



# Cégep Vert du Québec

In the 2004 Fall, ENvironnement JEUnesse launched a specific environmental certification to CEGEPs and colleges. In 2004–2005, five Montréal CEGEPs have been accompanied to implement an environmental management culture and to integrate environmental education in their institutions. Since then, the number of participating institutions has been multiplied by ten!

“Cégep Vert du Québec” is a sustainable management certification in college-level institutions. It encourages consultation, with continuous improvement and sustainable development perspectives.

The program is divided into several levels of certification that enable sustainable management to be implemented at the pace of the establishment and in a long-term approach. Achieving excellence in certification, reflecting continuous improvement in environmental management, is the culmination of this evolving institutional approach.

## Services Offered

- Sustainability management tools adapted for colleges;
- Access to Raddar: the platform that will guide you through your action plan, deliver resources and simplify your reporting on a yearly basis;
- A professional analysis of your report with personalized recommendations;
- Certification of your institution based on the attained level;
- Participate in the certification event held at the start of the school year;
- Participate with other members in two training and networking retreats held twice a year at affordable rates;
- An online forum for best practices and experience sharing;
- Access to activities, campaigns and shared projects in CEGEPs and colleges (annual environmental conference, traveling exhibition, contests, etc.);
- A chance to participate in public hearings held on education and sustainable development themes;
- High visibility in the network, ENvironnement JEUnesse’s communication tools and in the media.

## Costs and Packages

- \$909 per year, or about \$75 per month (members only)
- ENvironnement JEUnesse membership at \$100 and valid for three (3) years
- Registration of 5 students to the annual environmental conference (\$300)
- Half-day visit to your institution and participation in a committee meeting (\$ 750)
- Three (3) training activities dedicated to students, staff or management team (\$1,000)



# LEVELS OF CERTIFICATION

CEGEP and colleges can qualify for four levels of certification: Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and Excellency Level.

## Level 1

*Cégep Vert du Québec* Level 1 requires the institution to implement basic sustainable management practices and to integrate environmental education. This level requires:

- To create an Environmental Action and Concertation Committee (EACC);
- To draft (and adopt) an environmental or sustainable development policy;
- To receive a minimum of four (4) environmental or sustainable development training sessions;
- To perform a minimum of four (4) awareness-raising activities on environmental or sustainable development issues\*.

## Level 2

*Cégep Vert du Québec* Level 2 requires the institution, in addition to fulfilling level 1 criteria, to implement sustainable management practices and to integrate environmental education. This level requires:

- To fulfil Level 1 criteria;
- To prepare an environmental assessment (valid for a period of five (5) years);
- To develop a prioritized action plan (covering the current year and at least the following year);
- To initiate the implementation of the action plan;
- To receive a minimum of five (5) environmental or sustainable development training sessions\*;
- To perform a minimum of four (4) awareness-raising activities on environmental or sustainable development issues\*.

## Level 3

(Maximal level for a first-year participation)

*Cégep Vert du Québec* Level 3 requires the institution, in addition to fulfilling levels 1 and 2 criteria, to implement sustainable management practices and to integrate environmental education. This level requires:

- To fulfil Levels 1 and 2 criteria;
- To create an environmental or a sustainable development fund;
- To prepare an annual report and to apply principles of continuous improvement;



- To receive a minimum of five (5) environmental or sustainable development training sessions\*;
- To perform a minimum of four (4) awareness-raising activities on environmental or sustainable development issues\*.

### Excellency Level

*Cégep Vert du Québec* Excellency Level requires the institution, in addition to fulfilling Levels 1, 2 and 3 criteria, to pursue the preparation of an annual report and to apply principles of continuous improvement (at least two actions following the principles of continuous improvement).

For subsequent years, to maintain an Excellency Level, the institution must meet one (1) additional criteria each year in addition to contributing to the *Cégep Vert du Québec* program activities among the following:

- To support student participation in the ENvironnement JEUnesse annual seminar for young people;
- To attend an *InterCACEs* or a retreat;
- To participate in the battery recycling contest;
- To host an ENvironnement JEUnesse's event (*InterCACEs*, annual seminar, etc.);
- To become a mentor for other *Cégep Vert du Québec* institutions.

\*Awareness-raising and training activities on environmental or sustainable development issues must be held within the school year and spread over the entire school year. A minimum of ten (10) students or four (4) employees is required for the training to be considered valid.



# About ENvironnement JEUnesse

Established in 1979, ENvironnement JEUnesse (also known as ENJEU) is an environmental education organization which aims at raising awareness among Québec's youth on environmental issues, train them through educational projects and encourage them to take action in their communities.

## **Integration of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)**

ESD is conceived as an ongoing process by which individuals and the community become aware of their environment (social, economic and environmental spheres) and acquire knowledge, values, skills, experience and willingness to act, individually and collectively, to solve current and future problems. ESD is an essential component of global education, but also citizenship education. Its integration into the educational community— from early childhood to college—is the basis of ENvironnement JEUnesse's certification programs.

## **Sustainable Management: Key for a Viable Future**

Sustainable management is defined as a component of an organization's overall management system. It includes the organizational structure, activity planning, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources to develop, implement and sustain an organization's sustainable development policy.

In this sense, institutions such as CPE, day care, CEGEPs or colleges should develop a management process that integrates environmental and social components, as well as integrating, for example, the concept of economic efficiency or the workers' health and safety. Only then will sustainable management structures be seen as an investment that improves quality of life from early childhood and protects current citizens' resources and health while ensuring a sustainable future for generations to come.

ENvironnement JEUnesse's certification programs are based on a progression on a permanent basis, based on solid and sustainable foundations: integration of sustainable management tools, implementation of initiatives and organization of activities targeting different sustainable development, in a perspective of continuous improvement over five levels.

Within ENvironnement JEUnesse's certification programs, institutions' activities have been grouped into five main categories: resource management and energy, transport, health and food, socio-responsible governance, and community openness.