
Bow Valley College Supplier Code of Conduct

Introduction

Bow Valley College is committed to operating in an ethical, transparent and sustainable manner and we expect our suppliers to provide goods and services that are environmentally and socially sustainable. We are guided by the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals and expect that every purchase made by the College contributes to a supply chain that promotes positive environmental, social, and economic health. To learn more about our sustainability initiatives, please review our annual [Sustainability Report](#). Our suppliers must emphasize sustainability, comply with all applicable laws and regulations and abide by the minimum standards outlined below.

A. Environmentally Sustainable Business Practices

Suppliers shall:

- apply a lifecycle approach to product and service development and transportation, considering the environmental impacts of extraction, manufacturing, development, transportation and disposal.
- prioritize water conservation, energy efficiency, reduced single-use plastic packaging, responsible waste diversion, and waste reduction initiatives in their business practices.
- apply circular economy principles and environmental management standards such as ISO 14000.

Suppliers shall implement initiatives to reduce or offset greenhouse gases, such as:

- purchasing or producing renewable energy,
- purchasing carbon offsets,
- incorporating green building design,
- developing and tracking science-based emissions targets,
- streamlining production and transportation methods to reduce carbon emissions,
- encouraging or providing sustainable transportation for employees, and
- disclose carbon emissions through public repositories such as the Carbon Disclosure Project.

Suppliers shall:

- only make truthful claims of environmental performance.
- give preference to products and suppliers that hold third-party certifications for environmental and social sustainability, including but not limited to B-Corp certification, WELL certification, LEED, BOMA Best, EcoLogo, Energy Star, Cruelty Free International, Green Seal, BPI Certified compostable, certified Organic, and Forest Stewardship Council.

B. Socially Responsible Business Practices

Suppliers and their subcontractors shall:

- be guided by the International Labour Organization (ILO) labour standards and shall not use child labour or forced labour.

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- demonstrate a commitment to community and social health, such as selling Fair Trade certified products or following Social Accountability International (SA 8000) standards.
 - promote diversity and inclusion within their communities.
 - not discriminate based on gender, ethnicity, race, religion, gender identity, gender expression, physical or mental disability, marital status, age, place of origin and sexual orientation.
 - contribute to the diversification of the supply chain by promoting, for example, Indigenous-owned, women-owned, or minority-owned businesses.
 - Bow Valley College supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and is committed to enacting the recommendations outlined by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Suppliers shall apply the above principles in all its Indigenous engagement activities.