ENGINEERS & GEOSCIENTISTS BRITISH COLUMBIA

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Engineers and Geoscientists BC Sustainability Award recognizes the important contribution that engineering and geoscience professionals lead in greenhouse gas emission reductions, developing climate adaptation options and seeking to achieve both in realizing sustainable outcomes. It further seeks to recognize the positive role of human qualities such as ethics, imagination, reason and common sense in achieving this end.

Sponsored by the Sustainability Advisory Group, the award will be granted to a project that has demonstrated a commitment to action on climate change and has exemplified one or more of Engineers and Geoscientists BC's Sustainability Guidelines (refer to summary in Appendix B). The Sustainability Award is designed to increase registrant awareness of and promote the current knowledge of sustainability, which includes, as a primary goal, proactive management of issues such as adaptation to climate change, reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, and exceeding current/future regulations in achieving sustainable outcomes. One Award of Excellence may be granted annually.

PURPOSE

The Sustainability Award will serve the following purposes:

- Highlight Engineers and Geoscientists BC's commitment to climate action as an integral aspect of achieving sustainable outcomes.
- Educate and raise awareness of sustainability principles through the showcasing of sustainable climate actions of the winning project among registrants via Innovation, and the organization's website.
- Raise the profile of projects incorporating the Sustainability Guidelines/concepts, particularly those related to GHG reductions, and achieving favorable climate outcomes.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. The award is open to any project that has demonstrated a commitment to action on climate change and has applied one or more of the Sustainability Guidelines.
2. Project nominations must demonstrate the significant involvement of registrants of Engineers and Geoscientists BC as key contributor(s) to the project. Engineers and Geoscientists BC registered professionals can be individual members or part of a multidisciplinary team that includes other professional engineers, professional geoscientists, and/or members of other professions.
3. Projects must show recent innovation in a process or procedure that moves us toward GHG emissions reductions, developing adaptation options, and/or cost-benefit analyses or seeks to achieve low carbon resilience.

4. Projects may be completed, under construction/development or may be at a state where detailed design has been completed.
5. Innovative research projects or public policy development that has a transformational effect in advancing sustainability may be considered for the award.
6. Completed projects must have been completed within the preceding five (5) years.
7. Projects can only be submitted for either the Sustainability Award or the Environmental Award, but not both.
8. At the discretion of the award sub-committee, the submitted project may be recommended to be considered for the Environmental Award if it better suits the criteria for that award.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

In order to facilitate receiving significant number of nominations, Engineers and Geoscientists BC is piloting a one-page submission process for initial review of submissions. Each project should submit a one-page summary of the project, using the application form in Appendix A, for review by the Sustainability Advisory Group.

Shortlisted applicants from the initial review will be contacted to submit a full nomination package.

A maximum of three (3) projects will be selected for further review. A full nomination submission must be in electronic format, not exceed ten (10) pages, and consist of the following:

1. A written description of not more than five (5) pages, that clearly describes the project, the involvement of Engineers and Geoscientists BC professionals in the project, climate actions taken, and the application of one or more of the Sustainability Guidelines. As Sustainability is as much about a thought process as it is about physical results, nominations that describe “the story” of a project development or organization are encouraged.
2. Confirmation that all participant organizations, regulatory authorities, sponsors and other key individuals involved in the project are aware of the nomination submission and the project owner’s written approval for the release of information.
3. Colour photographs, illustrations, or drawings as necessary.
4. Additional supporting information provided at the nominator’s discretion, including: copies of relevant report(s), specifications and/or performance data.

Nominations should be submitted in PDF or Word format via email. Photos may be included as .jpg or .gif files or embedded in the document. Hard copies are not required.

Nominations may be submitted to the Sustainability Advisory Group by email at sustain.award@egbc.ca.

APPROXIMATE APPLICATION TIMELINE

Application deadline for the one (1) page initial submission.	January 31
Applicants notified to submit full submission.	Mid-February
Application deadline for the full submission.	Third Friday in March

Award sub-committee to review award submissions.	April – May
Award winner notified.	August
Award presented at the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Annual Conference.	October

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

The Sustainability Advisory Group will review the nominations and advise Council, through the Standing Awards Committee, on its selection based on criteria that include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Presentation of the submission package
- Application of aspects of climate action, including emissions reduction and adaptation
- Best overall sustainability concepts embodied by a project
- Best use of the Sustainability Guidelines in a project

The award sub-committee, consisting of an odd number of people, will select the award recipient by majority vote. Sustainability Advisory Group members working for an applicant company will not be eligible to participate in the evaluation of that company's project. The award sub-committee will seek follow up information on nominations, if and where required.

The Sustainability Advisory Group reserves the right, after reviewing all applications, to determine whether or not an award is to be given.

NOTIFICATION OF WINNERS

The winner(s) will be notified by email in August and the award will be presented in October.

By provision of final submissions, the submitting organizations agree that Engineers and Geoscientists BC may advertise the award winner, and any awards of merit, in the media at the discretion of Engineers and Geoscientists BC

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APPENDIX A: SUSTAINABILITY AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Project Name:			
Location:			
Project Owner:			
Lead Consultants (where applicable):			
Lead Engineers and Geoscientists BC Professional(s):			
Project Status:	☐ Completed	☐ Under Construction	☐ Detailed Design
Project Description:			
Area(s) of sustainability that the project involves:			
☐ GHG Emissions Reductions		☐ Climate Adaptation Considerations	
☐ Low Carbon Resilience/Green Infrastructure		☐ Low Impact Development	
☐ Alternative/Active Transportation		☐ Waste Reduction	
☐ Use of Renewable Energy (e.g. solar, wind, biogas)		☐ Reduced Resource/Energy Use	
☐ Watershed Management		☐ Asset Management	
☐ Other:			
Sustainability guideline(s) implemented: #			
Describe:			
Achieved/proposed Climate Actions of the project:			

APPENDIX B: SUMMARY OF THE SUSTAINABILITY GUIDELINES

Excerpt from the Professional Practice Guidelines – Sustainability, V1.1

Link: https://www.egbc.ca/getmedia/91beda29-ad6f-4a6f-b302-ac60de0bab40/APEGBC-Sustainability-Guidelines.pdf.aspx

Within their scope of professional practice, Engineers and Geoscientists BC professionals have a responsibility to:

GUIDELINE 1: MAINTAIN A CURRENT KNOWLEDGE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Maintain a level of competence on matters of sustainability related to the Engineers and Geoscientists BC professional's area of expertise and seek additional expertise as necessary. The knowledge, concepts and opportunities for sustainable solutions are rapidly evolving and Engineers and Geoscientists BC professionals should strive to keep skills up to date and advance the understanding of sustainability in their field of practice.

GUIDELINE 2: INTEGRATE SUSTAINABILITY INTO PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Integrate sustainability considerations into professional practice, reflecting the Engineers and Geoscientists BC Code of Ethics' requirements to hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public and the protection of the environment. Engineers and Geoscientists BC professionals must consider the combined environmental, social and economic aspects that take into account the direct and indirect impacts over the full project life-cycle.

GUIDELINE 3: COLLABORATE WITH PEERS AND EXPERTS FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION

At key stages of the project life-cycle, collaborate with peers and experts across disciplines to identify appropriate alternatives and new opportunities for sustainable results.

GUIDELINE 4: DEVELOP AND PREPARE CLEAR JUSTIFICATIONS TO IMPLEMENT SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

Discuss opportunities and document decisions made related to the integration of environmental, social and economic metrics. These discussions should occur early enough to enable the client or employer to make informed decisions about how to implement an appropriate level of sustainability considerations in the task or projects, products, processes, or systems.

GUIDELINE 5: ASSESS SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE AND IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT

Identify opportunities to improve knowledge and professional practice related to sustainability, where best practice is to assess actual performance of implemented solutions against the original design goals and metrics.