

SickKids & Sustainability

Operate for tomorrow, today

- Minimize waste across the organization
- Promote active and clean transportation

Advocate for climate action

- Build climate resiliency and mitigate risk
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Foster an environmentally responsible culture

- Increase staff learning and engagement on environmental sustainability initiatives
- Implement benchmarking and best practices



Industry Challenges

- Patient health and safety comes first
- Change requires inter- and cross-departmental collaboration
- Resistance to practice changes and cultural shifts
- Complex healthcare regulations and organization policies

Main Takeaways

Staying realistic about your expectations and capturing the main issues can be more impactful than dwelling on the small details. Some change is better than no change!

**Strive for progress,
not perfection**

Reframe your messaging for effective communication

Everybody has different priorities. Framing your communication to their interests can help improve receptivity and resonate with your audience.

Sustainability problems require the help and insights of many stakeholders. Fostering meaningful connections across departments is key to ensuring issues are thoroughly addressed.

Establish strong cross-functional relationships

Key Projects and Contributions

Drafted SickKids' first pharmaceutical waste policy with collaboration from various hospital stakeholders

Conducted extensive research on existing literature, practices, and regulations

Supported OR biohazardous waste initiative to facilitate proper biohazardous waste disposal

Actively engaged with OR staff to educate and address questions and concerns about biohazardous waste sorting

Coordinated and executed organization-wide waste campaign to support responsible workspace clean-up

Designed contest, organized promotional material and monitored office supply donations to encourage proper waste disposal and increase waste diversion

Did You Know?

33 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions are linked to Canadian health-care activities. That is more than the entire country of Denmark!

Other Contributions

Conducted biohazardous waste audits

Coordinated promotional material for Bike Month

Presented sustainability education at fellowship and resident orientations

Researched and analyzed environmental impacts of single-use surgical gowns