

SUSTAINABILITY AT SICKKIDS

Vision:

A socially responsible work environment that contributes to ecological health and sustainable low carbon future.

“ Greener Hospital, Healthier Children, a Better World ”

ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contributed to the greening of the SickKids workplace through bringing awareness to waste reduction and diversion efforts through out the hospital
- Supported in stakeholder outreach and engagement initiatives for waste, transportation, and general sustainability awareness

DID YOU KNOW?

SickKids has their own Facilities Operations Sustainability group: KidsGoGreen!



SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

The healthcare industry poses unique challenges when addressing sustainability issues.



- **Health and safety always comes first** —therefore it is challenging to incorporate sustainability while ensuring the health and safety of all individuals



- **Separating biohazardous waste from hazardous waste:** improper sorting can lead to contamination from biohazardous waste



- **Source Reduction:** many medical supplies (ie. Surgical masks, kidney basins, surgical drapes) are disposable rather than reusable, therefore there has to be a delicate balance between safety, protecting the environment, and financial sustainability

CONTRIBUTIONS AND KEY PROJECTS

July Waste Awareness and Reduction Campaign

Planned and coordinated the annual waste campaign that raised awareness to staff on reducing or eliminating single-use plastic utensils consumption. As staff were encouraged to sign a pledge to demonstrate their commitment to reduce single-use plastic utensil consumption, over 220 pledges were signed by staff, making it the most success waste campaign at SickKids to date.

Waste Sorting Educational Module for Housekeeping Staff

Developed a detailed and interactive waste sorting module to educate housekeeping staff on proper disposal guidelines at the hospital.

SickKids Cycling Group Engagement

Supported the cycling group to increase engagement through sharing cycling-related news, biking resources, and updates on bike policy changes.

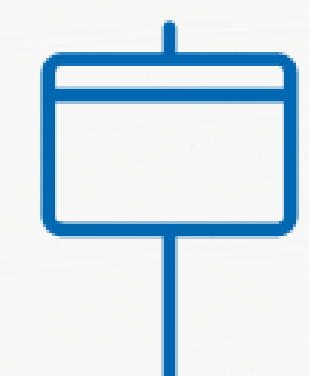
KEY TAKEAWAYS



Increasing accessibility to different streams of waste bins will make it easier for individuals to properly sort and divert waste away from the landfill.



Coordination between different departments is integral in communicating proper disposal rules and waste reduction efforts through out the hospital.



Educating staff, patients, and visitors through informative signages can encourage proper waste sorting behaviour.



First Sustainability Intern featured in the SickKids Learning Institute Newsletter