[Your name]

[Your address]

[City, date]

**Subject: Commit to a zero food waste target**

Dear Sir, Madam,

As a customer of your store, first and foremost, I would like to thank you for your hard work and dedication in these trying times. You and your team have enabled millions of people like me to access essential food.

However, my thoughts turn to those who are not as fortunate as I am. As you may know, millions of Canadians were already struggling to put food on the table before the pandemic, and food insecurity has been on the rise since the COVID-19 crisis started.

Your supermarket has a moral and corporate responsibility to do its part, to help feed struggling Canadians and to reduce its carbon footprint, fueled by the tons of edible food you throw in the trash every day. Food waste emissions are directly fueling the climate crisis. In fact, food loss and waste accounts for 8% of global greenhouse gas emissions, and Canada is one of the biggest food wasters in the world, with 58% of all the food produced lost or wasted each year. This has to change, and you have a role to play!

As the momentum for ending food waste is growing around the world, I am asking you today to go beyond current public commitments, and commit to zero edible food waste by taking the following steps:

1. Stand in solidarity with your local community by diverting (not destroying) unsold edible food to food rescues, food banks and community food programs;
2. Donate goods no longer fit for human consumption to farms for use as animal feed or compost;
3. C[ease using best before dates where it does not constitute a food safety issue;](https://secondharvest.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Avoidable-Crisis-of-Food-Waste-The-Roadmap-by-Second-Harvest-and-VCMI.pdf)
4. Stop [pressuring producers to provide 100% aesthetic perfection](https://www.newswire.ca/news-releases/second-harvest-and-value-chain-management-international-release-the-avoidable-crisis-of-food-waste-report-878246034.html) and work with your suppliers to reduce food waste and loss, and
5. Pass this message onto your Regional Managers and CEOs.

Supermarket chains have never been better positioned to help, and Canadians have never needed help more. I am urging you to do what’s right.

I look forward to hearing back from you and celebrating your commitment to this important issue.

Thank you for your attention.

[Your name]

[Add your email or phone number if you want to be contacted]