



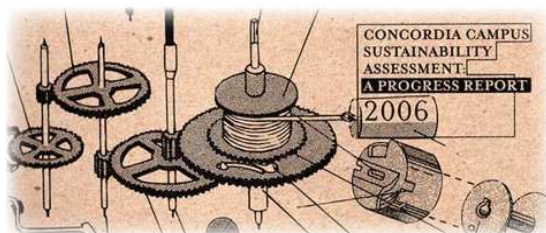
'Sustainable Concordia' Campus Waste Prevention Strategy (Canada)

 	Region	Canada
	Type of prevention measure	Basket of measures
	Geographical level of implementation	Local
	Target	Students
	Date of implementation	2002
	Type of waste	Business Waste

The model sustainability programme at Concordia University, launched and run by students since 2002, regularly assesses campus waste loads and uses results to accurately target its initiatives at challenging waste streams identified.

Context

Sustainable Concordia was set up by two students in 2002; Concordia University in Montreal subsequently became the pilot project for a new campus sustainability assessment methodology in 2003. Annual volunteer-led waste audits are conducted as part of the sustainability assessment, discovering that in 2004 the university sent 746 tonnes of waste to local landfill and that 49% of that waste could have been recycled - 19% was compostable. The R4 ('Rethink Reduce Reuse Recycle') programme was created to reduce both cost and environmental impact of campus waste generation.



- The Recto-Verso Campaign to reduce campus paper consumption, increase recycling and establish a green paper purchasing policy. The campaign has since been adopted by ten universities across Canada.
- Waste audits assess the quantity and composition of campus waste, helping students assess performance of specific initiatives and develop new targets
- Free dish rental for conferences and events
- Collection of paper used on one side only for the production of student notebooks
- Resale of school supplies and materials
- Travel mug campaign with 10% discount for beverages from campus outlet

Campus Waste Audits



Objective

Considering that universities play a crucial role in the development of a sustainable society, Concordia University developed its sustainability programme to drive the university towards it by normalising waste preventing behaviour. The R4 programme specifically promotes active environmental stewardship through thoughtful waste prevention initiatives.

Means

The R4 programme includes the following initiatives:

Results

R4 Concordia saved over \$72,000 through campus waste management innovations in 2005, by reducing landfill costs and purchasing expenses for paper and other materials. Waste generated per capita was reduced by nearly 7% between 2005 and 2006.

Further Information:

Sustainable Concordia:

<http://sustainable.concordia.ca>