

## Contact Consulting Sustainability Policy

“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” -Mahatma Gandhi

At Contact Consulting, sustainability is about balancing economic, environmental and social priorities as responsible citizens. Our goal is to use environmentally responsible business practices that are both cost efficient and effective. We are committed to working locally with government partners, community groups and vendors, who also value sustainability, to support the wellbeing and growth of our citizens and communities for a better future.

### Policy:

#### 1. Sustainability Education and Training

All consultants working with Contact Consulting are required to complete *The Natural Step Sustainability Primer*<sup>1</sup>. Consultants are responsible for adhering to and implementing the principles of this policy for all activities, events, and day-to-day operations.

#### 2. Social Equity

Contact Consulting will contribute to community sustainability and development by:

1. Providing public education workshops and advice clinics;
2. Hiring underemployed community members; and/or,
3. Mentoring pre-service health promotion evaluation and education students.

#### 3. Procurement

In purchasing decisions, Contact Consulting will partner with suppliers who have a proven commitment to sustainable practices. We buy from local and regional suppliers, and select products or services that:

1. Contain reused and reusable materials;
2. Are certified by recognized environmental organizations (e.g. The Natural Step); and/or,
3. Have minimal packaging, contain materials that biodegrade naturally and rapidly or contain recycled and post-consumer content.

#### 4. Waste

1. Be aware of resource consumption and reduce it;
2. Reuse materials and products (e.g. will not use disposable dishes for meetings); and/or,
3. Recycle, generate minimal waste, and reduce energy consumption.

#### 5. Energy Usage

1. Use lighting and energy conservation;
2. Use sustainable transportation strategies (e.g., walking, biking, public transportation, carpooling); and/or,
3. Where possible, use on-line tools for meetings instead of in person (e.g., GoToMeeting).

#### 6. Continuous Improvement for Sustainable Solutions

1. Setting and reviewing sustainable goals and strategies using The Natural Step Framework<sup>1</sup>.
2. Updating the Contact Consulting Sustainability policy annually or as required.

<sup>1</sup>[www.thenaturalstep.org/en/canada/toolkits](http://www.thenaturalstep.org/en/canada/toolkits); The Natural Step Framework