



A Business' Guide to the **CIRCULAR ECONOMY**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Circular Economy Overview	1
The Business Case	2
Circular Economy Implementation	3
Eliminate & Reduce	4
CASE STUDY: Nexus Modular Solutions Reduces Waste & Emissions	5
Reuse	6
Procure	7
Divert	8
CASE STUDY: Ground Up Café & Catering Achieves 97% Waste Diversion Rate	
Communicate	11
Operate Efficiently	
CASE STUDY: Coast Bastion Hotel Considers Circularity in Renovations	
Resources	14
Educational Programs	14
Certifications	
Membership Associations	
Waste Audits & Tracking Tools	17
Further Reading	
References	
Appendix A – Circular Economy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals	
Appendix B – Sample Sustainable Purchasing Policy	
Appendix C – Sample Supplier Advocacy Email	
Appendix D – How to Set Up a Waste Diversion Station	

Introduction

This guide was developed as part of the <u>Circular Economy Accelerator Program</u> to support businesses who seek to adopt circular economy concepts into their operations, reduce waste and emissions, and develop innovative practices.¹

It covers an overview of the circular economy, tangible and innovative business solutions, and resources for further learning.

Circular Economy Overview

Our current linear "take-make-waste" economy is resource intensive and puts pressure on Earth's natural ecosystems.

As an alternative, the circular economy eliminates pollution and waste by **retaining resources and manufactured goods within the system** through innovation, reuse and repair, redistribution, reconditioning, and recycling processes, all of which are **powered by renewable energy**.

These principles help to:

Eliminate waste

Reduce emissions

Cut virgin resource consumption



DID YOU KNOW?

The world is only 7.2% circular. This means that 92.8% of extracted resources are used only once or remain unavailable in long-lasting stock such as buildings.²



1 Vancouver Island Coast Economic Developers Association. Circular Economy Accelerator Program. <u>viceda.com/accelerator</u> 2 Circle Economy. The Circularity Gap Report 2023. circularity-gap.world/2023

The Business Case

Businesses are under growing pressure from customers, government, and the workforce to lower their environmental impact. Incorporating sustainability initiatives into your operations represents a huge opportunity to position yourself as a leader, increase your resiliency, and remain competitive.



Circular economy principles provide strategies to help achieve broader frameworks. Learn how a circular economy aligns with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals** in Appendix A.



Transitioning to a circular economy can provide a **4.5 trillion-dollar value** worldwide by 2030.³

3 Accenture. The Circular Economy Handbook. <u>accenture.com/ca-en/about/events/the-circular-economy-handbook</u>

Circular Economy Implementation

There are opportunities to incorporate circular principles in all aspects of your business. This section will outline circular strategies in the following categories:





REUSE











OPERATE EFFICIENTLY



Eliminate & Reduce

Finding ways to minimize waste before it is generated is the most resource-efficient way to contribute to a circular economy. Assess your operations to design out waste where possible and identify any unnecessary waste that can be reduced or eliminated.

TAKE ACTION



Replace single-use items like packaging, pallet wraps, or coffee pods with reusable or bulk alternatives.



Implement paperless processes, from digital accounting systems to customer receipts.

Use tap water for drinking and consider installing a filtration system.



Install energy-efficient hand dryers in

washrooms and save an average of 95% on paper towel costs.⁴

DID YOU KNOW?

One reusable pallet wrap can be used over 2,500 times, **eliminating over 100 km of shrink wrap** during its lifetime.⁵



Î

<u>E6PR™</u> rings are made from a fibre by-product, eliminating single-use plastic.





Oil-extending device like <u>Frylow</u> reduce cooking oil requirements by up to 50%.⁶

4 Excel Dryer. Cost savings and environmental calculator. <u>exceldryer.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Cost-Savings-Analysis-Dynamic.pdf</u> 5 Reusable Packaging News. Reusable pallet wrap buyers guide. <u>packagingrevolution.net/reusable-pallet-wrap-buyers-guide/</u> 6 Frylow. Frylow savings. <u>frylow.com/frylow-savings/</u>

CASE STUDY: Nexus Modular Solutions Reduces Waste & Emissions

Nexus Modular Solutions designs and manufactures modular buildings in Cobble Hill, BC. The company utilizes an innovative modular construction process, constructing its projects inside of a 16,000 square foot warehouse facility. As a result, projects are completed on a faster timeline, with significantly less waste compared to conventional construction in British Columbia.



How does Nexus minimize its waste and emissions?



Prioritize suppliers within a 50km radius to minimize transport emissions



Select high-quality, durable materials to maximize lifespan of final products



Subcontractors and employees sign agreements to adhere to waste reduction practices



Projects are **made-to-measure**, resulting in precise orders for materials



Indoor construction eliminates the potential for weatherdamaged materials



Reduced construction timeline minimizes material loss and emissions from commutes







7 Light House Sustainability Society. Mid and High-Rise Residential New Construction Waste Calculator.

🍰 Reuse

There is untapped value in the materials that you currently dispose of. Look for ways to reuse waste within your business or donate it to external parties. This will keep materials in circulation at their highest value and minimize emissions associated with transport.

TAKE ACTION



Donate excess materials like food waste, pallets, and old furniture to community partners and organizations.



Reuse packaging from suppliers for other purposes onsite, like using soft plastic and cardboard boxes to pack orders.

Upcycle wood waste in other projects, such as a waste diversion station, planter boxes, or fencing.



Promote reuse by partnering with a reusable container service or offering discounts for reusable containers.

<u>GRT</u> makes clean construction aggregates from excess and contaminated soils, **diverting 99.7% of inputs from landfill.**⁸

<u>Reusables</u> offers a network of tech-enabled, stainless steel containers across BC cities, campuses, venues, and production sets. Partner businesses reduce their packaging costs while contributing to the reuse economy.





Make resource-efficient purchases for your business by implementing circular procurement strategies. Addressing circularity from a procurement level allows you to reduce waste before it is generated, engage with suppliers, and form collaborative partnerships.

TAKE ACTION



Source from local suppliers to reduce transport emissions and support your local economy.

Advocate to your suppliers to reduce unnecessary packaging or implement reusable packaging.

1	

Develop a sustainable purchasing policy that prioritizes qualities like durability, repairability, recycled inputs, and recyclability at end of life.

See a sample purchasing policy and supplier advocacy template in **Appendices B and C**.





Replace bleach with <u>Viper</u>, a hydrogen peroxidebased alternative that breaks down into water and oxygen naturally in the ecosystem.





The <u>Cradle to Cradle Certified® Products</u> <u>Program</u> is a globally recognized certification for products that are safe, circular, and responsibly made.

Cradle to Cradle Certified® is a registered trademark of the Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute.



Waste is a significant contributor to climate change and is often expensive to deal with. When a waste stream or material cannot be eliminated, designed out, repaired, or reused, seek opportunities to divert it from landfill to reduce your environmental impact.

TAKE ACTION



Set up a waste diversion station that clearly differentiates between bins and encourages participation.



Set a waste diversion target and conduct annual waste audits. See the Resources section of this guide for waste tracking tools.



Engage your staff in waste diversion practices by naming a Zero Waste Champion or creating a Green Team.



Monitor bin contamination, identify new waste diversion streams, and adjust waste collection frequency as needed.

DID YOU KNOW?

A study from UBC found that placing bins 1.5m from a door **boosts recycling and composting rates by** 141%.⁹



Ergo Eco Solutions recycles fryer oil into biodiesel, which generates **74% less** emissions than petroleum diesel.¹⁰





Learn how to set up a waste diversion station in **Appendix D**.

9 Zelenika, I. Sustainability by design: Motivating pro-environmental action and improving waste diversion. <u>open.library.ubc.ca/media/stream/pdf/24/1.0372969/4</u> 10 Alternative Fuels Data Centre. Biodiesel vehicle emissions. <u>afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/diesels_emissions.html</u>

MATERIALS THAT CAN BE RECYCLED*	
Appliances	Find a drop off location through MARR
Cigarette Butts	Terracycle
Cooking Oil	Ergo Eco Solutions
Batteries	
Soft Plastics	Find a drop off location through the
Styrofoam	Recycling Council of BC
Wood Waste	
Lightbulbs	Find a drop off location through
Paint	Product Care Recycling
PPE	Vitacore
Marine Plastics	<u>Ocean Legacy</u>
Textiles/Uniforms	Debrand
Tires	Tire Stewardship BC



CREATE YOUR OWN MICRO-RECYCLING FACILITY



Set up your own micro-recycling facility with a DIY shredder machine. For as little as \$1,500, you can condense plastic to a sellable product for manufacturing, with a **value 8-10x higher than un-shredded plastic**!¹¹

* List is not exhaustive

11 Precious Plastic. preciousplastic.com

CASE STUDY: Ground Up Café & Catering Achieves 97% Waste Diversion Rate

Ground Up Café & Catering, located on Gabriola Island, BC, serves over 40,000 customers per year. Due to their location on a small island with limited waste diversion services, they have developed innovative strategies to divert their significant volumes of food, supplier packaging, fryer oil, and more.

Through using a comprehensive waste diversion station, a strong team culture surrounding sustainability practices, and strategic partnerships within the community, **Ground Up Café diverts 97% of waste from landfill**.



Although landfill waste only comprises **3.0% of volume**, it results in **12.2% of green house gas (GHG) emissions**.



<image>



This highlights the importance of diverting waste from landfill wherever possible.



Empower and inspire change by communicating your circular practices and values to your team, industry peers, and community. People seek out values-aligned businesses, so publicizing your work can attract and retain loyal customers and staff, and help you develop collaborative partnerships.

TAKE ACTION

Advertise your business' sustainability practices, values, and targets on your website, social media accounts, job postings, and more.

Increase employee awareness by

incorporating circular economy training into your onboarding processes and professional development plans.

4 6

Engage with peers in the circular economy by joining membership organizations or certification programs to demonstrate leadership and spark inspiration.

Check out some educational opportunities, collaborative networks, and certification programs in the **Resources** section below.





<u>Circular Economy Leadership Canada</u> connects corporations, academia, and non-profits across sectors to build Canada's circular economy.





<u>Timber Tiles</u> transforms offcut wood into highgrade, eco-friendly tiles in their SCS Zero Waste certified factory.

Operate Efficiently

Water, fuel, and energy can impose significant expenses on businesses. While some usage is unavoidable, inefficiencies can result in unnecessary operating costs for companies. Implementing changes to equipment, buildings, and processes can reduce costs and emissions over time.

TAKE ACTION



WATER: Opt for low-flow water fixtures or install aerators.



APPLIANCES: Choose ENERGY STAR products.

HEATING: Insulate and seal windows, doors, hot water tanks, and hot water pipes.



LIGHTING: Install LED bulbs or T4 and T8 tubes and add motion sensors to low-traffic areas.

EQUIPMENT: Electrify equipment like vehicles, forklifts, and space heaters, and install electric vehicle chargers on-site

DID YOU KNOW?

The Government of BC released its new hydrogen strategy in 2020 that will position BC as a leader in hydrogen fuel. Hydrogen injection can reduce emissions by **up to 40% per truck.**¹²





Supplement your water supply with rainwater capture. Use <u>this calculator</u> to see how much water you could collect.⁹





<u>BioFlame</u> sets up and operates large-scale biomass heating systems with no upfront capital costs, and offers full system operation, maintenance, and fuel supply provision.

12 Hydra Energy. Canada's Hydra Energy first company to deliver a hydrogen-converted, heavy-duty vehicle to a paying fleet customer. <u>hydraenergy.com/news/lodgewood</u> 12 13 The Tank Depot. Just how much rainwater could I collect? <u>tank-depot.com/tanks/rainwater-calc.aspx</u> 12

CASE STUDY: Coast Bastion Hotel Considers Circularity in Renovations

Coast Bastion Hotel is a 179-guest room hotel located in the heart of downtown Nanaimo. By communicating their green initiatives and incorporating circular concepts into their renovation plans, they are building a reputation for forward-thinking sustainability with the practices to back it up.

Sustainability Speaks

According to Booking.com, **38% of travelers actively seek sustainability information** before booking.¹⁴

Coast Bastion Hotel communicates their commitments by:



- Branding sustainability initiatives under their Refreshingly Green™ program
- Promoting green practices on a dedicated webpage



Displaying **signage** about their green initiatives and tips for reducing waste



Leadership in Innovation



Upcycle wood from decommissioned furniture into shelving.



Donate linens to local shelters.



Certify with **Green Key Global** to track environmental performance.



Offer **bulk refill toiletries** in guest rooms.



Contribute old furniture from renovations to community.

RENOVATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Coast Bastion Hotel is ensuring long-term sustainability with their renovation plans. Finding operational efficiencies such as installing low-flow plumbing fixtures and retrofitting refrigeration units to be aircooled can **reduce their water consumption by up to 40%.**

~



By adopting circular principles, Coast Bastion Hotel can **reduce operational expenses by 13% annually**.

14 Booking.com. 2022 Sustainable Travel Report. globalnews.booking.com/download/1161485/booking.comsustainabletravelreport2022final.pdf

Resources

Continue your journey towards circularity with the following resources.

Educational Programs

The following programs can help you and your team advance your understanding of the circular economy and ways to adopt circular practices into your business. Look for funding through organizations like WorkBC to cover a portion of training costs.¹⁵

Program	Institution	Description	Length
<u>Circular Economy: An</u> Introduction	edX, Professional Certificate Program	An online course introducing the circular economy Content: value creation through recycling and reuse, circular solution design, individual contributions to the circular economy Free	Self-Paced
<u>Circular Economy</u>	McMaster University, Professional Training Program	Canada's first university-level training program in the circular economy Content: circular design, manufacturing processes, environmental management Fees apply	3 Days
Applied Circular Economy: Zero Waste Buildings	BCIT, Micro-Credential	Three-course micro-credential program for professionals in the construction industry, providing tangible strategies to develop low- emissions buildings. Content: deconstruction, Design for Disassembly, construction material flow analysis Fees apply	Varies

Certifications

The following certification programs can help you track your progress towards sustainability with a third party and build credibility for your brand.

Name	Organization	Description
BC Green Business	Synergy Foundation	A certification program that works one-on-one with small to medium-sized businesses to help reduce environmental impact and enhance social initiatives.
<u>Cradle to Cradle</u> <u>Certified® Product</u> <u>Standard</u>	Cradle to Cradle Products Innovation Institute	A certification aimed at the impact of products and materials across five categories: material health, product circularity, clean air and climate protection, water and soil stewardship, and social fairness.
TRUE	Green Business Certification Inc.	A zero-waste certification program dedicated to measuring, improving and recognizing zero waste performance.
Zero Waste Facility	SCS Global Services	A certification for waste diversion and reduction at individual facilities.

Membership Associations

The following membership associations provide valuable connections, strategies, and industry trends for businesses seeking to further their circular initatives.

Institution	Description
<u>Circular Economy Leadership</u> <u>Canada</u>	A network of professionals from corporate, non-profit, and academic organizations working towards the transition to a low-carbon, circular economy in Canada
Circular Innovation Council	An independent environmental organization that puts circular economy concepts into action by supporting policy development, research, and interventions along the supply and value chain.
<u>Coast Waste Management</u> <u>Association</u>	A membership association for professionals in BC's solid waste industry, making connections, facilitating networking, and providing current information and solutions for solid waste
National Zero Waste Council	An initiative bringing together governments, businesses, and NGOs to advance Canada's transition to a circular economy

Waste Audits & Tracking Tools

The following free tools can help you audit your business' waste diversion practices and monitor progress toward your goals.

Resource	Institution	Description
<u>Construction and</u> <u>Demolition Waste</u> <u>Calculator</u>	U.S. Green Building Council	Track and document construction and demolition waste amounts, material types and number of waste streams
<u>General Waste Audit Tool</u>	Project Zero	Understand your business' current waste volumes, waste streams, and associated costs
Food Waste Audit Tool	Project Zero	Understand your restaurant's current waste volumes, waste streams, and associated costs
<u>Waste Diversion Tracking</u> <u>Tool</u>	Project Zero	Track your organization's waste diversion rate, measured by weight

Further Reading

The following guides provide additional information about the circular economy, including its current global status, implementation, and practices.

Resource	Institution	Description
<u>CEO Guide to the Circular</u> <u>Economy</u>	World Business Council for Sustainable Development	A guide providing guidance to CEOs and business leaders who seek to implement circular economy principles and realize circular opportunities
<u>Circular Economy Business</u> <u>Toolkit</u>	National Zero Waste Council	A toolkit summarizing methods to implement circular practices in business, including business strategy, design innovation, and stakeholder engagement
The Circularity Gap Report	Circle Economy	An annual report highlighting the urgent need to transition to the circular economy, aiming to empower key stakeholders in government and business to accelerate that transition
<u>Website</u>	Ellen MacArthur Foundation	A charity committed to creating a circular economy, providing a wealth of free educational resources and opportunities

References

1 Vancouver Island Coast Economic Developers Association. Circular Economy Accelerator Program. viceda.com/accelerator

2 Circle Economy. The Circularity Gap Report 2023. <u>circularity-gap.world/2023</u>

3 Accenture. The Circular Economy Handbook. accenture.com/ca-en/about/events/the-circular-economy-handbook

4 Excel Dryer. Cost savings and environmental calculator. exceldryer.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Cost-Savings-Analysis-Dynamic.pdf

5 Reusable Packaging News. Reusable pallet wrap buyers guide. packaging revolution.net/reusable-pallet-wrap-buyers-guide/

6 Frylow. Frylow savings. <u>frylow.com/frylow-savings/</u>

7 Light House Sustainability Society. Mid and High-Rise Residential New Construction Waste Calculator.

8 Global Remediation Technologies. <u>artenv.com</u>

9 Zelenika, I. Sustainability by design: Motivating pro-environmental action and improving waste diversion. open.library.ubc.ca/media/stream/pdf/24/1.0372969/4

10 Alternative Fuels Data Centre. Biodiesel vehicle emissions. afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/diesels_emissions.html

11 Precious Plastic. preciousplastic.com

12 Hydra Energy. Canada's Hydra Energy first company to deliver a hydrogen-converted, heavy-duty vehicle to a paying fleet customer. hydraenergy.com/news/lodgewood

13 The Tank Depot. Just how much rainwater could I collect? tank-depot.com/tanks/rainwater-calc.aspx

14 Booking.com. 2022 Sustainable Travel Report. globalnews.booking.com/download/1161485/booking.comsustainabletravelreport2022final.pdf

15 WorkBC. Find loans and grants. workbc.ca/find-loans-and-grants

16 Circle Economy. How the circular economy can help us reach the sustainable development goals. <u>circle-economy.com/blogs/how-the-circular-economy-can-help-us-reach-the-sustainable-development-goals</u>

17 BC Green Business. Sample office sustainable purchasing policy.

18 BC Green Business. Sample supplier email.

19 Uline. Uline UPSable Peanuts - Starch, 7 Cu. Ft. Bag. uline.ca/Product/Detail/S-2322/Peanuts-and-Dispensers/Uline-UPSable-Peanuts-Starch-7-Cu-Ft-Bag

20 Squamish-Lillooet Regional District. Recycling signage & colour scheme. <a href="https://www.schemesteing-composting-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-schemesteing-waste-landfill/recycling-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-schemesteing-waste-landfill-sche

Appendix A Circular Economy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Adopting circular economy principles can help contribute to broader frameworks that your organization may be working towards. See how a circular economy fits with the UN Sustainable Development Goals in this visual adapted from <u>Circle Economy</u>.¹⁶



¹⁶ Circle Economy. How the circular economy can help us reach the sustainable development goals. <u>circle-economy.com/blogs/how-the-circular-economy-can-help-us-reach-the-sustainable-development-goals</u>

Appendix B Sample Sustainable Purchasing Policy

Implement a sustainable purchasing policy for items like equipment, appliances, furniture, paper products, and cleaning supplies. The example below is directed at offices:

Sustainable Purchasing Policy¹⁷

Considerations for Procurement of Office Equipment and Appliances:

When purchasing new office equipment and appliances the purchasing decision shall favour products that are Energy Star Certified. The purchaser must consider both short-term and long-term costs when choosing between highly efficient products and less efficient counter parts.

Considerations for Procurement of Furniture:

When possible, furniture purchasing decisions shall favour products that are:

- Repairable materials and pieces can be replaced if breakage or normal wear and tear occurs
- Recyclable product can be recycled or returned to manufacture/retailer for proper disposal at end of life
- Deconstructable product can easily be broken down into its separate components
- Made with green components products are constructed with recycled plastic, FSC certified wood, zero VOH, eco-friendly upholstery, post consumer recycled content, etc.
- Second-hand product is bought used or is repurposed

Environmentally preferable furniture products that are of comparable quality and price to their standard counterpart shall receive purchasing preference. In situations where environmentally preferable products are unavailable or impractical, secondary considerations shall include second hand options and environmental practices of suppliers and producers.

Considerations for Procurement of Paper Products:

When purchasing paper products for office use the purchasing decision shall favour products that are made with post consumer recycled content (PCRC) and/or recycled content. From an environmental standpoint, this is the order in which other PCRC and recycled content products should be considered:

- 1. 100% PCRC content
- 2. >50% PCRC + recycled content
- 3. >50% PCRC content
- 4. 100% recycled content
- 5. <50% PCRC + recycled content
- 6. <100% recycled content

¹⁷ BC Green Business. Sample office sustainable purchasing policy.

The content of paper products should be considered for large order and repetitive order products. This includes, but is not limited to, printer paper, envelopes, toilet paper, paper towel, and facial tissues. When PCRC and recycled content products are not available the purchaser will look to select products made from responsibly sourced fibers.

Post consumer recycled content (PCRC): materials used by consumers that have been used, disposed of, diverted from out landfills, and recycled into new products

Recycled content: materials collected from the manufacturer that never made it to the end consumers (ex. scraps, rejects, trimmings)

Considerations for Procurement of Cleaning Supplies:

When purchasing cleaning products for the office the purchasing decision shall favour products that are deemed environmentally friendly. By selected eco-cleaning products we help to reduce the amount of harmful toxins that enter our local waterways and we also help to eliminate the harmful toxins in our workspace. The ingredients should be considered for all cleaning products. This includes, but is not limited to, dish soap, dishwasher detergent, all purpose cleaner, glass cleaner, hand soap, toilet bowl cleaner, floor cleaner, and laundry soap.

When searching for new cleaning products, the purchaser will keep the 'Big 3' green certifications in mind:

- ECOLOGO™
- Green Seal™
- EPA Safer Choice™

When a product is not certified by one of these programs the purchaser will look for words like biodegradable, PH balanced, natural ingredients, non-toxic, renewable resources, phosphate free, and nitrogen free on the bottle of the cleaning products. Research could additionally extend to reading up on the company online to see if sustainability is one of their business values. Consideration will also be given to products that are refillable or sold in concentrated forms as this results in less packaging and lower green house gas emissions.

Considerations when Selecting a Commercial Cleaner: (optional)

When selecting a commercial cleaning service provider preference will be given to one that:

- Uses cleaning products that do not contain potentially hazardous ingredients and are readily biodegradable
- Purchases cleaning products in quantities that minimise the amount of packaging required
- Cleans with reusable and washable cleaning equipment, when possible
- Looks to reduce waste of materials and water, when possible
- From a social aspect the business looks to hire recent immigrants and others with limited employment and training opportunities

Appendix C Sample Supplier Advocacy Email¹⁸

Create change throughout the supply chain by advocating to your suppliers to reduce wasteful packaging and lower delivery emissions.

Good afternoon,

Thank you so much for the recent shipment of *(insert product)*. We are happy with the product itself, but we were disappointed by how much unnecessary packaging had come along with it. Unnecessary packaging uses a lot of resources such as energy, water and petroleum in both manufacturing and shipping.

At *(insert business name)* we are very conscious about our environmental impact and we like to encourage all our suppliers to consider the ways in which they ship their goods. When we received our shipment from you, we noticed it was *(select one of the following)*

- Packed in a box much larger than the product itself. Ensuring that packages are shipped in a box relative to their size helps cut down on carbon emissions, simplifies shipping logistics and saves money! We would appreciate if in the future you would consider sending packages in boxes relative to the product size.
- Packed in plastic wrap. Single use plastics are detrimental to the health of our planet and we try to reduce our reliance on them whenever possible. For future orders we would appreciate it if you would consider wrapping products in a plastic alternative such as paper or skipping the additional packaging when it is not needed.
- Packed with packing peanuts, bubble wrap, or Styrofoam to protect the product. We really appreciate that you are trying to make sure our products arrive just the way we imagined them without any damages or defects! Unfortunately, (packing peanuts, bubble wrap, Styrofoam) are very harmful for our planet and hard to recycle. We would appreciate if in the future you would consider sending packages with paper or <u>these</u> cornstarch based packing peanuts.¹⁹

Please let us know if you have any questions. We look forward to continuing this business relationship and we hope that this helps you to consider the environmental impact of your shipping practices!

All the best,

(Your name)

¹⁸ BC Green Business. Sample supplier email.

¹⁹ Uline. Uline UPSable Peanuts - Starch, 7 Cu. Ft. Bag. uline.ca/Product/Detail/S-2322/Peanuts-and-Dispensers/Uline-UPSable-Peanuts-Starch-7-Cu-Ft-Bag.

Appendix D How to Set Up a Waste Diversion Station

Setting up a waste diversion station with clear signage can help your organization cut waste disposal costs and reduce environmental impact. There are several elements to consider when setting up your station that will affect the success of your program. These include the materials you will recycle, how you will haul materials from the site, where and how the station will be set up, and how you will engage your team to participate in the recycling program!

There are four key steps to set up a successful recycling station:



20 Squamish-Lillooet Regional District. Recycling signage & colour scheme. <u>slrd.bc.ca/services/recycling-composting-waste-landfill/recycling/recycling-signage-colour-scheme</u>