



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY

PREAMBLE

This is the first sustainable development policy adopted by the Stewart Museum, developed and implemented in collaboration with the McCord Museum. It is based on tools and guidance provided by the ministère de la Culture et des Communications du Québec. It is accompanied by a three-year action plan that identifies the various strategies put forward by the Museum.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all employees, volunteers, audiences, customers, suppliers and partners of the Stewart Museum. As with all principles of sustainability, it is based on a participatory process that calls on everyone to contribute in a spirit of democracy.

DEFINITION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development represents all management actions and decisions adopted by an institution in order to more closely integrate economic, social and environmental factors, while taking into consideration the needs of current and future generations.

MISSION OF THE STEWART MUSEUM

The Stewart Museum, in fulfilling its mission of preservation and promotion for the citizens of today and tomorrow, strives to adopt sound operating practices, both in the initiatives it undertakes on its own premises and in its various community activities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Stewart Museum policy is based on the following principles, cited in Quebec's Sustainable Development Act (Bill 118, Chapter 3, 2006):

HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE

The Museum contributes to improving the quality of life and protecting the health of its employees and target audiences, an aspect central to sustainable development considerations.

SOCIAL EQUITY AND SOLIDARITY

Social ethics and solidarity, cultural diversity, and intra and inter-generational equity are of primary concern to the Museum and help guide its actions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The Museum integrates environmental protection into the development and deployment of its initiatives in order to achieve its sustainable development objectives.

PARTICIPATION AND COMMITMENT

The Museum encourages its employees and audiences to participate in and commit to its sustainable development objectives as part of a concerted vision of transparency and citizen involvement.

ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

The Museum facilitates access to knowledge by sharing its expertise and favouring innovative and interactive approaches.

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Museum contributes to the identification, protection and enhancement of cultural heritage components, taking their intrinsic rarity and fragility into account in a spirit of sustainability.

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

The Museum monitors new production and consumption methods in order to operate in a socially and environmentally responsible manner. It takes an eco-efficient approach by preventing waste and optimizing the use of resources.

POLICY OBJECTIVES

As part of a continuous improvement process and in accordance with laws, policies, regulations and available financial resources, the Stewart Museum has adopted a number of strategic directions¹ set out by the Government of Québec and has identified their associated objectives:

A) INFORM, MAKE AWARE, EDUCATE, INNOVATE

The Stewart Museum draws on innovative technologies and methodologies to raise awareness about sustainable development among its employees, volunteers and audiences.

OBJECTIVE A.1 Promote management initiatives that apply sustainable development principles.

OBJECTIVE A.2 Implement sustainable development awareness activities among Museum staff and target audiences.

B) PRODUCE AND CONSUME RESPONSIBLY

The Stewart Museum promotes eco-responsibility in its production and consumption activities.

OBJECTIVE B.1 Reduce the environmental impact of the Museum's operations and the production of its activities.

OBJECTIVE B.2 Promote energy efficiency and renewable energies within the Museum.

C) ADDRESS DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGES

The Stewart Museum contributes to maintaining and improving the quality of life of its employees and target audiences.

OBJECTIVE C.1 Offer a welcoming and inclusive environment for all types of clientele (families, young people, seniors, persons with reduced mobility).

OBJECTIVE C.2 Implement measures adapted to actual demographic needs.

D) PRESERVE AND SHARE THE COLLECTIVE HERITAGE

The Stewart Museum, through its mission, contributes to the protection and enhancement of our collective heritage.

OBJECTIVE D.1 Assure the preservation of the Museum's collections and records.

OBJECTIVE D.2 Actively work to share knowledge about the Museum's collections, practices and activities.

OBJECTIVE D.3 Collaborate with Museum partners to advance ideas and practices.

E) PROMOTE SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

The Stewart Museum introduces measures to promote citizen involvement based on values of mutual assistance, solidarity, democracy and fairness.

OBJECTIVE E.1 Develop the role of the Museum as a place to meet and share ideas on the social and cultural issues associated with its mission.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Senior management and department heads at the Stewart Museum assure the implementation of the sustainable development policy.

Management entrusts the sustainable development committee with the preparation of a three-year action plan and the proper implementation of the policy. The committee raises awareness, provides information and promotes sustainable development within the Museum, assesses the progress of institutional actions, and reports periodically to senior management on the status of the efforts made.

Department heads and their teams apply the policy according to their respective sectors while contributing to the collective efforts undertaken to promote the policy's principles and orientations.

Implementation

Revised policy approved by the McCord Stewart Museum Board of Trustees : December 8, 2014

¹ Based on the nine sustainable development strategic directions established by the Government of Québec.

(http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/developpement/strategie_gouvernementale/strat_gouv_en.pdf)