

# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## BEST PRACTICES

## FOR CABINETWORK

### USE LESS ENERGY

- Hire an expert to assess your energy consumption, and learn more about alternative energy solutions.
- Install electronic thermostats and set them to drop the temperature after hours.
- Choose energy-efficient appliances (e.g., *Energy Star*).
- Swap out your lightbulbs for more energy-efficient models, like LEDs.
- Look into using waste biomass for heating.

### MANAGE YOUR WASTE EFFICIENTLY

- Hire an expert to produce a report on the waste generated by your organization and develop a waste action plan.
- Implement the 5 Rs (rethink your needs, reduce, reuse, recycle and reclaim).
- Set up sorting areas with clear posters to promote proper materials management.
- Get *ICI on recycle* + certification.
- Learn more about material recovery services (recycling centre, ecocentre) offered by your RCM or municipality, or a material recovery business.
- Learn about best packaging solutions for shipping (ecodesign).
- Look into circular economy opportunities to recycle your wood waste .
- Proactively optimize design to minimize waste.
- Provide durable, reusable personal protective equipment.
- Offer employee trainings on best practices in CRD (construction, renovation, demolition) waste management.
- Assess the possibility of robotizing or automating operations to reduce waste

### SAVE WATER

- Install devices to reduce water flow during renovations (e.g., toilets, faucets) .
- Use environmentally friendly, phosphate-free cleaning products.
- Set up a rain barrel and use the rainwater collected to water plants and other landscaping elements.
- Provide bottle refilling stations to encourage employees to use reusable bottles .

### MAKE RESPONSIBLE PURCHASES

- Adopt a responsible purchasing policy.
- Educate your suppliers about reducing packaging.
- Shop local, sustainable products (e.g., wood turpentine).
- Use wood from CRD projects or forest cleaning operations.
- Buy wood from FSC-certified forests.
- Choose eco-friendly varnishes, glues, paints, etc.

**REDUCE YOUR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS (GHG)**

- Hire an expert to assess your carbon footprint and draw up a plan to cut and offset emissions.
- Install charging stations for electric vehicles.
- Encourage collective and active transportation by installing bike racks and incentivizing carpooling.

**IMPROVE WORKPLACE WELLNESS, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- Make sure your facility is equipped with a high-quality airflow system and provide employees with personal protective equipment for their health.
- Keep a defibrillator and first aid kit accessible onsite.
- Have a first aider present at all times (as required by the CNESST).
- Review the ergonomics of different workstations and implement recommendations.
- Respect your employees' and coworkers' right to disconnect.

**INCREASE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Share your sustainable development successes.
- Ensure that physical access and services are tailored to customer with reduced mobility.
- Sponsor sports and cultural events.
- Get involved in causes.
- Set up partnerships with local businesses, artists and artisans (e.g., donating wood waste).

**NOTES**

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For more information, reach out to your local's SADC or CAE

[sadc-cae.ca](http://sadc-cae.ca)

**Canada** Canada Economic Development offer a financial support to the SADCs and CAEs.