
Environmental Protection

Policy No.:	7519
Category:	Safety, Security and Emergency Management
Approving Body:	Leadership Team
Executive Division:	Human Resources
Department Responsible:	Safety, Security and Emergency Management
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Policy Statement

British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) aims to conduct all activities in a manner that demonstrates management accountability and promotes responsible stewardship of the environment.

To this end, BCIT maintains an environmental protection program, applying to all BCIT campuses. The program:

- Promotes a consistent response, and demonstrates responsibility and due diligence concerning environmental issues
- Mandates the provision of a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for all employees and students
- Requires that prompt actions are taken to identify and remediate environmental risks

Purpose of Policy

The purposes of this policy are to:

- Define the roles and responsibilities within the BCIT community for establishing and maintaining an effective Environmental Protection Program
- Inform the BCIT community about applicable regulations and legislative standards
- Provide a platform for communication and education about environmental issues

Application of this Policy

This policy applies to all members of the BCIT community, including all BCIT employees, students, contractors, and visitors.

Related Documents and Legislation

Government of Canada:

- Environmental Protection Act* (and all associated regulations)
- Hazardous Products Act* (and all associated regulations)
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act* (and all associated regulations)

Province of British Columbia:

- Environmental Management Act* (and all associated regulations)
- Transport of Dangerous Goods Act* (and all associated regulations)

Canadian Standards Association:

- ISO 14000 Series- Environmental Management

Definitions

effluent: a substance that is introduced into water or onto land and that:

- injures or is capable of injuring the health or safety of a person,
- injures or is capable of injuring property or any life form,
- interferes with or is capable of interfering with visibility,
- interferes with or is capable of interfering with the normal conduct of business,
- causes or is capable of causing material physical discomfort to a person, or
- damages or is capable of damaging the environment.

environment: air, land, water, and all other external conditions or influences under which humans, animals and plants live or are developed.

recyclable material: a product or substance that has been diverted from disposal, and satisfies at least one of the following criteria:

- is organic material from residential, commercial or institutional sources and is capable of being composted, or is being composted, at a site;
- is managed as a marketable commodity with an established market by the owner or operator of a site;
- is being used in the manufacture of a new product that has an established market or is being processed as an intermediate stage of an existing manufacturing process;
- has been identified as a recyclable material in a waste management plan;
- is any other material prescribed by regulation.

waste:

- air contaminants
- litter
- effluent
- refuse
- biomedical waste
- hazardous waste
- any other substance prescribed by regulation.

Duties and Responsibilities

BCIT Community

All members of the BCIT community are responsible for conducting activities in a manner that demonstrates responsible environmental management. All employees, students, contractors, and visitors can actively participate by following BCIT procedures and applicable regulations. Specific duties and responsibilities for members of the BCIT community are outlined in the BCIT Safety Manual.

Environmental Protection Committee

The BCIT Environmental Protection Committee meets regularly and is established to advise on, monitor, and oversee matters related to environmental protection at BCIT.

Facilities Maintenance

BCIT Facilities Maintenance is responsible for the appropriate disposal of all effluent and air contaminants, following legislative requirements and the BCIT Environmental Protection Program.

Duties and Responsibilities

BCIT Safety, Security and Emergency Management Department

The BCIT Safety, Security and Emergency Management Department is responsible for the following:

- Creating the BCIT Environmental Protection Program
- Obtaining the appropriate environmental permits, or providing related resource information to responsible parties at BCIT
- Responding to, and coordinating response to, any environmental emergencies or other environmental concerns at BCIT
- Completing reports to legislative bodies as required.

Supply Management

BCIT Supply Management is responsible for the appropriate handling, transportation, and disposal of all waste and recyclable materials being taken off site, following legislative requirements and the BCIT Environmental Protection Program.

Procedures Associated With This Policy

Hazardous Waste Management
BCIT Safety Manual- Part 6 Section 95

Environmental Reporting
BCIT Safety Manual- Part 6 Section 96

Forms Associated With This Policy

None

Special Situations

None

Amendment History

- | | |
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| 1. Created | 1993 May 12 |
| 2. Revision 1 | 2004 Sep 13 |
| 3. Revision 2 | 2004 Sep 28 |
| 4. Revision 3 | 2005 Sep 26 |
| 5. Revision 4 | 2009 Jul 21 |
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