

Our Commitment

At NEI Investments we believe sustainability touches on every aspect of our work - and that we should integrate the concept of sustainability across everything we do. This is the basis for our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach.

We express our commitment to sustainability in the following ways:

1. We pursue the highest ethical standards in the ways we do business.
2. We demonstrate our leadership in responsible investing:
 - Providing Canadians with industry-leading responsible investment choices through our Ethical Funds family;
 - Practicing active ownership;
 - Promoting the concept of sustainability within the investment industry through our emerging issues research, our public policy advocacy, and our participation in responsible investment coalitions.
3. We minimize the environmental and social footprint of our operations and supply chain.
4. We strive to be an employer of choice.
5. We identify and engage with our stakeholders.
6. We contribute to the community:
 - Providing corporate-level support for initiatives that create positive environmental, social and corporate governance change.
 - Encouraging our employees' giving and volunteerism at the local level.

Scope of Our CSR Policy

Our CSR Policy applies to all NEI Investments employees, and to our office locations in Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal.

We will communicate our CSR Policy to all who work for/on behalf of NEI Investments.

Governance of Our CSR Program

Our CEO oversees our CSR program.

We will dedicate adequate staff and resources to carrying out and reporting on our CSR initiatives.

We will involve all employees in the CSR program, empower them to take action, and ensure they can fulfill their responsibilities through awareness-raising, information and training.

We will establish and maintain a documented CSR management system. We will set objectives and targets, report on performance regularly, and conduct management reviews.

Our CSR Priorities

We will comply with all relevant environmental, social and corporate governance regulations.

When we are strategizing and planning our CSR initiatives, we will give priority to:

- Actions that reflect the environmental, social and governance themes of our ESG Investing Program.
- Actions that allow us to enhance our performance in the areas of our most significant environmental and social impacts. As a financial services company, this means that at an operational level we will give particular attention to managing our greenhouse gas emissions from travel and energy use, to managing our paper use, and to purchasing policy.
- Actions that respect the reduce-reuse-recycle hierarchy. Where possible we will avoid negative environmental and social impacts, rather than having to compensate for them.
- Actions that allow us to save money and increase efficiency, while making a positive difference.
- Actions that have been identified as important by our stakeholders.

We will consider the positive and negative environmental and social impacts of new company initiatives at the planning stage.

Continuous Improvement

We strive for continuous improvement in areas that are under our direct control. Where we do not exercise direct control (with suppliers, contractors, consultants, and building management/co-occupants) we will make best efforts to influence sustainability performance.

Transparency

From 2010 onwards we will publish an annual CSR report based on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) standards, and begin to disclose our CSR targets.