

Greener Governance in Canada

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What is Greener Governance?

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- 🌐 **Commitment to sustainable development, preventing pollution, minimizing risks to human health and the environment**
- 🌐 **Green governance is about the rules and the structures through which environmental issues are addressed – whether locally or globally**
- 🌐 **Reducing the environmental impacts of activities by adopting a strategic approach to the management of our environment**

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What is Greener Governance?

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🌐 Elements of greener governance are:

- 🐟 Sustainable development (SD)
- 🐟 Environmental management systems (EMS)
 - └ Getting your House in Order
- 🐟 Local Action 21 (LA 21)

🌐 As well as initiatives in the areas of:

- 🐟 Procurement
- 🐟 Resource stewardship
- 🐟 Legal compliance, assessment and remediation
- 🐟 Employee awareness and training
- 🐟 Monitoring, reporting and environmental auditing

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Why is it Important?

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- 🌐 **Demonstrate leadership of sustainable government operations locally and globally**
- 🌐 **Getting own House in Order (HIO)**
- 🌐 **Decrease impact of operations on the environment**
- 🌐 **Improve the health of the biosphere**
- 🌐 **Brings about cooperation with other communities**

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Motivation for Implementing Greener Governance

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- 🌐 Participation
- 🌐 Rule of law
- 🌐 Transparency
- 🌐 Responsiveness
- 🌐 Consensus orientation
- 🌐 Equity
- 🌐 Effectiveness and efficiency
- 🌐 Accountability
- 🌐 Strategic vision

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Sustainable Development

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🌍 "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (Bruntland Commission)

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Sustainable Development as a Context

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Policy

 Requires the efforts of all jurisdictions, every department, all sectors, and all citizens

 Efficient and environmentally responsible use of resources

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Sustainable Development and Local Action 21

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- 🌐 Number of global, social, economic and environmental commitments (SD, LA21, climate change)
- 🌐 All of these issues are linked together
 - 🐟 *Through getting your House in Order*
- 🌐 Greening government operations can further assist local authorities to deliver on their LA21 and SD commitments

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Greener Governance Framework in Canada

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- 🌐 Commissioner of Environment and Sustainable Development
- 🌐 Sustainable Development Strategies
- 🌐 Environmental Management Systems
- 🌐 Federal House in Order
- 🌐 Sustainable Development in Government Operations
- 🌐 Combined Governance
- 🌐 Canadian Ambassador for the Environment







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Greening Government Strategy

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Key requirements

-  **Governance**
-  **Performance Management Framework**
-  **Short list of priorities**
-  **Sustained funding**
-  **Creation of office to support GGO**
-  **Communications**

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Greening Government Strategy

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Priorities

-  **Compliance**
-  **Green procurement**
-  **Vehicles**
-  **Buildings**
-  **Land use/Contaminated Sites**
-  **Citizenship**

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Challenges to Implementation of Greener Governance

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- 🌐 Traditional approach – a series of discrete files
- 🌐 Continued perception that:
 - 🐟 It is only an environmental agenda
 - 🐟 It limits growth and prosperity
 - 🐟 It is abstract and remote from people's lives

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Greening Government and getting your House in Order

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- 🌐 Via greening government activities, local authorities will make their operations more environmentally sound
- 🌐 A systematic approach to greening government will assist implementation of LA21
- 🌐 Clear procedures and concrete measures vs. ad hoc projects
- 🌐 Getting your House in Order will support sustained long-term implementation of LA21 and SD commitments

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Final Thoughts

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- 🌍 **Greener government through getting your House in Order is good government**
- 🌍 **Improves the health and safety of a community**
- 🌍 **Promotes partnerships between citizens and communities**
- 🌍 **Ensures the sustainability of natural resources**

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