



Real Estate Sustainability at Canada Post

- The Real Estate Sustainability Team is responsible for the execution of sustainability-focused projects related to Canada Post's buildings and facilities.
- The team is divided between:
 - Those working on the **electrification and decarbonization of buildings**; and
 - Those working on the **reduction of waste within buildings and facilities** (my focus this summer).

Quick Fact! This year, CPC opened their first zero-carbon processing plant and the largest industrial building in Canada to meet the Canada Building Council Zero Carbon Building design standard.

Major Project Contributions



Analyzed waste audit data and presented results to facility managers across Canada.



Conducted outreach on durable goods waste data across Canada Post and initiated the development of a system to track this waste.



Researched the availability of municipal recycling programs for post-master managed post offices. Presented findings to relevant stakeholders.



Worked with 5 other summer students on an Action Learning Project on the topic of Smartmail Marketing waste reduction. Presented our business case to 48 employees, including senior managers and directors.

Key Takeaways

Culture is key – Working within an organization that sets the tone from the top and not only supports sustainability initiatives but actively seeks them out does wonders for employee motivation, experience, and quality of work.

Communication is critical – Being able to effectively communicate and make a business case for sustainability is essential to achieving goals and getting stakeholders on board.

Trust your instincts – Imposter syndrome is inevitable, but remaining confident in your abilities and trusting your skillset will pave the way to success. Remember that you were hired for a reason!

Sustainability in the Sector

Due to the reliance on packaging materials and physical mail pieces, reducing waste is a challenge in this sector. Further, as a government entity with the obligation to deliver postal products anywhere in the country, CPC does not have the ability to reduce their routes or limit their scope to reduce their impact.

As such, innovative and unique solutions are required to increase sustainability in this sector. CPC is currently focused on fleet electrification, building decarbonization, and improved recycling programs – among other initiatives – to meet their goals.

Quick Fact! Canada Post has committed to achieving zero waste by 2030 and net-zero GHG emissions across their value chain by 2050.

