



Corporate Gift Acceptance Policy

Over its 25 year history, Ecojustice's unique team of lawyers and scientists has gained a well-earned reputation for leadership in the environmental movement for using the law to protect and restore Canada's environment. Independence and integrity before the public and the courts is key to Ecojustice's effectiveness. To preserve our values and organizational identity, Ecojustice employs a strict corporate gift acceptance policy to avoid real and perceived conflicts of interest, while recognizing that Ecojustice may gain the following benefits of corporate relationships:

- financial support (donations, cash sponsorships, corporate matching gifts, volunteer grants, corporate in memoriam donations and employee giving)
- gift-in-kind (GIK) support (a gift of goods or services)
- opportunities to foster volunteerism

The purpose of the corporate gift acceptance policy is to provide guidance to the Board of Directors, staff, volunteers and potential donors on which gifts can be accepted by Ecojustice. Ecojustice reserves the right to decline any gift or donation that we believe may undermine our commitment to the environment and may undermine our integrity or damage the reputation and ongoing work of Ecojustice.

Ecojustice will not accept a donation, contribution or sponsorship from any corporation/business that is:

1. an opposing party to a legal claim which Ecojustice is investigating or where Ecojustice is retained, or reasonably likely to investigate or be retained;
2. Engaged in activities that conflict with Ecojustice's mission to use the law to protect and restore the environment; or,
3. where the donation is given on the condition that the donor will influence Ecojustice's strategic choices.

Ecojustice will accept a donation, contribution or sponsorship from any corporation or form an affiliation with any corporation that is committed to the principles that sustainability of the natural environment is fundamental to the sustainability of business. This commitment is demonstrated by some or all of the following factors:

1. Employing a strategy for operations that are focused not only on sustainable operations but on developing solutions for reducing environmental footprint (e.g., committed to not just 'recycling' but to 'reusing' and 'reducing.');
2. Having an industry-leading environmental record including complying with environmental regulations and laws, and publicly disclosing information on environmental compliance;
3. Fighting climate change through appropriate policies, strategies and operations;
4. Employing production processes that minimize or eliminate the use and release of toxic or hazardous substances; and,
5. Employing full-cost accounting, life cycle assessment and design for the environment; and,
6. Developing innovative products with environmental benefits.



A Corporate Relations Committee formed of the Executive Director, Director of Communications and a National Program Director, Chair of the Board Philanthropy and Communications Committee and chaired by the Director of Philanthropy will review any potential corporate donations of \$100,000 or more to determine if the donation should be accepted. The need to carry-out consultation or seek approval outside of the Committee, in order to facilitate a decision, will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The Committee will strive for consensus in its decision-making process. If a unanimous decision cannot be reached, the matter will be referred to the Board of Directors for final resolution. All decisions will be considered to be effective immediately.

Should Ecojustice engage in proactive solicitation of corporate gifts, the committee is required to approve prospect lists before any approach is made by the relationship manager.

Ecojustice is compliant with the Imagine Canada Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code and as such, adheres to its accepted practices for soliciting and managing donations, as specified in Ecojustice's general Gift Acceptance Policy.

This policy will be evaluated every three years to ensure that it is up-to date, consistent with Ecojustice's mission and effectively meets the needs of the organization.