

## **Whistler Centre for Sustainability FAQ Sheet**

*Q: What is the Whistler Centre for Sustainability and what is its mandate?*

A: The Whistler Centre for Sustainability (the Centre) is a non-profit organization with a mission ‘to lead communities and tourism toward a sustainable future.’ The mandate is to continue to lead Whistler’s sustainability initiatives, to share learnings from Whistler with other communities, and to bring learning from other communities back to Whistler.

*Q: There are many enterprising non-profit organizations and consulting agencies out there doing work in sustainability. What makes the Centre unique?*

A: As a non-profit organization, our sole purpose is to support communities in furthering their economic, social, and environmental goals in the most efficient and effective way possible. The Centre has unique experience and expertise through working with communities around BC and the ongoing development of Whistler2020, Whistler’s community sustainability plan and process, all the way to implementation and annual monitoring and reporting of the community’s sustainability performance. The Centre also provides training and capacity building with municipal staff on governance and embedding sustainability into all decision-making processes within a municipality.

*Q: Where does the Centre work and what does the Centre do?*

A: The Centre works within Whistler to continue to develop and manage Whistler2020, and to support local businesses and organizations with implementation. Outside of Whistler, the Centre provides assistance to other local governments and organizations around BC and Canada to develop and implement integrated community sustainability plans, Official Community Plans, community energy baselines and carbon neutral plans. The Centre is committed to and has expertise in innovative community engagement processes. The Centre also leads Climate Smart Workshops and community-based initiatives, such as iShift Business, Citizen, and Fleets.

*Q: Is the Centre part of the Resort Municipality of Whistler?*

A: The Centre was created as an independent, non-profit organization by the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) and members of the community to promote sustainability within Whistler and in other communities. The Centre is a non-profit organization led by an executive director and team of four, and governed by a board of directors.

*Q: Where does the Centre receive its funding?*

A: The Centre is a mission-based non-profit organization and has established a consulting practice providing fee-for-service assistance to local governments. It also receives project-specific grant funding.