



the TORONTO CONGRESS CENTRE

Green from the Ground Up

The Toronto Congress Centre is committed to becoming the leader in our industry in terms of environmental responsibility. Many programs have been established to reduce landfill and carbon emissions whenever possible to make your next event greener.

The Toronto Congress Centres recent expansion, to a million square feet, makes it one of the largest and most sustainable trade and convention facilities in North America. From its construction phase 75% of the demolished building materials, except for the steel framing, were diverted, reused or recycled. New construction materials were chosen according to recycled, environmentally friendly and reusable content. To further reduce its carbon foot print only local building materials and construction trades were used.

The Toronto Congress Centre recognizes its responsibility to practice and promote behaviours that support current and future environmental sustainability.

See the Difference Green Makes

Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation

Electronic energy efficient ballasts, dimming controls, interior daylight sensors, LED exit signs, occupancy sensors and compact fluorescents make major energy reductions. Low flow, low flush and auto flush washroom fixtures save hundreds of gallons of water a year. Even the glass walled lobby area does its part with thick insulating low E argon filled glass that offers high thermal loading which reduces the amount of heating or cooling needed for that area.

Waste Diversion

Working with its recycling partner, The Toronto Congress Centre diverts all waste for sorting and recycling. Easily identified bins throughout our facilities create an easy to follow system for exhibitors and attendees.

Purchasing Power

Supporting local businesses, growers and producers not only reduces our carbon footprint it makes good business sense. The Toronto Congress Centre's food and beverage program showcases local growers and producers, and we strive to use fresh seasonal produce whenever possible. Our environmentally friendly purchasing policy also ensures that no excess packaging or materials are used and that the recycled content is at a premium.

Superior Air Quality

Unlike many buildings where re-circulated air can contribute to drowsiness or health concerns, our expansion provides clean fresh air for delegates and exhibitors with technologically advanced CO2 sensors. The by-product of this eco-friendly state of the art technology is heightened meeting productivity and reduced health issues. Our heating and cooling systems do not contain CFC's or HCFC's, low VOC carpeting and the use of chemical free paints and cleaners means the air is virtually allergen free.

Linen & Paper Free

The Toronto Congress Centre's eco-chic meeting rooms have attractive tabletop finishes to reduce the need for linen, thus reducing the amount of water and chemicals required to clean them. Our high energy hand dryers mean no disposable paper products in our washrooms.

Looking Forward

Rain Water Irrigation

The existing water tower will be fitted to filter sediment before it enters the city's storm sewers and will provide rain water irrigation for the surrounding landscaping.

Green Roof

Foundations for a green roof have been installed and soon a living roof will be in place to absorb carbon dioxide and emit oxygen, further reducing the heat island effects from building operations and improving storm water management.



“Zero-Waste” Your Event

The objective of a zero-waste event is to minimize the impact on the environment by diverting the amount of waste produced by a tradeshow, meeting, convention or gala. This means looking at all products and materials coming into the facility or that make up the event and working with our partners to divert at least 95% of it from a landfill site.

Planning

A pre-event meeting would be arranged to discuss waste streams, how best to divert materials from landfill and set goals and communicate goals to your exhibitors and attendees. An outline of the Event Plan and associated costs would be prepared for you.

Participation & Support

The event would be monitored from an overall waste perspective to ensure that the goals have been communicated and are being followed in accordance to the plan established.

Post Presentation \ Zero Waste Certificate

An audit report would be presented outlining the results of waste materials properly sorted, areas where the program could be improved and the results of diversion. A Zero Waste Certificate would be presented for historical analysis and for preparing future waste diversion goals.

We would like to help you make your next event at The Toronto Congress Centre zero-waste, please contact your Event Logistics Manager for details and fee schedules. Download our Zero Waste Application at www.torontocongresscentre.com/Planning/Forms-Guidelines.htm



Let The Toronto Congress Centre Help You

By selecting The Toronto Congress Centre you have already made your event greener without any effort. We have provided a quick check list and some helpful ideas that you can share with your exhibitors and delegates. The first step in further greening your event is to set achievable goals and ensure everyone is aware of them.

Planner Checklist

- Educate participants and exhibitors on your zero-waste goal. Provide adequate signage indicating recycling goals. Request promotional materials, handout and giveaways be made from recyclable materials and are reusable.
- Use double-sided printing or create electronic documents for promotional materials, exhibitor kits, etc. Provide reusable name badges for attendees and exhibitors.
- Encourage participants to use public transportation, carpool or organize a shuttle service from local hotels or mass transit stops.
- Choose menu items that are seasonal and locally available, avoid boxed lunches or products that create unnecessary waste.
- Consider selling or providing refillable containers for beverages and cloth bags to hold conference materials, giveaways and promotional items.
- Ask speakers to provide written materials electronically to attendees upon request only – ensuring that printed materials is not wasted and only interested parties receive the information.
- Provide exhibitors with a list of materials not-permitted for packaging and shipping of materials. Encourage them to use only items they can remove with them at the end of the event.
- All material being shipped should be done with returnable skids and carriers.
- Do not ship in large cardboard boxes that are attached to wooden skids.

A close-up photograph of several large, vibrant green leaves. The leaves are covered in numerous clear, glistening water droplets of various sizes, which catch the light and create a fresh, natural feel. The background is dark, making the green leaves and white text stand out prominently.

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