

ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES

2022 CIRCULAR ECONOMY LEADERS CONSORTIUM

**VIRTUAL ROUNDTABLE:
JULY 20TH, 2022**

IN ATTENDANCE

Members

Lou-Anne Daoust-Filiatrault	Air Canada	behzad.hosseinpour@mapleleaf.com
Diane Gibson	City of Mississauga	Diane.gibson@mississauga.ca
Zach Morgan	Longo's	evan.grant01@grupobimbo.com
Catherine Leighton	TELUS	catherine.leighton@telus.com
Emma Wosik	TELUS	Emma.wosik@telus.com
Rajesh Airee	Velcro Canada	rairee@velcro.com
Eric Meliton	Wilfred Laurier	emeliton@wlu.ca
Dan McGregor	Wilfred Laurier	dmcgregor@wlu.ca
Susan Howley	Unilever	Susan.howley@unilever.com
Gina Vaccaro	Toronto Metropolitan University	gvaccaro@ryerson.ca
Narishdath Maraj	Toronto Metropolitan University	Narishdath.maraj@ryerson.ca
Mary Jean O'Donnell	MJ Waste Solutions	zerowaste@mjwastesolutions.ca
Caroline Holmes	Sheridan College	caroline.holmes@sheridancollege.ca
Haidar Mashlab	University Health Network	Haidar.mashlab@uhn.ca

Staff

Chaya Chengappa	Partners in Project Green	Chaya.chengappa@trca.ca
Anna Currier	Partners in Project Green	Anna.currier@trca.ca

REGRETS

Lisa Vanlint	University Health Network	Lisa.vanlint@uhn.ca
Courtney Hayes	Seneca College	courtney.hayes@senecacollege.ca
Todd Ernst	GTA	Todd.ernst@gtaa.com

AGENDA

- 1:00pm:** Introductions of new members
- 1:05pm:** Recap of GFL Facility Tour
- 1:07pm:** What's next for the CEC
- 1:10pm:** Roundtable updates on member circular economy project
- 1:50pm:** Recap of topics covered
- 1:55pm:** Open discussion

ROUNDTABLE MEETING MINUTES

During the roundtable discussion members shared updates on circular economy projects including successes and challenges.

Air Canada

Innovative branding team project

- Air Canada has an ongoing uniform recycling program that was established with PPG support.
- In response to uniform shortages from supply chain issues and influx of returned uniforms from previous staff, Air Canada created an app where staff can post and trade uniforms instead of recycling – shifting to more of a reuse model.

City of Mississauga

Circular Cities and Regions Initiative

- Collaborated with several municipalities to publish circular economy roadmaps. Will use information to eventually replace their Corporate Zero Waste Strategy. Participation with the CEC aligns with the following objectives:
 - Leveraging existing networks to advance circular economy approaches
 - Identifying lessons learned by businesses and other organizations

Ontario Summer Games Food Waste

- Asked CEC members for advice on where to donate leftover prepared food from event.
- Suggestions: Second Harvest (Air Canada uses them for leftover meals), local farms (Longo's sends leftover food for livestock), or B12Give: <https://www.b12give.ca/>.
- B12Give PPG resource: <https://partnersinprojectgreen.com/blog/innovative-business-solutions-to-combat-food-waste-and-insecurity/>.

Longo's

Construction and kitchen items resale

- Longo's re-sells viable construction and kitchen items leftover from projects.

Diversion reports

- Partners with a waste management organization to produce diversion reports on what is sent to them to track waste habits.

Battery and e-waste recycling

- Tries to resell items first, and partners with E Cycle Solutions to divert remaining. Important information is wiped from devices and then parts are sold. E Cycle Solutions: <https://www.ecyclesolutions.com/>.

Plastic buckets recycling

- Generates approximately 30,000 buckets per year from making food products in-house. Previously landfilled but switched to "Friendlier" company to sanitize and reuse with supplier. <https://www.friendlier.ca/>. Wilfred Laurier University is also piloting a reuse program with "Friendlier".

Farewell to Danielle who has moved on to a similar role with Sobeys!

Sheridan College

Return to camps preparation

- Foresees a big office cleanup being necessary – converting old offices to hoteling style. Creating an office cleanup checklist to guide proper management of leftover material like recycling and donation opportunities to minimize waste to landfill.
- Items collected for reuse will be used in pop-up shops (pilot at Oakville and then expand to other locations) and offered to students and faculty. Aim is to establish a permanent reuse centre. Caroline and Gina from TMU to connect.

TELUS

Bin sensors

- TELUS partnering with [Taoglas](#) to pilot bin sensors at 15 locations in Quebec. If successful, will expand to all facilities. Data (full bin vs actual percentage) is helpful for CSR reports.

Reuse data

- Looking at where reuse occurs and isn't reported and including it in reporting metrics. They have determined they could add 18% of waste streams to reuse data set. Vehicles were a surprising item to add to the list.

- Invested in Sustainability Cloud to help manage GHG reporting for energy, water, and waste. Methodology varies – next targeted group is procurement.

PPE donation

- Donated almost 1 million dollars and 60 metric tonnes through this project. PPG supported through Material Exchange.

E-waste recycling

- Working with CIC on e-waste and device-recycling campaign in October to encourage customers to bring back devices.

Single-use plastics policy

- Interested in developing this policy and asked CEC members if any had gone through the process.

Toronto Metropolitan University

Re-naming Ryerson to Toronto Metropolitan University

- Exploring upcycling/reuse/repurposing solutions for de-branding items with old name. Started with uniforms and expanding to everything else affected. Have found ways to transition every stream:
 - Created an internal reuse guide for things like pens
 - Working with the Stich Lab at Scadding Court Community Centre serving newcomer, BIPOC and queer communities to divert apparel.
 - Considering a shredding and felting machine for material for use in fashion schools (produce felt and sell it like George Brown College). Honouring Indigenous Truth and Reconciliation by upcycling uniforms in a fashion show to unveil the new apparel for TMU.
 - Any unused items will be used for an art installation – wall of fame (Architecture school).

University Health Network

Plastic lab waste

- Finding a reuse/recycling solution for plastic waste generated from labs, which is a major worldwide issue, particularly pipette tubes. These are treated as hazardous waste and incinerated. Trying to find a way to autoclave and sterilize them for recycling to avoid incineration.

Blue polypropylene sterilization wrap

- Used to keep equipment sterile, made from hard to recycle plastic. High volumes are generated on a consistent basis. Has sent them to a few different organizations through Material Exchange for use in sewing programs and insulation purposes but need to find

a longer-term solution. Considering fashion schools – Anna to share information with Gina and Narish from TMU.

Velcro

Energy rebate program

- Enrolled in a program to monitor electricity distribution charges to receive a rebate in next year's billing cycle – gets notifications during energy use peaks and guidance on reducing consumption through shutting down machines, HVAC, etc.

Metal-filled resins and vinyl

- Looking for recycling solutions for these materials. Exploring opportunities with GFL.

Wilfred Laurier

Zero waste dining

- Instituting zero-waste dining program in campus cafeterias – taking reusable containers for takeout and ensuring they meet food-related codes. Using “Friendlier” company for a pilot program to sanitize and reuse. Had an eco-container program several years ago that was not successful. Trying a different approach and learning from other universities with zero-waste dining programs like Trent University.

Quarterly waste audits

- Scaling up frequency of waste audits to quarterly across Laurier's facilities to determine proactive ways to divert waste. They have internally certified waste auditors to complete this. One goal is trying to address multiple years of storing furniture and construction material.