

Sustainability Programs

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. What Does Sustainability Mean?

Sustainability is a characteristic that refers to the maintenance of a certain condition or process. The term is strongly associated with the environment, specifically in preserving its vital ecological support systems, such as the planet's climatic system, systems of agriculture, industry, forestry, fisheries, and the systems on which they depend.

Sustainability is about living and working in ways that support social and economic development, along with ensuring the availability of natural resources for future generations. The aim is to make human economic systems last longer and have less impact on ecological systems, and particularly relates to concern over major global problems relating to climate change and oil depletion. In recent years, the study and discourse on sustainability is in reference to how long human ecological systems can be maintained at the rate with which economic development is taking place.

B. How is Sustainability Part of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games?

In the case of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the Games are broadening the focus of sustainability beyond environmental stewardship to include social responsibility and economic opportunities in ways that produce lasting benefits for Canadians. This includes:

- social inclusion and accessibility;
- economic value added through sustainability and Aboriginal participation;
- environmental innovation and footprint reduction;
- legacy development in technology, sports, arts, culture and volunteerism; and
- accountability through a sustainability management and reporting system.

Sustainable decisions in the planning and execution of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games:

- enable balancing and integration of social, economic and environmental interests;
- promote long-term thinking and legacy development;
- address a global reality;
- meet regional and national expectations that sustainability is a key consideration; and
- showcase sustainability initiatives, technology and expertise of Canada and the host communities.

For more information, visit www.vancouver2010.com/en/Sustainability

II. YOUR BUSINESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

A. Why Should Your Business Focus on Sustainability ?

A commitment to sustainability could potentially be your business' competitive advantage. Businesses that practice sustainability create a more productive, competitive and innovative, knowledge-based economy. Not only do sustainability practices enhance the inventiveness and competitive advantages of industries, it improves Canada's culture, education, society, environment and quality of life. Sustainable practices ensure that we are meeting the needs of the present generation, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs as well.

To summarize the benefits and advantages of embracing sustainable business practices, here are the top five reasons why businesses should incorporate sustainability in their everyday planning and operations:

1. **Reputation.** In today's market, engaging in sustainable business practices can put organizations on the leading edge. Maintaining a positive reputation has been proven to be one of the most important factors in a business' success. Adopting sustainability adds credibility to your business in that customers are ensured that they are consuming fair, equitable and environment-friendly products.
2. **Differentiate Your Products and Services.** With the heightened concerns of environmental degradation, sustainability significantly informs many consumers' purchasing decisions. By certifying your products as sustainable, it gives your product added value.
3. **Employee Retention.** People want to work for a company that shares their values and respects them. Retaining employees means less turnover which can save both time and money as well as increase employee loyalty, productivity and innovation.
4. **Stay Ahead of Regulations.** Municipal, provincial and federal laws are consistently changing. Embracing sustainable practices could save you a lot of money and time in the months and years to come. Some unprepared businesses have already been affected by major retailers and trade regulations.
5. **Reduce Your Costs.** Potential cost reductions can include savings in energy and waste. In fact, some businesses have even found ways to profit from selling off residual products.

B. Leveraging Your Sustainability Practices

When responding to bids, it is critical to think about how your product or service solution will help purchasing companies meet their sustainability commitment, while meeting other terms such as on-time delivery, risk minimization and affordability.

The following is a summary of how you can highlight your sustainability commitment when responding to bids:

- **Social Responsibility** – Your product, company or production methods adhere to ethical sourcing with respect to human and labour rights, promote athletic and sport development, assist inner-city revitalization, support youth and disadvantaged groups in business, or in some other way promote improvements in Canadian society.
- **Environmental Stewardship** – Your product, company or production methods contribute to the advancement of resource conservation and habitat restoration, or provide a means of showcasing Canada's natural environment or stimulating demand for environmentally sound products and services.

- Aboriginal Participation and Partnership – Your product, company or production methods stimulate Aboriginal businesses, employment and training.

(Source: A guide for business opportunities in the 2010 Winter Olympics)

C. Corporate Sustainability Reporting

Sustainability reporting is a report produced by an organization to publicly communicate their economic, environmental, and social performance. Companies produce a corporate sustainability report (CSR) for many reasons. Initially, sustainability reports were completed to document how the organization was meeting environmental regulations. In the process, many companies found that the approaches and tools used to meet regulations, such as more efficient process design, also made good business sense. Reporting leads to improved sustainable development initiatives and outcomes because it allows organizations to measure, assess and improve their performance on specific issues. In addition to the ability to better manage their sustainable development, reporting also promotes transparency and accountability. As the organization discloses information in the public domain, stakeholders are able to track an organization's performance in several areas, such as environmental performance, financial performance and organizational development. Performance can be monitored year on year, or can be compared to other similar organizations.

Some benefits of completing a corporate sustainability report include:

- providing information about challenges and achievements to shareholders, employees, the public and other stakeholders;
- an affirmation of the company's commitment to environmental and social responsibility;
- as a marketing tool, associating the company with sound environmental management and sustainable activities; and
- tracking progress on integration of sustainability principles into company planning and programs.

D. Templates for Reporting on Corporate Sustainability

TEMPLATE A: Promoting Your Sustainable Business Practices

Objective: To promote your sustainability practices and illustrate that sustainability makes good business sense.

Writing and Presentation: More graphics than text on each page. Points should be made in a very concise manner. No short forms (e.g. sulphur dioxide *not* SO₂). Explanation of some broader concepts to link business and sustainability perspectives (e.g. full cost accounting) will be necessary but should be illustrated using real-life company examples.

1. Table of contents illustrating how different sections fit together (important for clarity of message).
2. Description of company - what it does, location, number of employees, where stock is traded (educates public about the company).
3. Statements from CEO and senior executive in charge of sustainability reporting (identifies sustainability as a corporate priority).
4. Statement of company values, vision and objectives. Illustrate how a commitment to sustainability fits in with the company's mandate.

5. Overview of the various sustainability initiatives and programs—both new and old—that the company has implemented. Include a description of how these activities are related and the cause/effect relationships they have with other company deliverables.
6. Explanation of changes resulting from tracking company progress on sustainability — new expenditures, cost savings, employee training, operational adjustments, reduced/increased emission levels (acknowledge deficits in this area and indicate how things will improve in the future, for example, payback period on capital expenditures).
7. Summary of company-specific sustainability challenges and achievements (requires a strategic evaluation of the key factors that make a difference in progress on sustainability; detailed analysis shows commitment).
8. Data on environmental performance.
9. Results on external audit; list all certifications and accreditations the company has received with regards to sustainability.
10. Company goals and targets for the coming year.
11. Glossary of technical terms.

TEMPLATE B : Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Guidelines on Economic, Environmental and Social Performance

Objective: To produce a report that adheres to the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) sustainability guidelines. The guidelines serve as a methodology for reporting on sustainability. The GRI provides a standard approach for sustainability reporting that will allow for comparison across various sectors.

1. CEO statement — GRI does not require specific elements to be covered but recommends a number of issues be addressed such as acknowledgment of successes and failures, performance against benchmarks and major industry challenges.
2. Profile of reporting organization — includes company characteristics such as number of employees, description of business activities, where stock is traded.
3. Executive Summary and Key Indicators
 - specified environmental performance indicators (e.g. total energy use, total materials use other than fuels or water)
 - selected organization-specific environmental performance indicators (e.g. company initiatives to move towards renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, use of recycled materials with pre- versus post- consumer use distinctions)
 - selected economic performance indicators (e.g. net profits/earnings/income, investments in research and development, debt/equity ratio)
 - selected social performance indicators (e.g. employee retention rates, ratio of jobs offered to jobs accepted, investment per work in illness and injury prevention)
 - selected integrated performance indicators (e.g. total materials used during a product's life cycle expressed relative to globally sustainable levels measured in terms of resource availability and/or biophysical or assimilative capacity).
4. Vision and Strategy — outlines the company's vision for the future and how it will manage the challenges associated with economic, environmental and social performance.
5. Policies, Organization and Management — includes the company's mission statement, explanations of how the precautionary principles is represented in company policies, management systems in place and current stakeholder relationships.
6. Performance Indicators — this section should present more indicators (quantitative and qualitative) in the categories described in step three.

III. SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

A. Olympic Movement

i. Agenda 21

What is it?

Agenda 21 aims to encourage members of the Olympic Movement and the sports community to play an active part in the sustainable development of our planet. It inventories the major problems of the present day and suggests ways of preparing the world for future challenges in accordance with sustainable development. Four areas are covered in Agenda 21: social and economic dimensions; conservation and management of resources for development; strengthening the role of major groups; and means of implementation.

How does it work?

Agenda 21 should serve as a useful reference tool for the sports community at all levels. It offers the governing bodies of the sports movement ways to incorporate sustainable development into their strategies. It also describes actions, allowing each individual to play an active part in promoting sustainable development.

Agenda 21 serves as a blueprint which can be adapted into each organization's policies.

For more information: http://www.olympic.org/uk/organisation/missions/environment/agenda_uk.asp
(Source: International Olympic Committee)

B. Buildings/Facilities

i. British Columbia Building Code

What is it?

The Building Policy Branch (BPB) is responsible for the British Columbia Building Code. The branch's core activities include governance of aspects of the building regulatory system framework and stewardship of the development and application of the Building Code.

The Building Policy Branch:

- develops and administers government policy and legislation;
- communicates policies/regulations;
- serves as a portal for and custodian of the British Columbia Building Code, protocols and policies;
- acts as secretariat to the Building Code Appeal Board, the Province's building code interpretation and application dispute resolution board; and
- initiates, facilitates and provides support toward a new governance framework for the building regulatory system, including system analysis, logistical support and collaboration with industry partners.

How does it work?

The British Columbia Building Code is a mandatory document used by architects, engineers, builders, suppliers and other members of the building industry. Its purpose is to establish consistent, minimum standards for new construction and building alterations, to minimize risks to the safety and health of occupants, and to ensure accessibility and energy efficiency.

The Building Access Handbook outlines building requirements for persons with disabilities.

For more information: <http://www.housing.gov.bc.ca/building>
(Source: BC Government: Building Policy Branch)

ii. Healthy Housing

What is it?

Healthy Housing is a Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation initiative that promotes the health of its occupants while considering the environment and preserving our natural resources. Healthy Housing features available and affordable housing to everyone, for new or older homes in the city, country or suburbs.

How does it work?

Healthy Housing has five main goals, to promote occupant health, energy efficiency, resource efficiency, environmental responsibility, and affordability. Healthy House minimizes heat loss in winter by relying on efficient heating and ventilation systems. A Healthy House reduces the consumption of electricity and other fuels, and encourages the use of renewable energy. Healthy House uses alternative water and wastewater systems, encourages site planning that reduces land requirements, promotes resource-efficient landscaping and considers broader community planning issues such as transportation.

For more information: <http://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/co/maho/yohoyohe/heho/index.cfm>
(Source: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Association)

iii. Residential Environmental Assessment Program (REAP)

What is it?

The UBC Residential Environmental Assessment Program provides a framework to encourage and measure sustainable building practices for market-based and staff/faculty/student residential developments at UBC.

How does it work?

REAP is based on the LEED rating system, a green building rating system, and is in keeping with the University's sustainability policies. To participate in REAP all developers will be required to incorporate the mandatory design requirements within their building program. The developers are able to decide the level of their participation with a Bronze, Silver, or Gold rating system which will allow developments to differentiate themselves in the marketplace and be more attractive to prospective buyers.

For more information: <http://www.planning.ubc.ca/corebus/reap.html>
(Source: UBC Residential Environmental Assessment Program)

iv. BUILDSMART

What is it?

BuildSmart is the Lower Mainland's resource for sustainable design and construction information. It was created in January 2003 as a resource to help designers make smart, sustainable choices when crafting the future of our constructed environment.

How does it work?

Developed by Metro Vancouver, this innovative program encourages the use of green building strategies and technologies; supports green building efforts by offering tools and technical resources; and educates the building industry on sustainable design and building practices. The BuildSmart team comprises industry professionals from varied and complimentary backgrounds. Based on the stages of a building's life cycle, they present relevant green building information in the areas of:

- Design Strategies
- Construction
- Operation and Maintenance
- Retrofit and Tenant Improvements
- Renovations
- Demolition/Deconstruction

For more information: www.metrovancouver.org/BUILDSMART

(Source: Greater Vancouver Regional District 's (GVRD) green building program)

C. Community

i. Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia

What is it?

The Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia (SPARC BC) works with communities in building a just and healthy society for all. SPARC BC is a non-partisan, independent charitable organization that conducts public education and research on key social issues. The organization also manages the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities and runs a social research consultancy. Their efforts are focused in areas of accessibility, community development and income security.

How does it work?

SPARC BC is the administrator of the Parking Permit Program for People with Disabilities through which they distribute the official designated accessible parking permit placards for many municipalities across the province. Learn more and download the SPARC BC Parking Permit application form at http://www.sparc.bc.ca/parking_permit/.

SPARC BC also provides research and consultancy services to communities, organizations and governments on a fee-for-service basis. Review their project highlights, researcher bios and more at <http://www.sparc.bc.ca/research>.

In addition, SPARC BC publishes a quarterly newsmagazine, SPARC BC News, and a wide variety of reports, handbooks and information sheets on social and economic issues of concern. To find more information on SPARC BC's resources and publications, view http://www.sparc.bc.ca/resources_publications/resources_and_publications.

For more information: <http://www.sparc.bc.ca>
(Source: SPARC BC)

D. Forestry

i. The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program

What is it?

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Program is a comprehensive system of principles, objectives and performance measures developed by professional foresters, conservationists and scientists, among others that combines the perpetual growing and harvesting of trees with the long-term protection of wildlife, plants, soil and water quality. There are currently over 150 million acres of forestland in North America enrolled in the SFI program. British Columbia has 45.5 million acres of forestland certified to SFI.

How does it work?

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Program offers a certified procurement system audit, as well as, an on-product label option for use by third-party certified program participants that meets the Federal Trade Commission guidelines for environmental claims.

Certification is a voluntary process. The three forest certification standards used in British Columbia all depend on independent, third-party audits where auditors measure the planning, procedures, systems and performance of on-the-ground forest operations against the predetermined standard. A forest operation that is found to be in conformance with the standard (CSA, SFI, or FSC) is issued a certificate. The three programs in British Columbia (CSA, SFI, and FSC) provide the basics by ensuring that harvested areas are reforested, that laws are obeyed and that there is no unauthorized or illegal logging. They also ensure the conservation of biological diversity, the maintenance of wildlife habitat, soils and water resources, and the sustainability of timber harvesting.

For more information: <http://www.aboutsfi.org>

(Source: Sustainable Forestry Initiative Program)

ii. The Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable Forest Management Program

What is it?

The Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable Forest Management (CSA SFM) Program requires that 17 key sustainable forest management elements be addressed at the local forest level through a rigorous public participation process. The CSA SFM program involves third-party auditors who are accredited by a national standards system body according to International Standards Organization guidelines. The Canadian Standards Association offers a Forest Products marking program so retailers, manufacturers, homebuilders and consumers can identify products that come from forests certified to the CSA standard.

How does it work?

The BC Market Outreach Network has created a website to provide information about British Columbia's certified forests and to help customers identify suppliers who can offer quality certified forest products from British Columbia. To find certified forests and products, search <http://searchtool.bcforestinformation.com>.

For more information: <http://www.bcforestinformation.com/independent2.asp>

(Source: BC Forest Information)

E. Food

i. British Columbia Certified Organic Program

What is it?

The Certified Organic Association of British Columbia (COABC) is the only government-approved body responsible for overseeing the British Columbia Certified Organic Program. The COABC is designated to implement the program under the Food Choice and Quality Act.

When you see the checkmark symbol or the phrase “British Columbia Certified Organic” on any product, you can be certain that it has been grown and processed meeting strict British Columbia government-approved standards for organic farm production and processing. Those standards were developed by the COABC, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.

How does it work?

The British Columbia Certified Organic program is open to any resident or business operating in the province.

To become a Certified Organic Farmer:

1. farmers have to complete an application form and submit fees to the local certifying body;
2. the certification committee reviews the application and makes recommendations to the inspector;
3. an IOIA Accredited Verification Officer receives the application for inspection;
4. the Certification Committee reviews the report and makes recommendations for compliance;
5. any recommendations and issues are then communicated to the farmer;
6. the certifying body does a follow-up inspection; and
7. upon meeting all the necessary standards, a certificate is issued.

Please note that COABC itself does not certify farms, it only certifies the certification body. Agencies accredited by the COABC inspect and certify organic farms and facilities in British Columbia. Currently, there are 11 certifying bodies in British Columbia. For more details on how to become a Certified Organic Farmer, visit <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/cb/certification.htm>.

For more information: <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/>
(Source: Certified Organic Association of British Columbia)

IV. SUSTAINABILITY CERTIFICATIONS

A. Corporate Management

i. Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International

What is it?

Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO) is part of a worldwide network of Fair Trade organizations actively involved in supporting producers, awareness raising and campaigning for changes in the rules and practices of conventional international trade. FLO is the leading Fairtrade standard setting and certification body. It regularly inspects and certifies about 508 producer organizations in more than 50 countries including Canada and the United States.

How does it work?

The International Fairtrade Certification Mark (CM) guarantees a very rigorous process of certifying products as complying with international Fairtrade standards set by FLO. For more information on how to apply for The International Fairtrade Certification Mark, visit their website.

For more information: <http://www.fairtrade.net>
(Source: FairTrade Labelling Organizations International)

ii. TransFair Canada

What is it?

TransFair Canada is a national non-profit certification and public education organization. TransFair Canada promotes Fair Trade Certified to improve the livelihood of developing world farmers and workers by offering better trading conditions. Behind the principals and goals, it is a rigorous international system of monitoring, auditing and certification.

How does it work?

Fair Trade Certified standards and procedures are set by Fairtrade Labelling Organizations International (FLO), in consultation with Fair Trade Certified stakeholders, such as producer organizations and licensees, and organizations such as TransFair Canada. The standards need to be met by producers, their organizations and the traders who deal directly with them. The procedures must be followed by traders, processors and wholesalers. FLO Certification is run by an autonomous organization called FLOCert who coordinates all the inspections of producers, trade auditing and certification. It operates independently from any other Fair Trade Certified interests and follows strict guidelines to ensure the integrity of certification decisions.

For more information: <http://www.transfair.ca>
(Source: TransFair Canada)

iii. (SA) 8000 Social Accountability

What is it?

The SA8000 Standard and verification system is a credible, comprehensive and efficient tool for assuring humane workplaces. The SA8000 Standard is an auditable certification standard based on international workplace norms of International Labour Organization (ILO) conventions, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

How does it work?

To certify conformance with SA8000, every facility seeking certification must be audited. Auditors will visit factories, assess corporate practice on a wide range of issues and evaluate the state of a company's management systems, necessary to ensure ongoing acceptable practices. Once an organization has implemented any necessary improvements, it can earn a certificate attesting to its compliance with SA8000. This certification provides a public report of good practice to consumers, buyers, and other companies and is intended to be a significant milestone in improving workplace conditions.

For more information: <http://www.sa-intl.org>

(Source: Social Accountability International)

iv. AA1000 AccountAbility Standards

What is it?

The AA1000 Assurance Standard is a generally applicable standard for assessing, attesting to, and strengthening the credibility and quality of organizations' sustainability reporting and their underlying processes, systems and competencies.

How does it work?

AA1000 provides complementary standards for sustainability reporting and assurance. Establishing a Competency Framework for individual practitioners is a necessary next step to ensure quality of implementation and to nurture the emerging profession of sustainability assurance practitioners.

For more information: <http://www.accountability.org.uk>

(Source: AccountAbility)

v. (ISO) 9000 International Organization for Standardization

What is it?

The ISO 9000 family is primarily concerned with "quality management". This means what the organization does to fulfil the customer's quality requirements and applicable regulatory requirements, while aiming to enhance customer satisfaction; and achieve continual improvement of its performance in pursuit of these objectives.

How does it work?

Your organization's management system must be independently audited and confirmed as being in conformity with ISO 9001:2000, for which you will then be issued a certificate.

ISO 9001:2000 certification is specific. The certificate of conformity to the standard issued by your certification body specifies the scope (the extent) of activity for which the certificate is issued.

If only part of your organization's processes are covered by a certification, or only some of its business units or sites, it is unacceptable to mislead people by giving the impression that the whole organization has been certified for all its activities and processes, or for all its geographical locations.

For more information: <http://www.iso.org>
(Source: International Organization for Standardization)

B. Environmental Impact

i. (ISO) 14000 International Organization for Standardization

What is it?

The ISO 14000 family is primarily concerned with "environmental management". This means what the organization does to minimize harmful effects on the environment caused by its activities, and to achieve continual improvement of its environmental performance.

How does it work?

Your organization's management system must be independently audited and confirmed as being in conformity with ISO 14001:2004, for which you will then be issued a certificate.

ISO 14001:2004 certification is specific. The certificate of conformity to the standard issued by your certification body specifies the scope (the extent) of activity for which the certificate is issued.

If only part of your organization's processes are covered by a certification, or only some of its business units or sites, it is unacceptable to mislead people by giving the impression that the whole organization has been certified for all its activities and processes, or for all its geographical locations.

For more information: <http://www.iso.org>
(Source: International Organization for Standardization)

C. Travel and Tourism

i. Green Globe

What is it?

Green Globe is the global benchmarking, certification and improvement system for sustainable travel and tourism. It is based on Agenda 21 and principles of sustainable development. The Green Globe program supports companies and communities in providing sustainable travel and tourism. Green Globe works with companies and communities to maintain good environmental and social practices delivers maximum benefit to all interested parties and provides choice for concerned consumers. Green Globe is the only globally recognized brand that assures commitment to improved environmental and social outcomes for a more sustainable travel and tourism industry.

How does it work?

The Green Globe program involves two steps; the first step is benchmarking and the second step is certification. Benchmarking allows companies and communities to measure, monitor and make ongoing improvements of

environmental performance. After attaining benchmark status, participants can receive certification by meeting the provisions of the relevant Green Globe Standard and demonstrating this through an audit by an independent third party Green Globe Accredited Assessor. For more information on Green Globe's benchmarking and certification process, view http://www.greenglobe.org/page.aspx?page_id=46.

For more information: <http://www.greenglobe.org>
(Source: Green Globe Program)

ii. Green Hotel Certification (Canada only)

What is it?

The Hotel Association of Canada's (HAC) Green Key Eco-Rating Program is a graduated rating system designed to recognized hotels, motels, and resorts that are committed to improving their fiscal and environmental performance.

How does it work?

The Hotel Association of Canada (HAC) runs the most widely accepted green hotel rating system in the world--the Green Key Eco-Rating Program. The rating program has 740 hotels participating as of early 2008.

Green Key rates hotels, motels and resorts on their environmental sustainability and recognizes them as destinations of choice for eco-conscious travellers. With the environment a top-of-mind issue for government, business and consumers, a Green Key rating can help increase occupancy and reduce operating costs.

- The program is run by hoteliers, which brings the program immediate respect.
- HAC also has made the program easy to access. Participants can complete the application process online in their own time.
- The program is also comprehensive and affordable—for any size independent or chain hotel.
- Finally, it is recognized by Canada's government. In fact, some government departments require travelers to stay at Green Key hotels.

The fact that Green Key does not require third-party verification is important. It relieves HAC from having to create an expensive organization to manage inspections. Those costs would otherwise be passed along to Green Key applicants. To keep program participants honest, HAC does do spot audits.

For more information: <http://www.hotelassociation.ca/>
(Source: Hotel Association of Canada)

D) Building/ Facilities

i. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System

What is it?

LEED is a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. US Green Building Council's members, representing every sector of the building industry, continue to develop and refine LEED.

How does it work?

LEED provides a complete framework for assessing building performance and meeting sustainability goals. Based on well-founded scientific standards, LEED emphasizes state of the art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. LEED recognizes achievements and promotes expertise in green building through a comprehensive system offering project certification, professional accreditation, training and practical resources.

For more information: <http://www.usgbc.org>
(Source: U.S. Green Building Council)

ii. Built Green

What is it?

Built Green is an industry driven voluntary program in British Columbia and Alberta that promotes "green" building practices to reduce the impact that building has on the environment. It benefits the homebuyer, the community and the environment and is an opportunity for everyone to choose a "green" future.

How does it work?

Members and home buyers have the flexibility of choosing their level of participation.. Bronze represents the minimum of achievement level, Silver is the intermediate level, and Gold is the maximum level of recognition. To confirm selected checklist items are being included in the homes, five per cent of enrolled homes will be audited at random during different phases of construction.

For more information: <http://www.builtgreencanada.ca/>
(Source: Built Green Society of Canada)

V. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A. Tools and Resources

i. Accessible Procurement Toolkit

The Accessible Procurement Toolkit (APT) is a web-based application produced by the Government of Canada that delivers accessibility requirements and standards used to procure mainstream technology or services for the general office environment. Applying these standards will ensure that products meet “Universal Design” principles and help the procuring organization meet its mandated obligation to purchase more accessible goods and services for people with disabilities.

For more information: <http://www.apr.gc.ca/DListProdsE.asp?ld=1>

ii. Canadian Centre for Pollution Prevention (C2P2)

C2P2 is a non-profit, non-governmental organization. The C2P2 shares knowledge, tools and innovative thinking with business, governments, educational facilities, and more in order to provide solutions for pollution prevention and action for change.

For more information: <http://www.c2p2online.com>

iii. Canadian Industry Program for Energy Conservation (CIPEC)

This is a voluntary government-industry alliance that recognizes that improved energy efficiency can help Canadian industry stay competitive and limit greenhouse gas emissions. CIPEC’s task forces determine the potential for energy-efficiency improvements, establish a means of reporting and tracking progress, and create action plans for reaching targets. They then provide a forum for identifying common needs from energy management planning to training and employee awareness.

For more information: <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca/industrial/cipec.cfm>

iv. Climate Neutral Network

The Climate Neutral Network is a non-profit alliance of companies and other organizations committed to developing products and enterprises that eliminate their impacts on the Earth’s climate. The Climate Neutral Network has developed a straightforward metrics system to help companies build practical, credible estimates of the climate impacts resulting from their products or enterprises.

For more information: <http://climateneutralnetwork.org/>

v. CO2e.com

CO2e.com is a multinational company formed to help corporations around the world understand and manage the impact of a greenhouse gas-constrained future. The site offers decision-making and trading tools, a daily

news service and issue-specific briefings, a specialized search engine, and access to a select group of international consultants and experts.

For more information: <http://www.co2e.com>

vi. FleetSmart

The FleetSmart program of Natural Resources Canada helps fleet managers improve fleet performance and reduce operating costs through increased energy efficiency. Participating fleets receive information on energy management to keep their fleets competitive.

For more information: <http://fleetsmart.nrcan.gc.ca/>

vii. GreenBiz.com

GreenBiz.com is a non-profit web resource centre for business, the environment and more. It includes a broad selection of tools and resources to help you assess your company, calculate your impact, locate software and many other useful items.

Affiliate sites include: www.greenerBuildings.com, www.ClimateBiz.com, www.GreenBizLeaders.com and www.GreenerPrinter.com.

For more information: <http://www.greenbiz.com/toolbox/tools.cfm>

viii. WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol

WRI/WBCSD Greenhouse Gas Protocol is an international coalition of businesses, non-governmental organizations, governmental and intergovernmental organizations. This website brings together many leading experts on greenhouse gas emissions. The participating partners are working to design, disseminate and promote the use of an international corporate protocol for measuring and reporting business greenhouse gas emissions. Estimation tools are available for common sources of greenhouse gases, such as stationary combustion, mobile combustion, HFCs from air conditioning and refrigeration, and solid waste. Tools are also available to measure greenhouse gases from sector-specific sources such as cement, lime, adipic acid, aluminium, nitric acid and ammonia manufacture.

For more information: <http://www.ghgprotocol.org>

ix. Vision Quest Windelectric Inc.

Vision Quest is an Albertan company that develops and operates wind turbine power plants to produce clean electrical energy. Tradable emissions offsets are available worldwide from these facilities for use in regulated and market driven emissions reductions programs. The product is sold in blocks and is suitable for industrial, commercial, government and residential customers, in Alberta, across Canada, or internationally.

For more information: <http://www.greenenergy.com>

B. Awareness Sites

i. Action by Canadians (ABC)

The ABC Program is a Government of Canada public education and action initiative designed to engage Canadians in voluntarily reducing their individual greenhouse gas emissions and energy use.

For more information: <http://www.fhio-ifppe.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=5CEA56A0-1>

ii. BEPO: Business Environmental Performance Office

The Government of Canada Business Environmental Performance Office's (BEPO) goal is to provide quick and easy access to environmental and business information, advice and services for Canadian companies. They provide information to the industry sectors about: Waste Management; Emergency, Health and Safety Management; Resource Conservation and Pollution Prevention; Resource Centre and Policy Development; and Climate Change.

For more information: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/me00033e.html>

iii. Canadian Business for Social Responsibility

Canadian Business for Social Responsibility (CBSR) is a business-led, non-profit CSR consultancy and peer-to-peer learning organization that provides its members with candid counsel and customized advisory services as they formulate powerful business decisions that improve performance and contribute to a better world. Whether you are developing your community giving program or fully engaged in triple bottom line reporting, CBSR has the resources to help businesses reach corporate social responsibility goals.

For more information: <http://www.cbsr.bc.ca>

iv. Canadian Environmental Solutions (CES)

CES, a Government of Canada information page, currently addresses industry sector problems and solutions related to water, air, soil, research and development, and energy. The CES database contains environmental problems, solutions and their descriptions, along with companies that provide the solutions.

For more information: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/es00001e.html>

v. Canadian Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (CPPIC)

The Government of Canada's CPPICs purpose is to link users to pollution prevention information in order to help them develop and implement pollution prevention plans. Features of CPPIC include: About Pollution Prevention, Generic Search, Sector Search, Success Stories, Problems and Solutions, Related Sites, Partners and What's New in P2. CPPIC provides core concepts for pollution prevention and links to practical tools.

For more information: <http://www.ec.gc.ca/cppic/en/index.cfm>

vi. Canadian Renewable Fuels Association (CRFA)

CRFA is a non-profit organization that promotes renewable bio-fuels for automotive transportation through consumer awareness and government liaison activities. CRFA's also focuses on promoting public awareness of renewable fuels; through workshop, media awareness activities, newsletters and publications, other means.

For more information: <http://www.greenfuels.org/>

vii. Clean Air Strategic Alliance (CASA)

CASA is a non-profit association that is committed to developing and applying a comprehensive air quality management system for the people of Alberta through a collaborative, consensus based process.

For more information: <http://www.casahome.org>

viii. Closing the Skills GAP: A Report of the British Columbia Chamber of Commerce Skill Shortages Initiative

This paper created by the BC Chamber of Commerce provides recommendations for action and suggestions regarding tools and resources for businesses to use in order to recruit develop and retain skilled workers, including people with disabilities.

For more information: http://www.bcchamber.org/files/PDF/Closing_the_Skills_Gap.pdf

ix. Corporate Social Responsibility: An Implementation Guide for Canadian Business

This guide, created by the Government of Canada, is a primer on corporate social responsibility. It provides information on how to assess the effects of business activities on others, offers options for addressing a corporate social responsibility strategy, and refers to many specific tools that will likely be of assistance in implementing sustainability initiatives.

For more information: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/incsr-rse.nsf/en/Home>

x. GEMI: Global Environmental Management Initiative Business and Climate Change

The Business and Climate Change web site provides background information about climate change science and policy, and the risks and opportunities for business. It is created by a non-profit organization and has practical information on planning, and includes two interactive self-survey tools, as well as case studies of specific emissions reductions measures.

For more information: <http://www.businessandclimate.org>

xi. Office of Energy Efficiency (OEE) – Natural Resources Canada

The OEE's mandate is to renew, strengthen and expand Canada's commitment to energy efficiency. They publish an annual report entitled *The State of Energy Efficiency in Canada* and communicate information to Canadians and others through a comprehensive web site with details on OEE programs. The Office also runs the popular "Dollars to Sense" energy management workshops; offers practical advice to consumers, businesses, governments and institutions; and has links to hundreds of related web sites.

For more information: <http://oee.nrcan.gc.ca>

xii. SustainAbility

SustainAbility is a strategy consultancy company and independent think tank specializing in the business risks and market opportunities of corporate responsibility and sustainable development. This link is targeted at developing markets; however, the business cases in this site apply to a broad audience.

For more information: <http://www.sustainability.com/insight/businesscase-article.asp?id=142>

xiv. The Abilities Foundation

The Abilities Foundation is the home for Access Guide Canada – a guide to accessible places in Canada. The guide includes forms for evaluating the accessibility of a wide variety of places – everything from financial institutions to restaurants.

For more information: <http://www.abilities.ca>

C. Business Guides

[General Workplace Greening](#) (339KB PDF)

[Greening Your Business](#) (183KB PDF)

[Environmental Self Diagnosis Guide](#) (247KB PDF)

[Cool Business Guide – Lower Cost, Higher Productivity, Climate Change Solutions](#) (395KB PDF)

[Good House Keeping Guide for Small and Medium Size Enterprises](#) (691KB PDF)

[Green Office Guide](#) (507KB PDF)

[First Nations Stories - Building Sustainable Communities in British Columbia](#) (920KB PDF)