

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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**Report Name:** Guidance and Resources on Canada's Front of Package  
Nutrition Labels

**Country:** Canada

**Post:** Ottawa

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**Report Highlights:**

In June 2022, Canada published final regulations on front-of-package nutrition labeling (FOPNL). The new regulatory requirements are complex, and the food industry has until January 1, 2026 to implement label changes and become compliant. Stakeholders are strongly encouraged to consult the variety of resources and information made available by Health Canada to assist with FOPNL implementation.

After publishing final [regulations on front-of-package nutrition labeling](#) (FOPNL) in June 2022, Health Canada (HC) began developing resources for industry to assist with implementation and compliance by January 1, 2026. To date, the federal department developed the following guidance and documentation:

- A dedicated [Front-of-package nutrition labelling](#) webpage
- A [Compendium of Nutrition Symbol Formats](#)
- The first version of a front-of-package nutrition symbol labelling [Guide for Industry](#) (HC is currently updating the Guide, based on stakeholder comments and questions, and a revised version will be published later in fall 2022)
- [Technical documents on labelling requirements](#)

Additionally, HC is continuously engaged in communication with stakeholders and in providing information on FOPNL to assist with transition and compliance. In September 2022, HC organized a webinar to offer industry a summary of the main FOPNL provisions. The presentation used during this webinar is attached to this report and represents another source of information for food companies.

Canada's FOPNL requirements are complex. Companies will need to assess each product individually to determine whether an FOPN symbol is needed. For instance, the general FOPNL rules have multiple exemptions, some of which are conditional, and some are un-conditional (or "full" exemptions), with a variety of factors that could trigger the loss of an exemption for a given product.

Additionally, FOPNL requirements take precedence over health claims: a product that would require the FOPN symbol will no longer be allowed to display certain health claims that would have otherwise been used on the product label (for instance a product with a FOPN symbol "high in sugar" cannot display on the front panel the "unsweetened" claim). Moreover, the presence of an FOPN symbol on the front panel of a product label could trigger label design requirements with respect to health claims (related to the font size used in health claims).

#### **Attachments:**

[Health Canada - FOP CGII webinar - slide deck - Sep 2022.pdf](#)