonably attainable by an average child.
- iv. The words “new”, “introducing” and “introduces” or similar words may be used in the same context in any children’s advertising for a period of up to one year only.

e. Product Prohibitions³

- i. Products not intended for use by children may not be advertised either directly or through promotions that are primarily child-oriented.
- ii. Drug products, including vitamins, may not be advertised to children, with the exception of children’s fluoride toothpastes.

f. Avoiding Undue Pressure³

- i. Children must not be directly urged to purchase or to ask their parents to make inquiries or purchases.

g. Price and Purchase Terms³

- i. Price and purchase terms, when used in advertising directed to children, must be clear and complete. When parts or accessories that a child might reasonably suppose to be part of the normal purchase are available only at extra cost, this must be clearly communicated.
- ii. The costs of goods, articles or services in advertising directed to children must not be

minimized, as by the use of “only”, “just”, “bargain price,” “lowest price(s),” etc.

- iii. The statement “it has to be put together” or a similar phrase in language easily understood by children must be included when it might normally be assumed that an article featured in advertising directed to children would be delivered assembled.
- iv. When more than one product is featured in advertising directed to children, it must be made clear in the advertising which of the products are sold separately (this includes accessories).

h. Comparison Claims³

- i. In advertising to children, no comparison may be made with a competitor’s product or service when the effect is to diminish the value of other products or services.

i. Safety³

- i. Adults or children must not be portrayed in clearly unsafe acts or situations except where the message primarily and obviously promotes safety.
- ii. Products must not be shown being used in an unsafe or dangerous manner (e.g. tossing a food item into the air and attempting to catch it in the mouth).

j. Social Values³

- i. A range of values that are inconsistent with the moral, ethical or legal standards of contemporary Canadian society must not be encouraged or portrayed.
- ii. Advertising to children must not imply that, without the advertised product, a child will be open to ridicule or contempt; or that possession or use of a product makes the owner superior (this latter prohibition does not apply to true statements regarding educational or health benefits).

k. General²

- i. Advertising to children must:
 - use age-appropriate language that is easily understandable by children of the age to whom the advertisement is directed;
 - refrain from using content that might result in harm to children;
 - collect **only** the information reasonably required to allow children to engage in the activity, e.g. collect only the minimal amount of personal information sufficient to determine the winner(s) in contests, games or sweepstakes-type of advertising to children;
 - limit the advertiser's right to deal with anyone other than the parents or guardians of children who win a contest, game or sweepstakes promotion;
 - require children to obtain their parent's and/or guardian's permission before they provide any information; and make reasonable efforts to ensure that parental consent is given;
 - refrain from using the data collected from children to advertise and promote products or services other than those designed for/ appropriate for children;
 - not attempt to collect from children data related to the financial situation or the privacy of any member of the family. Furthermore, advertisers must not, and must not ask for permission to, disclose personal information that may identify children to third parties without obtaining prior consent from parents, unless authorized by law. For this purpose, third parties do not include agents or others who provide support for operational purposes of a website and who do not use or disclose a child's personal information for any other purpose.

l. Assessment³

- i. Each advertisement shall be judged on its individual merit.



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