



## Introduction to Circular Economy North

There is an increasing interest across Canada in moving towards a circular economy which is based on eliminating linear thinking (taking resources, making them into products, and sending waste streams from the process to landfills) and replacing it with an intent to keep materials and value recirculating continuously.

CDETNO recognizes that minimizing economic leakage creates greater diversity and prosperity. Thus, it is leading the pilot of a new network of NWT organizations, called *Circular Economy North*, to increase collaboration among local businesses and accelerate circular economy activities. There is no cost to participate in the pilot (through 2022); however, members will need to demonstrate a commitment to advancing four indicators of circularity. In return they will gain promotional exposure, learning opportunities, and valuable connections for their business.

## Application Form

Organization Name:

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Sector/Industry:

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Contact name:

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Phone:

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E-mail:

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Website:

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LinkedIn:

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Primary interest in joining Circular Economy North (*learning, mentoring, collaboration, etc.*):

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As outlined above, members of Circular Economy North will report on four indicators of circularity. Following the instructions below, please calculate the impact for your business for each indicator and show your work. (Note: Only aggregated information will be reported on for each member. We will not share the details of these calculations publicly.)

### 1. Prioritizing Local Partnerships (%)

Local partnerships (within NWT) are calculated as a percentage of the total number of organizations with which your business has a financial relationship, including suppliers/vendors, partners, collaborators, and customers.

- A. Total number of organizations with which your business transacts: \_\_\_\_\_
- B. Number of those organizations that are located within NWT: \_\_\_\_\_

Calculation: B divided by A, multiplied by 100 = % local partnerships

### 2. Recognizing Indigenous Leadership (\$)

Indigenous peoples are leaders in the circular economy and naturally embed care for people and the planet into their operations; therefore, an indicator that recognizes collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous businesses is critical to the proliferation of circular economy principles in the macro economy. The total dollar value of money flowing to Indigenous people through your business will be calculated.

- A. Wages paid to Indigenous employees and subcontractors:

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Matched government funding (Canada Jobs Grant, etc.):

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C. Scholarships and training for Indigenous employees:

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Contracts awarded to Indigenous suppliers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Calculation:  $A + B + C + D = \$$  Indigenous leadership

### 3. Increasing Community Involvement (\$)

A circular economy is one that is rooted in its place, so increasing community involvement is critical for success. This is measured by the total dollar value of community investment.

A. Cash donated last year:

\_\_\_\_\_

B. In-kind donations of product/service:

\_\_\_\_\_

C. Hours volunteered last year:

\_\_\_\_\_

D. Dollar value of non-profit discounts:

\_\_\_\_\_

Calculation:  $A + B + (C \times \text{average hourly wage in NWT}) + D = \$$  community involvement

### 4. Transitioning to Zero Waste

Unlike a linear economy, a circular economy doesn't create any waste. Thus, an indicator of circularity is the extent to which a business keeps more material and value recirculating. As NWT organizations transition to a more circular economy, we are looking to estimate the amount of waste that is eliminated by activities such as rethinking product design, circular supply chain (one business' waste is another business' raw material), product repair, refurbishing, remanufacturing, recycling, composting, and strategies that displace waste streams (for example, going paperless). This may be done conceptually through a diagram representing inputs and outputs or, where a business is already measuring waste or waste displacement, through a calculation of the weight or volume diverted from landfills.



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A) List material input categories:

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B) List material output categories:

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C) List destinations for material outputs with approximate percentage for each (sold to customer, recycled, composted, reused, etc.):

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D) List displacement activities:

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