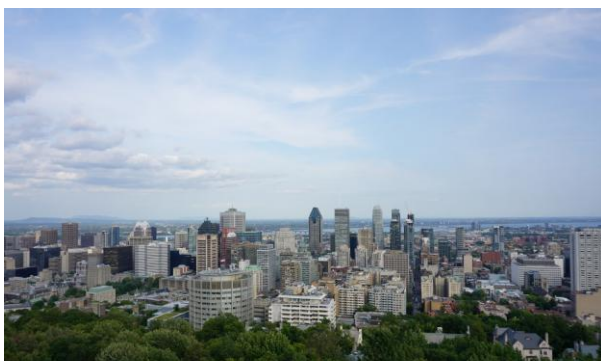




City of Montreal

(Canada)

Sustainable Procurement Profile



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PROCURING SUSTAINABLY, LEADING GLOBALLY



Introduction

Montréal's purchasing practices can be powerful drivers to source sustainable supplies, stimulate innovation and implement the principles of responsible procurement. With the scale and number of transactions involved, the city has a duty to make use of this economic leverage to minimize environmental impacts and maximize socio-economic benefits for its jurisdiction.

In 2006, Montréal adopted a [Procurement Policy](#) based on three overarching principles:

- Effectiveness and efficiency
- Transparency and equity
- Accountability

OUR SPP ACHIEVEMENTS

- In June 2009, Montréal adopted a [Sustainable Development Policy for City Buildings](#). All new municipal buildings with a footprint greater than 200 m². must obtain [LEED-Gold certification](#), while any major renovation project must be completed under LEED-Silver criteria.
- In 2009, Montréal introduced [BIXI](#), a public bicycle-sharing system. As of 2016, there were 5,200 BIXI bicycles available at 460 stations.
- In 2013, Montréal adopted a [Community Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Plan](#) and, more recently, a [Climate Change Adaptation Plan](#), which includes concrete measures to counter the effects of heat waves, exceptional rain events, destructive storms, droughts and winter flooding.
- In 2016, the City adopted a [Transport Electrification Strategy](#), which focuses on the use of electricity to power transportation, mainly through the public transit system (metro and bus) and an increase in the prevalence of electric vehicles.

As cities are on the front lines of the undesirable consequences of climate disruption, their contribution to global efforts to fight climate change and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is essential. At the 21st U.N. Conference on Climate Change (COP21/CMP 11), Montréal ratified the Paris City Hall Declaration and committed to reducing its GHG emissions by 80% by 2050. Procurement is seen as a key part of this fulfilling this commitment.

Procurement in the city

In 2016, purchases of goods and services by the City of Montreal totaled close to \$1.8B. Over half of this amount was dedicated to construction work (building and real estate, infrastructure, etc.) managed by specialized city services and the 19 regional boroughs. Other expenses covering goods (\$450M), general, technical and maintenance services (\$200M) and professional services (\$175M) are almost entirely managed by the city's centralized Procurement Service.

In addition to developing policies, directives and strategies, the Procurement Service ensures the legal and regulatory conformity of acquisitions. It also solicits the markets for purchases of common goods (vehicles, office supplies, etc.) and strategic goods (computers, etc.).

Together for a Sustainable Metropolis

The City of Montréal's first sustainable development action plan, adopted in 2005, already included measures to promote sustainable procurement. These initiatives led to the drafting of a Sustainable Procurement Policy, which clearly indicates that the City must take into account the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in its purchases of goods and services.

More recently, the City of Montréal adopted the [Sustainable Montréal 2016-2020](#) plan, which establishes objectives and describes some of the challenges Montréal faces with regard to sustainable procurement. The theme for the plan is 'Together for a Sustainable Metropolis'.

Following on from its commitment to playing a leadership role in this sector, Montréal also included in the official document an action plan for organizations active within its jurisdiction, encouraging them to implement responsible procurement principles. The City's organizations have been invited to put their shoulders to the wheel by implementing responsible procurement criteria or policies and by supporting the development of the local social economy.

Some of the actions that the City of Montréal's 221 [partner organizations](#) – which include public administrations, industry, small private businesses and community and non-profit organizations – are encouraged to implement include:

- Reduce, optimize and electrify their vehicle fleet;
- Build and/or renovate buildings sustainably;
- Organize zero waste and/or eco-responsible events;
- Integrate the principles of the circular economy and share good practices;
- Adopt a socially responsible purchasing policy;
- Support the development of a social and solidarity economy.

It is in this joint process that the theme "Together for a sustainable Metropolis" becomes meaningful.

What we purchase sustainably

To reach the ambitious target of reducing GHG emissions by 80% by 2050, the City of Montréal will concentrate its efforts on transportation, buildings and urban lighting, among other important sources of GHGs.

Electric Transportation

Montréal introduced a public bicycle-sharing system in 2009. As of 2016, 5,200 BIXI bikes were available at 460 stations. In 2016, 4.1M trips were made by nearly 235,000 users, a 16% increase from 2015.

In 2020:

The City will have converted 30% of the *Société de transport de Montréal's* bus fleet to hybrid

engines; 1,000 self-service electric cars will be in circulation; 1,000 on-street charging stations will have been installed; 230 municipal vehicles will have been converted to 100% electric power.

In 2021:

Montréal will welcome a new light rail public transit system. Once completed, the *Réseau électrique métropolitain* (REM) will be the fourth largest automated transportation system in the world after Singapore's (82 km), Dubai's (80 km) and Vancouver's (68 km). The REM also represents the largest public transportation infrastructure project since the Montréal metro, inaugurated in 1966. Combined with existing metro, bus and rail networks, the REM will mark the beginning of a new era for public transit development in the Greater Montréal area. The REM could help reduce GHG emissions by 35,000 tonnes annually and accelerate Montréal's transition to a low-carbon economy.

Building Construction and Renovation

In 2017, 21 municipal buildings had obtained LEED or BOMA Best environmental design and performance certifications. The city now aims to certify 55 additional buildings, for a total of 70, by 2020.

The City also aims to reduce total energy use in its buildings by 5%, to completely phase out the use of fuel oil as an energy source and to double the number of green roofs from 11 to 22 by 2020.

LED Lighting Project

The City plans to upgrade 110,000 street lights in the coming years. Projected savings for this smart city project would be over \$278 million over a 20-year period, the expected service life of LEDs.

Procurement related sustainable projects

Site remediation

The St-Michel Environmental Complex (SMEC) covers 192 hectares in the heart of Montréal. This site, formerly a quarry, was converted to a massive 75 hectare landfill in 1968. It is now destined to become the City's second largest green space and its most ambitious site remediation project. The site hosts a recycling plant that sorts all of Montrealers' recyclables, a biogas thermal powerplant that converts the biogas emitted from the landfill to electricity, and composting and wood shredding facilities.

Reuse

The emerald ash borer, originally from Asia, is threatening thousands of trees in Montréal. The insect pest infestation of the City's ash trees is constantly growing. Bois Public, a non-profit organization, is collaborating with the City to retrieve the felled ash trees and give them a second life by using the wood to build urban furniture. For this project the woodwork is performed by specialized socio-professional reintegration firms.

Rainwater management

The borough of Villeray–Saint-Michel–Parc-Extension has recently installed an ingenious rainwater collection and management system at its arena, the first endeavour of its kind in an existing building. The system allows for a 90% rainwater recovery rate. The water is then treated, filtered and heated for use in the zambonies. Additionally to providing a higher-quality skating surface, the system will save over 1M litres of potable water yearly.

Industrial cluster

The City is host to a highly dynamic industrial cluster that brings together several clean technology subsectors related to green chemistry, ecomobility, waste materials, energy efficiency and renewable energy, as well as soil and groundwater treatment. The cluster includes more than 450 companies, including world-recognized leaders: TM4, Biothémica, Effenco, Magnus, Northex Environnement, Enerkem and many others.

How we procure

- A general clause promoting sustainable purchasing has been added to the template used for all requests for proposals;
- Sustainable products will henceforth be clearly identified in newly established service agreements;
- Information sheets have been provided to purchasers to help them make sustainable choices regarding commonly used products such as office and maintenance supplies, furniture as well as electric and electronic equipments;
- Social economy organizations have been clearly identified in the City of Montréal's registry of suppliers.

Keeping track of procurement

City purchases are made through a central electronic procurement system (Système Intégré Montréal - SIMON), which provides tools for effective monitoring of procurement activities. However, this software does not allow for monitoring of sustainable procurement practices, as relevant indicators are not yet integrated to the system. The City of Montréal is currently adapting this tool to be able to extract data and evaluate sustainable development indicators in the near future.

Future challenges

The City of Montréal is currently participating in a series of collaborative working groups coordinated by the *Espace québécois de concertation sur les pratiques d'approvisionnement responsables* ([ECPAR](#)). ECPAR's activities target organizations that are actively involved in

improving the environmental, social and economic performance of their purchasing practices. The working groups in which Montréal is active focus on specific issues like the application of the notion of total property costs, lifecycle analyses and the challenges related to choosing appropriate performance indicators. Although these are widely recognized as best practices, they remain difficult to implement.

As is the case for several other large cities, upgrading the purchasing software to allow for data extraction and indicator analysis represents a significant technological challenge for Montréal.

The decentralization of purchasing across city departments and boroughs adds complexity to the management of this considerable organizational change. Any modifications made to the purchasing system, process or practices require extensive training and communications efforts to ensure internal stakeholder buy-in.

Further information

RESOURCE	WEBSITE
Procurement policy (in French)	http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/librairie_fr/documents/politique_approvisionnement.pdf
Sustainable Montréal 2016-2020	http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/d_durable_en/media/documents/plan_de_dd_en_lr.pdf
Sustainable Development Policy for City Buildings (in French)	https://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/d_durable_fr/media/documents/POLITIQUE%20DD%20EDIFICES.PDF
Transport Electrification Strategy (in French)	http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PROJ_URBAINS_FR/MEDIA/DOCUMENTS/strategie_electrification.pdf
Community Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Plan (in French)	http://carbonn.org/uploads/tx_carbonndata/PLAN_COLLECTIVE_2013-2020_VF_08.pdf
Climate Change Adaptation Plan (in French)	http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/pls/portal/docs/page/enviro_fr/media/documents/paccam_2015-2020_lesconstats.pdf

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About the GLCN on SP

The **Global Lead City Network on Sustainable Procurement** is a group of cities committed to drive a transition to sustainable consumption and production by implementing sustainable and innovation procurement. All participating cities are acting as ambassadors of sustainable procurement to lead to a resource efficient, low carbon and socially responsible society.