



Environmental Programs

Sustainable buildings

In keeping with our commitment to continuous improvement—and our goal of remaining an industry leader in sustainable practices, Bell has developed an integrated, sustainable real estate strategy that addresses all building activities with a potential impact on the environment.

Part of the strategy, which goes beyond compliance with regulatory standards, is that the BOMA BEST (Building Owners and Managers Association Building Environmental Standards) and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) building certifications are central to the way we ensure all environmental impacts are taken into account. Bell actively works to obtain environmental assessments and certifications for buildings. We have BOMA BEST certifications for 45 of the buildings we occupy: 17 in Québec, 22 in Ontario, 3 in British Columbia, 2 in Alberta and 1 in the Northwest Territories. Of these, 11 have achieved the prestigious BOMA BEST Gold or Platinum certification level, 1 was awarded the BOMA Earth Award and 1 obtained the BOMA 360 certification for commercial properties that demonstrate best practices in all major areas of building operations and management including building operations and management; life safety/security/risk Management; training and education; energy; environmental/sustainability; and tenant relations and community involvement.

Bell can count 5 LEED certifications: 1 LEED-NC Certified (Montréal), 1 LEED-NC Silver (Mississauga), 2 LEED-EB GOLD (Toronto), and 1 LEED-NC GOLD for our data centre in the Gatineau area. The Montréal Nuns' Island Campus is the largest office LEED building for new construction in Québec. Our LEED-certified data centre in the Gatineau area is designed to be in the top 2% of data centres in North America with the most effective use of power, using green hydro power on a grid separate from that used by most National Capital Region consumers. It also complies with the strictest security standards, including advanced biometric access controls. Bell intends to expand the Gatineau data centre while maintaining its LEED-NC Gold certification. The expansion will include LED lighting with time- and motion-based controls, and rainwater recovery.

Our data centre in Markham, Ontario uses power from a local district energy utility. The building produces emergency power and cold water on a massive, highly efficient scale, augmented by a solar array on the roof of the facility. It also repurposes the cold water used to cool equipment in the centre by returning the now warm water to the community, where it is used to heat nearby schools and community centres.

In total, 18,000 employees work in BOMA BEST or LEED buildings, representing 60% of Bell team members located in office buildings, switching centres and work centres. Overall, 9.5 million square feet of Bell's occupied space is certified, representing 74% of all building space owned or leased by Bell. This is equivalent to more than 2,000 NBA basketball courts. Put another way, every work day, we could almost fill every seat at the Air Canada Centre with employees working in eco-friendly workplaces.

Our target over the years is to collaborate with landlords and facility managers to renew certifications, and to certify more of the buildings we own or lease. Moreover, we aim to closely collaborate with current and future landlords to enhance Bell's green lease strategy.