

An Exhibition and Convention Centre

## Direct Energy Centre at Exhibition Place achieves LEED® Gold Certification

For Immediate Release...Toronto, ON December 1, 2014 – The Canada Green Building Council (CaGBC) on Nov 12, 2014, announced that the Direct Energy Centre at Exhibition Place has been awarded LEED® Gold Certification for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance. The Direct Energy Centre is one of the first convention centres in Canada to receive this distinction by the CaGBC.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is an internationally recognized rating system for evaluating the sustainability of building design, construction and operations. LEED certified buildings incorporate leading-edge features that protect the environment and promote healthy working and living conditions.

As the largest venue situated at Exhibition Place, Direct Energy Centre's achievement is substantial and continues to present the facility and the entire site as an industry leader in environmental and sustainability practices through the GREENSmart Program.

A few of the significant upgrades to reach LEED Gold include:

- A reduction of over 45% in water use from washroom fixtures.
- Increased controllable lighting systems that reduce lighting energy consumption
- An average of 72% of show waste being diverted from landfill
- Participation in the Toronto Smart Commute program which demonstrated a 52% reduction in conventional commuting trips

"It is a significant achievement to receive this prestigious certification, I wish to congratulate and thank all Exhibition Place staff for their hard work and consistent efforts on this project" says Councillor Mark Grimes, Chair of the Board of Governors of Exhibition Place, "Having also been recently awarded 3RCertified Platinum Level from the Recycling Council of Ontario, Exhibition Place is once again proving itself to be a phenomenal leader in sustainability, energy reduction and waste management."

LEED Gold for Direct Energy Centre follows on from the LEED Silver certification of the Allstream Conference Centre awarded in 2012.

## **About Exhibition Place**

Exhibition Place is Canada's largest entertainment venue, attracting over 5.3 million visitors a year. The 192-acre site is an integral component of Toronto and Ontario's economy, particularly with respect to conventions, sport, festivals, recreation, culture and tourism. During the summer of 2015, Exhibition Place will become CIBC Pan Am Park, and will play host to up to 13 sports during the TORONTO 2015 Pan Am/Parapan Games. Since 2004, Exhibition Place has



undertaken an environmental stewardship initiative, entitled GREENSmart; which includes the promotion of sustainable development, environmental initiatives and leading edge green technologies and practices across the site. <a href="www.explace.on.ca">www.explace.on.ca</a>.
<a href="www.toronto2015.org/venue/pan-am-park">www.toronto2015.org/venue/pan-am-park</a>

## About Canada Green Building Council

The Canada Green Building Council is a not-for-profit, national organization that has been working since 2002 to advance green building and sustainable community development practices in Canada. CaGBC have successfully advocated for green building policies with all levels of governments and the private sector across Canada.

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