

Green Health Leaders' Initiative: Roundtable Discussion Summaries from the Inaugural Meeting

Legend:

- (Number) indicates number of times mentioned
- Symbol indicates concern from sector  Health Care  Not-for-profit  Industry

Question 1: Leading self

*“As a leader, **what do I need to know more of** to act on this agenda? How can I contribute to changes that improve environmental stewardship and sustainability?”*

Knowing:

- **Priority areas, best practices in the sector, and who is championing them (9)**  
- **What truly makes an impact? (5)**   
- What funding opportunities are available and resources to find it (4)   
- Our impact on the environment and how that is linked to population health (4)  
- Costs and risks associated with action/inaction (3)  
- What kind of targets are achievable and how to measure success (3)  
- How to discover and evaluate new technology (2) 
- How my organization's results compare to others (1) 
- How to engage federal, provincial, and municipal governments (1) 
- The barriers that are preventing hospitals from undertaking green initiatives (1) 

Sharing:

- **The importance of green health care with CEOs, VPs, and staff to promote awareness (4)**  
- **Programs and experience with other health care facilities to leverage and encourage each other (3)** 
- Successes and data, so we can lead by example and demonstrate value/benefits (2)  
- Belief in the capacity for change (1) 

Question 2: Coalitions

“How can CCGHC, CCHL and HealthCareCAN, SSE, industry partners, government, and other institutions work together to support green health care in Canada? What are the **enabling factors** and **what are the barriers?**”

Enabling Factors:

- Information sharing (7)  
- Education (3)  
- Mandates and policies (5)  
- Emerging green tech (1) 
- Collaboration (6)  
- Credible champions (3) 
- Data availability (2) 
- Incentives associated with target achievement (2) 
- Defining targets (3)  
- Unified vision (2) 
- Case studies from abroad (1) 

Barriers:

- Lack of resources (4)  
- Lack of government support (3)  
- Lack of knowledge and understanding from senior leaders (2) 
- Age of buildings (1) 
- Competing priorities (4)  
- Lack of long-term commitment (2) 
- Skeptics (1) 
- Misunderstanding of carbon pricing impacts (1) 
- Capital costs (4) 

Question 3: Vision 2030

“What is needed to enable our **health system to transform** to a more sustainable future – where are the priority areas of emphasis now that we can build upon in future?”

- Revise priorities, targets, and strategies with a holistic view (11)  
- Securing financial support for green initiatives, e.g. Green Revolving Funds (6)  
- Mandatory requirements and reporting (4) 
- Utilize green tech (4)  
- Investment in alternative energy and sustainable design (4)  
- Obtaining guidance from government (4)  
- Benchmarking (2)  
- Awards programs for performance (2) 
- Support for food-related carbon reduction work (2) 
- Link population health and health outcomes to environmental sustainability (2)  
- Dissemination of best practices (2) 
- Fewer single-use items (2) 
- Accreditation requirement (ROP) for all health care facilities (1) 
- A priority decision matrix that allows for separation of competing priorities (1) 
- Restructure health care system to a population health and community base approach (1) 
- Make sustainability relative to the overall care of the patient (1) 
- Implementing multi-use electronic devices to minimize e-waste (1) 