



## POLICY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



CEGEP CHAMPLAIN  
ST. LAWRENCE  
CHAMPLAIN REGIONAL COLLEGE

Champlain  
COLLEGE SAINT-LAMBERT

This policy was adopted by Board of Governors' resolution number 2702 on May 9, 2012.

## 1. Purpose

Champlain Regional College desires to be a responsible institution and employer with regard to sustainable development and environmental protection, and intends that the values, principles, and objectives contained in this policy shall contribute to a stimulating, safe, and healthy study and work environment.

## 2. Foundations

Champlain Regional College is a post-secondary education institution, proud of its culture and traditions. We are distinguished by the quality of our programs of study, and by our constant efforts to respond to the needs of our student population. Recognizing our responsibility to future generations, we are determined to integrate sustainable development into the fabric of our identity.

Consistent with its mission, the College values:

- Excellence through striving for continuous improvement
- Caring through compassion, courtesy and friendliness and a commitment to the wellness of students, faculty and staff
- Stewardship through the responsible and effective use of human, physical, environmental and financial resources
- Respect for culture and traditions of College Campuses

The present policy respects the spirit and the letter of The Sustainable Development Act sanctioned by the National Assembly on April 19, 2006 (*La Loi sur le développement durable* L.R.Q. c.D-8 1.1), and provides a framework where all members of the College community can contribute to the success of our sustainable development initiatives personally and collectively.

## 3. Definition

The definition of sustainable development used in this policy comes from the 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development. Sustainable development *“meets the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”*

The College considers that sustainable development depends on the reconciliation of social equity, economic development, and environmental protection.

#### **4. Fundamental Principles**

Champlain Regional College bases its policy on sustainable development on the following principles:

**(a) Health and quality of life**

People are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

**(b) Social equity**

Development shall be undertaken in a spirit of intra- and inter-generational equity and social ethics.

**(c) Environmental protection**

To achieve sustainable development, environmental protection shall constitute an integral part of the development process.

**(d) Participation and commitment**

The participation and commitment of individuals, services, departments, and other teams and groups that make up the college community are needed to define a concerted vision of development and to ensure its environmental, social and economic sustainability.

**(e) Access to knowledge**

Access to education, data, and research shall be encouraged in order to stimulate innovation, raise awareness and ensure effective participation of the college community in the implementation of sustainable development.

**(f) Partnerships and cooperation**

Collaboration with the various levels of government and other institutional and corporate partners is beneficial to the development of environmental, social and economic sustainability. The external impact of actions in a given territory shall be taken into consideration.

**(g) Prevention**

In the presence of a known risk, preventive, mitigating and corrective actions should be taken.

**(h) Protection of cultural heritage**

Cultural heritage components such as property, sites, landscapes, traditions and knowledge, should be identified and protected.

**(i) Biodiversity preservation**

Biological diversity offers incalculable advantages and should be preserved for the benefit of present and future generations. The protection of species, ecosystems and the natural processes that maintain life is essential if quality of human life is to be maintained.

**(j) Respect for ecosystem support capacity**

Human activities should be respectful of the support capacity of ecosystems and ensure their perennality.

**(k) Responsibility for Actions**

Those who generate pollution or whose actions otherwise degrade the environment should bear their share of the cost of measures to prevent, reduce, control and mitigate environmental damage.

**5. Application**

This policy applies to all members of the College community, all those who study and work there, as well as any group or organization that makes use of college facilities.

This sustainable development policy shall be considered in all the internal and external activities of the College, including activities with other partners, contractors, suppliers, and professionals associated with the College.

The College commits to providing reasonable levels of material, financial, informational, and human resources necessary for the implementation of this policy subject to the following:

**(a) Conformity**

The College commits to following all laws, regulations, and norms applicable to colleges with respect to health, security, environment, and sustainable development.

**(b) Coherence**

The College commits to apply this present policy in the context of its mission, its values, its educational mandate, its strategic plan, approved budgets, any other policies or bylaws, and commitments and covenants in effect.

**(c) Continuous Improvement**

The College commits to reviewing this policy on a regular basis in a process of continuous improvement towards positive change.

**(d) Action Plan**

In conformity with this policy and on a yearly basis, management at each location of the College shall plan and carry out specific actions or initiatives and shall communicate the results to the community through the Annual Operating Plan and other suitable means.

**6. Objectives**

This policy shall be applied to all activities including administration, teaching, research, transportation, recreation, maintenance, construction, and residential and food services.

**(a) Pedagogical Integration**

The College shall encourage teachers, departments, and program committees of regular and continuing education, as well as the Commission of Studies to integrate consideration of sustainable development into academic life and content. Ways to encourage ecocitizenship where appropriate should be considered for each program of study offered at the College.

**(b) Communication**

The College shall provide information to the college community concerning the benefits of sustainable development, and shall support the organization of events which promote sustainability.

The College shall share its priorities, actions, and initiatives with regard to sustainable development through the strategic plan.

**(c) Recognition**

The College shall encourage and recognize the commitments and achievements of the members of its community in projects that support sustainable development, environmental protection, and quality of life.

**(d) Collaboration and Partnerships**

The College shall maintain and develop its commitment to its own community, and shall support partnerships with other organizations and colleges.

The College shall collaborate with the various levels of governments, within its means, in projects where our expertise shall be enhanced or shared.

**(e) Institutional Integration**

The College shall integrate its values and principles of sustainable development into its governance and every day operations with an attitude of equity and non-discrimination.

Within its means, the College shall support projects proposed by the student body linked to sustainable development.

The College shall favour the acquisition of goods and services that are developed, produced, and delivered in a sustainable and responsible manner.

**(f) Environment**

The College shall maintain an environment that is clean, healthy, secure, and respectful of the environment.

The College shall preserve and improve, within its means, the natural and cultural heritage of its campuses, and shall reduce where possible sources of all types of pollution.

Within its means, the College shall plan its maintenance, renovation, and construction projects in a sustainable fashion in order to reduce negative impacts and increase the benefits to the quality of the workplace environment.

**(g) Responsible Resource Management**

The College shall

- manage water usage responsibly
- ensure the quality of interior air and reduce the sources of contamination of interior and exterior air under its control
- use maintenance methods and materials that respect the environment and pose no danger to health
- promote modes of transportation which reduce carbon emissions
- pursue efforts to reduce energy consumption, improve energy efficiency, and promote renewable sources of energy.

**(h) Residual Waste Products**

The College shall reduce the use of materials at source, and shall reuse, recycle, and eliminate residual materials in a responsible manner.

**(i) Dangerous Materials**

The College shall carefully use, store, and dispose of potentially dangerous materials and reduce their use if possible.

**7. Responsibilities**

**(a) Management**

Every employee who exercises management functions is responsible for the application of this policy under the supervision of the Directors at each location, who

shall, in collaboration with the relevant local committees and partners, initiate and support projects, and develop a synergy with members of their campus community.

**(b) Coordination**

The Director of Material Services shall be responsible for the coordination of the application and revision of this policy.

**(c) Resources**

Financial resources necessary for the implementation of this policy shall be determined and approved by the Director at each location.

**8. Coming into Force**

This policy shall come into force on the date of its adoption by the Board of Governors.