Sustainability Reporting: Do's and Don'ts



CANADA LANDS COMPANY Société immobilière du Canada

Innovation • Value • Legacy Innovation • Valeur • Héritage



May 2003



About Canada Lands Company

- Non-agent commercial Crown corporation
- Reactivated in 1995
- Self-financing
- Reports to Parliament through the Minister of Transport, who is aided by the Secretary of State for selected Crown corporations



Vision Statement

Canada Lands Company CLC Limited (CLC) builds innovative property solutions to create financial value and community legacies for all Canadians

Innovation • Value • Legacy





CLC's Value Creation to Date

The company's activities to date, along with estimates for sold properties, will lead to:

- \$266 million distributed to the government
- \$3.3 billion in development expenditures
- 26,400 person years of construction employment
- \$35.7 million in environmental remediation
- 14,000 new or refurbished housing units



What is Sustainability Reporting?

Ensuring accountability for a company's activities, with respect to the well-being of future generations.



Why Undertake Sustainability Reporting?

- Enhance profits and good-will
- Show leadership and earn respect
- Avoid costly mistakes by listening to and incorporating community perspectives



What is Required for Effective Sustainability Reporting?

- Focused attention on stakeholders
- Scorecard link to corporate vision
- Systematic approach to managing by performance objectives
- Performance accountability and executive sponsorship
- Use of leading and lagging indicators
- Stakeholder input to define corporate objectives
- Commitment to learning and continuous improvement



How is Effective Sustainability Reporting Carried Out?

- By assessing corporate governance practices regularly
- By challenging the status quo
- By developing an action plan to make adjustments in the spirit of continuous improvement
- By communicating regularly with stakeholders
- By ensuring transparency



Action Plans Should Include:

- A process for annual strategic planning
- An identification of core competencies and centres of excellence
- Opportunities and risks
- Development of a balanced scorecard
- Development of a performance-based management system
- Development of a board assessment process



CLC's Balanced Scorecard

- Adopted in 2001-2002 fiscal year
- Tool to guide strategy implementation
- Build, assess and monitor corporate and societal value creation
- Improve internal financial and qualitative measures and performance



CLC's Balanced Scorecard Enables the Company to:

- Develop relevant, meaningful indicators
- Diagnose and evaluate performance
- Move from measurement to management
- Pinpoint and focus performance improvement efforts
- Optimize value-added from resource allocation
- Align operational activities with strategic priorities



CLC's Key Performance Areas

- Shareholder and board of directors
- Business and financial outcomes
- Community and legacy initiatives
- Employees and work environment
- Municipal and provincial interests



CLC's Key Performance Areas







CLC's Balanced Scorecard:

- Is developed annually through a cyclical strategic planning process including a joint board – management planning process
- Establishes corporate goals and objectives for the five year plan period which translate into corporate then individual goals for the coming year



Monitoring and Managing Performance

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- Corporate goals become the foundation for the President and CEO's performance goals
- These goals cascade down through the organization
- All employees have performance goals that relate back to the corporation's overall strategic objectives



CLC Environmentally Sustainable Objectives Achieved - Moncton

- 300 acres of vacant land at centre of City
- Environmental brownfield
- Use risk based corrective action that protects environment and public
- Create community required land use open green space
- City of Moncton multi-purpose recreational complex – 16 minor sport playing fields and 4 indoor ice surfaces



CLC Sustainable Development



Before

After





CLC Environmentally Sustainable Objectives Achieved - Calgary

- Former CFB Calgary military permanent married quarters
- Create affordable mixed-residential neighbourhood within 10 minutes of the downtown
- Evaluate existing housing stock
- Develop reuse plan that fits with the master plan
- Refurbish housing stock to meet current codes and development guidelines



CLC Sustainable Development



Before

After





Typical Areas for Improvement

- More transparency of performance accountability and executive sponsorship
- More linking of objectives and indicators to value-creation
- Clearer demarcation of targets and indicators
- Clearer reporting on link between scorecard and employee objectives



Sustainability Reporting Don'ts:

- Allow poor governance practices to perpetuate
- Lose public trust through lack of transparency
- Be afraid to set corporate performance benchmarks
- Believe that non-financial performance doesn't have an effect on the financial health of a company
- Implement change just for the sake of change - act only to improve business outcomes





Future Trends in Corporate Accountability and Reporting

- Address stakeholder trust deficit
- Track non-financial value creation
- Increased shareholder activism
- Expand scope of reporting
- More standardization and independent assurance / verification of reports
- Promotion of sustainable practices among supply chains
- Report to achieve continuous improvement
- Walk the CSR talk



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