

March 24, 2026



## MANITOBA FOODSERVICE UPDATE

 FROM KRIS BARNIER

Hi,

Today's Manitoba's budget features an exemption from the PST for prepared meals sold in grocery stores. The measure will come into force on July 1, 2026.

In response to the Budget, Restaurants Canada has issued a media release calling on the Government to extend the PST break to include restaurant meals. We have reached out to the Premier's and Finance Minister's offices expressing urgency to discuss the matter.

This measure is harmful and unfair to restaurants, their workers, and their patrons that comparable items sold in a restaurant are taxed while the same items are tax-exempt in a grocery store. The government is creating an unlevel playing field that advantages grocers, and that is also unfair to consumers by denying them tax relief when they choose to buy the same product in a restaurant.

You can find our [media release here](#). We will keep you informed about our discussions with the government on this issue.

### **Additional Items**

- The \$10M [Business Security Rebate Program](#) we successfully lobbied for in Budget 2025 will remain open as funds remain available.
- The Budget includes additional affordability measures. This includes growing the Homeowner Affordability Tax Credit from \$1,500 to \$1,600 for the 2026 property tax year, and to \$1,700 in 2027. Additionally, the

province will increase the Renters Affordability Tax Credit to \$675 for 2027, up from \$625 in 2026.

- The Justice Budget will increase by a projected 4.3%, including investments in additional officers and targeted efforts to address retail crime.

## Our Advocacy Continues

We have been in ongoing conversations with the Government of Manitoba on other member priorities, and our efforts will continue. These include:

- Workforce stability, including pushing the provincial government to take advantage of the recent federal increase in the temporary foreign worker cap from 10% to 15%.
- Bringing down the prices licensees pay for alcohol
- Technology grants to help businesses protect jobs and grow

Sincerely,



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For all media inquiries please email [media@restaurantscanada.org](mailto:media@restaurantscanada.org)

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**Stronger Together** | Thank you to our corporate partners

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



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