

The nation's sustainability leaders: 'Canada's Greenest Employers' for 2018 are announced

TORONTO, April 19, 2018 – If you thought that changing an organization so that its operations are sustainable might be dreary, thankless work, you would be wrong. A new breed of employers, both in the private and public sectors, are creating remarkable workplaces that minimize the environmental impact of their operations – and in the process are attracting a new generation of talented employees and customers. That's the message from this year's winners of the *Canada's Greenest Employers* competition, announced this morning by the editors of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project at Mediacorp Canada Inc.



“In the early years of the competition, environmental best practices were largely employee-led and community based,” says Richard Yerema, Managing Editor of the Canada's Top 100 Employers project, which manages the *Canada's Greenest Employers* competition. “Today, the best employers are improving many of those early projects and have established formal initiatives and long-term commitments to help mitigate the harmful impacts of their operations. Besides being the right thing to do, they recognize that creating a culture of sustainability attracts people to their organizations, both as new employees and customers.”

Now in its 11th year, *Canada's Greenest Employers* is an editorial competition that recognizes employers that lead the nation in creating a culture of environmental awareness. Winning employers, selected by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers, are evaluated using four main criteria: (1) the unique environmental initiatives or programs they have developed; (2) whether they have been successful in reducing their own environmental footprint; (3) whether their employees are involved in these programs and contribute any unique skills; and (4) whether their environmental initiatives have become linked to the employer's public identity, attracting new employees and customers. The competition grew out of two remarkable speeches by Al Gore and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. at the annual editorial conference on the Top 100 project in 2006 and 2007, respectively.

Here are a few examples of how this year's winners are leading environmental changes in their workplaces and beyond:

- Employees at Vancouver-based **Mountain Equipment Co-Op / MEC** conduct 'dumpsters dives' each year to look for new ways to reduce waste — the retailer was one of the pioneers in eliminating single-use shopping bags in 2008 and, two years later,

introduced a “sushi-roll” packaging technique for MEC-branded gear, an improvement that eliminated the use of approximately 140 tons of plastic packaging.

- Along with installing 1.4MW of solar power generating capacity on its own buildings, the **City of Markham** hosts an annual “Battle of the Buildings” competition to challenge employees across the city to reduce electricity consumption.
- Telecommunications giant **Bell Canada** added over 40 electric vehicle charging stations for employees who need to plug-in at work, partnering with Add Énergie and the Québec government to install the charging stations across the province.
- **Hydro Ottawa** manages a unique student apprenticeship program that sees summer students make recommendations to senior personnel on improving environmental sustainability – past recommendations include establishing an employee ‘Green Team’ and a mobile app that lets Hydro Ottawa customers pay their monthly bill online.

The full list of this year’s winners is attached. The editors’ detailed reasons for selection, explaining why each of the winners was chosen, were published this morning and are accessible via the [competition homepage](#).

Founded in 1992, Mediacorp Canada Inc. is the nation’s largest publisher of employment periodicals. Since 1999, the Toronto-based publisher has managed the [Canada’s Top 100 Employers](#) project, which also includes 18 regional and special-interest editorial competitions that reach over 15 million Canadians annually through a variety of magazine and newspaper partners. Mediacorp also operates [Eluta.ca](#), the largest Canadian job search engine, which includes editorial reviews from the Canada’s Top 100 Employers project and is now used by 7 million users in Canada each year. Together with Willis Towers Watson, Mediacorp also hosts the [Top Employer Summit](#), Canada’s largest conference for senior-level HR professionals.

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Canada’s Greenest Employers 2018 Winners

Aramark Canada Ltd., *Toronto ON*
 Assiniboine Credit Union Limited, *Winnipeg MB*
 BC Housing Management Commission, *Burnaby BC*
 BC Hydro, *Vancouver BC*
 Bell Canada, *Verdun QC*
 BlackBerry Limited, *Waterloo ON*
 Cadillac Fairview Corporation Limited, *Toronto ON*

Capital Regional District / CRD, *Victoria BC*
 Co-operators Group Ltd., *The, Guelph ON*
 Dentons Canada LLP, *Vancouver BC*
 Desjardins Group / Mouvement des caisses Desjardins, *Lévis QC*
 DIALOG, *Calgary AB*
 Diamond Schmitt Architects Inc., *Toronto ON*
 Durham College of Applied Arts and Technology, *Oshawa ON*
 EfficiencyOne, *Dartmouth NS*
 EllisDon Corporation, *Mississauga ON*
 Emterra Group, *Burlington ON*
 Farm Mutual Re, *Cambridge ON*
 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited, *Oakville ON*
 General Motors of Canada Company, *Oshawa ON*
 Griffith Foods Ltd., *Toronto ON*
 Hatch Ltd., *Mississauga ON*
 Hemmera, an Ausenco Company, *Burnaby BC*
 Home Depot of Canada Inc., *Toronto ON*
 HP Canada Co., *Mississauga ON*
 Humber College, *Toronto ON*
 Hydro Ottawa, *Ottawa ON*
 IKEA Canada LP, *Burlington ON*
 Ivanhoé Cambridge Inc., *Montréal QC*
 Keilhauer Ltd., *Toronto ON*
 KPMG LLP, *Toronto ON*
 Kwantlen Polytechnic University / KPU, *Surrey BC*
 Labatt Brewing Company Limited, *Toronto ON*
 LoyaltyOne, Co., *Toronto ON*
 Manitoba Hydro, *Winnipeg MB*
 Markham, City of, *Markham ON*
 Matrix Solutions Inc., *Calgary AB*
 McGill University, *Montréal QC*
 Metrolinx, *Toronto ON*
 Mohawk College, *Hamilton ON*
 Mountain Equipment Co-op, *Vancouver BC*
 Nature's Path Foods, Inc., *Richmond BC*
 Ocean Wise Conservation Association, *Vancouver BC*
 Ontario Public Service / OPS, *Toronto ON*
 Perkins+Will Canada Architects Co., *Vancouver BC*
 Printing House Ltd., *The / TPH, Toronto ON*
 Red River College, *Winnipeg MB*
 Reliable Controls Corporation, *Victoria BC*
 Reunion Island Coffee Ltd., *Oakville ON*
 Rogers Communications Inc., *Toronto ON*
 Royal Bank of Canada, *Toronto ON*
 SaskTel, *Regina SK*
 Sheridan Nurseries Limited, *Georgetown ON*

Siemens Canada Limited, *Oakville ON*
Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, *Toronto ON*
Symcor Inc., *Mississauga ON*
TD Bank Group, *Toronto ON*
Toyota Motor Manufacturing Canada Inc. / TMMC, *Cambridge ON*
TransLink (South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority), *New Westminster BC*
UBC / University of British Columbia, *Vancouver BC*
University of Alberta, *Edmonton AB*
University of Northern British Columbia / UNBC, *Prince George BC*
University of Toronto, *Toronto ON*
University of Victoria, *Victoria BC*
Vancouver City Savings Credit Union, *Vancouver BC*
Vancouver, City of, *Vancouver BC*
Veridian Corporation, *Ajax ON*
Whistler Blackcomb, *Whistler BC*
YMCA of Greater Toronto, *Toronto ON*
York University, *North York ON*