

BDC resources to support SME sustainability performance and disclosure readiness

Follow-up to discussion with the North Saskatoon Business Association (NSBA) | September 2026

BDC offers practical tools, training and advisory services to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) improve sustainability performance and respond to growing requests for environmental, social and governance (ESG) information. **Disclosure is most credible when it is grounded in meaningful strategy, governance, measurement and action.** Accordingly, the resources below support both stronger business and sustainability outcomes and the systems, data and capabilities needed for reporting and disclosure.

How the resources work together

They help SMEs understand expectations, assess their current state, improve practices and performance, measure results, and communicate relevant information to customers, supply-chain partners, investors, lenders and procurement organisations.

Online tools, guides and training

Green Desk (Guichet Vert)

BDC's sustainability "ask-an-expert" service.

How it supports disclosure readiness Capable of providing guidance on emissions measurement, ESG reporting, customer sustainability questionnaires, supply-chain requirements, transition planning, green buildings, funding opportunities and sustainability strategy, as needed.

Contact: sustainable@bdc.ca

ESG Disclosures: A Guide for Canadian Entrepreneurs

A practical guide for SMEs on understanding ESG disclosures, communicating environmental, social and governance initiatives, responding to client requests and getting started.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Helps SMEs understand what ESG information stakeholders may request and how to communicate relevant initiatives and performance in a clear, practical way.

[Access the resource](#)

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Calculator Toolkit

A free Excel-based toolkit that helps businesses estimate their carbon footprint, view annual emissions by source and scope, and identify opportunities to reduce emissions.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Supports the collection and organisation of GHG emissions data, a common element of climate-related information requests and reporting.

[Access the resource](#)

Climate Action Centre

BDC's central hub for free climate-related tools, practical guidance and actions to help businesses reduce their carbon footprint and turn climate action into business opportunities.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Helps SMEs understand climate-related topics, take action and build the underlying practices and evidence needed to communicate progress credibly.

[Access the resource](#)

ESG and DEI Reporting Templates for Canadian GP and their Portfolio Companies

Standardised templates that help Canadian venture capital and mid-market private equity general partners track ESG and diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) metrics at the firm, fund and portfolio-company levels.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Promotes more consistent data collection and reporting across investment portfolios and helps general partners prepare for evolving investor and reporting expectations.

[Access the resource](#)

DEI Toolkit

Free resources that help SMEs understand DEI principles and put them into practice, including reporting templates, policy templates, an inclusive writing guide and an interview guide.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Helps businesses strengthen the policies and practices that underpin the social dimension of ESG and provides tools for tracking relevant indicators.

[Access the resource](#)

Sustainability Fundamentals for Your Business eLearning

Self-paced training that helps entrepreneurs understand sustainability fundamentals and apply them to market expectations, employee engagement, operational efficiency, environmental impact, and brand and reputation.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Builds the sustainability literacy SMEs need to identify relevant impacts, improve performance and respond to sustainability-related information requests.

[Access the resource](#)

B Impact Assessment

A free online assessment that helps businesses measure and manage their economic, social and environmental impacts, understand current efforts and identify priorities for improvement.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Provides a structured assessment of sustainability practices and supports improvement planning, helping SMEs organise information that may later inform reporting.

[Access the resource](#)

Building Retrofit Savings Calculator

A free calculator that estimates long-term energy-cost savings, payback periods and GHG emissions reductions associated with building retrofits.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Helps SMEs quantify expected energy, emissions and financial outcomes that can support decision-making and, once achieved, sustainability reporting.

[Access the resource](#)

Environmental Maturity Assessment for Manufacturers

A short assessment that helps manufacturers evaluate current environmental practices and identify next steps in their environmental journey.

How it supports disclosure readiness: Helps businesses identify strengths, gaps and priority actions before communicating externally about environmental performance.

[Access the resource](#)

Advisory services

Sustainability advisory solutions

BDC helps SMEs integrate responsible practices into their business models to strengthen resilience, efficiency, competitiveness and profitability. **By improving strategy, governance, measurement and operational performance, these services help businesses create the substance and evidence needed for credible sustainability-related reporting and disclosure.**

- Measure GHG emissions, assess climate-related risks, and identify actions that support business resilience and growth.
 - Integrate environmental and social considerations into business strategy, governance and management practices.
 - Respond to sustainability-related information and disclosure requests from major customers, investors, lenders and procurement organisations.
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- Implement recognised standards and certifications, including ISO 14001, ISO 14064, ISO 14067 and ISO 50001.
 - Evaluate and adopt green building solutions, including energy audits, retrofits and green building certification.
 - Improve operational efficiency by reducing energy use, emissions, water use, waste and resource consumption.

[Learn more about BDC sustainability advisory services](#)