

Circular Innovation Council

Key Milestones and Events

2020 - 2025

Celebrate these amazing five years with us and discover some of our key milestones and events.



CircularInnovation.ca



2020 & 2021

2020

JUNE

Rebranded from Recycling Council of Ontario to Circular Innovation Council

NOV

World Circular Economy Forum official side event, Circular Procurement Virtual Series

2021

APR

CircularProcurement.ca launches as a centre of excellence and resource hub

APR

Launched the first sustainability plan with Ontario's film & TV industry

NOV

IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot launches in Guelph Wellington, Ontario



2022

JUNE

IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot selected as a Finalist in AAFC's Food Waste Reduction Challenge

AUG

Launched the Share Reuse Repair Hub in York Region

OCT

Expanded CIC's national public awareness campaign, Circular Economy Month into a month-long program instead of a single Waste Reduction Week

OCT

IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot secures international recognition, special mention from the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact's Global Forum

NOV

CIC Authored Landscape Review of Repairability in Canada Report launched



2023

JUNE

The first Canadian Circular Economy Summit (CCES) 2023 held in Toronto

JULY

On FCM Webinar series, speaking to net zero procurement "Net-Zero Circularity: Procurement; Transform procurement practices for a net-zero circular economy"

JULY

Secured funding from Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Green Municipal Fund in collaboration with City of Guelph and Dillon consulting for expansion of IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot in Guelph-Wellington, Ontario.

AUG

Booth at the Be a Good Sort: Community Waste Diversion Event in Guelph, ON for our IC&I Food Waste Diversion program

OCT

New Circular Economy Month Website launch

OCT

CCES released the Circular Economy Action Plan for Canada

NOV

Jo-Anne featured on the Science360 podcast discussing the circular economy

DEC

Jo-Anne invited to speak on soil health in Canada at the Standing Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, discussing our IC&I food waste program



2024

JAN

Webinar with CSA Group, Making the circular economy the standard: How standards can help further circularity in the built environment, plastics, agriculture and agri-food

JAN

Developed "Circular Procurement: Strategies for Circular Criteria" resource with support from FCM's Green Municipal Fund

MAR

Procure4Circular Outcomes public procurement network officially launches

MAR

Share Reuse Repair Hub expands to Peel Region

APR

Circular Opportunity Innovation Launchpad (COIL) joins CIC

APR

Collaboration: Opportunities for Accelerating Food Waste Diversion in Canada's IC&I Sector, Food waste webinar

APR

Circular Innovation Council, Jo-Anne St. Godard invited to speak on Plastic Action Zone panel with the Environment and Climate Change (ECCC) Minister, run by ECCC as part of the INC-4 discussions in Ottawa

APR

Circular Innovation Council led the "Scaling Reuse through an Innovation Circular Service Model – A Canadian Case Study" panel at the Plastic Action Zone event



2024

APR

Circular Innovation Council ran a Reuse Showcase, showcasing our Reuse Pilot and other reusable innovators at the Plastic Action Zone event

APR

Maggie Bain invited to speak at Municipal Waste Association's Organics Committee Meeting on our IC&I Food Waste Diversion program

MAY

Circular procurement discussion with the Minister of Small Business, and MaRS Discovery District

MAY

Booth at the Great Glebe Garage Sale in Ottawa, showcasing our Reuse program

JUNE

IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot program expansion to Alberta in the Town of Westlock and Strathcona County with funding from Alberta Ecotrust Foundation

JULY

Circular Innovation Council won the 2024 Community Builders' Award in Guelph, ON for our IC&I Food Waste Diversion Program

AUG

Jo-Anne invited to speak at the "Setting an Ambitious Path towards a Net-Zero Future" Workshop in Taipei, Taiwan, as part of the Global Affairs Canada Delegation

SEPT

Maggie Bain invited to speak as panelist at Ontario Food Collaborative's "How Businesses Are Taking a Bite Out of Food Waste" webinar about our IC&I Food Waste Diversion program



2024

OCT

Reuse Ottawa Pilot launched

OCT

Webinar with CSA Group, "Driving a Circular Economy for Plastics: Introducing Canada's New Plastics Recycling Standard"

OCT

Circular Innovation Council had a booth at the Grocery Innovations Canada Tradeshow

NOV

Official 3-year anniversary of launching our IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot programs. We'd diverted ~500 tonnes of organic waste at this point.

NOV

Jo-Anne spoke at the Waste & Recycling Expo Canada on the keynote panel "From Challenges to Change, Innovative Paths Forward Shaping the Future of Waste Management Today"



2025

JAN

Following CIC's 6-month IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot in Alberta, Strathcona County adopts the IC&I Food Waste Diversion program as a longer-term program in their community.

MAR

CIC scales Guelph-Wellington IC&I Food Waste pilot to the broader Waterloo region in ON, and hands off operations to our social enterprise partner, Sustainable Waterloo Region (SWR), as a permanent regional program for the IC&I communities in Guelph, Wellington County, and Region of Waterloo

APR

Canadian Circular Economy Summit (CCES) Montreal

APR

First Circular Economy Magazine released

MAY

Won the "Sustainability Breakthrough" award at Sustainable Waterloo Region's Evening of Recognition for our IC&I Food Waste Diversion Program

MAY

CIC partners with the City of Regina to launch IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot for Regina's businesses and multi-family properties

JUNE

Caitlin Perry was invited to speak at the Municipal Waste Association's Spring Workshop about our Share Reuse Repair Hub Program

JUNE

CIC partners with the City of Edmonton to launch IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot for Edmonton's businesses and institutions



2025

JUNE

Shortlisted as a finalist in Alberta Emerald Foundation's '2025 Emerald Awards of Environmental Excellence' for our IC&I Food Waste Diversion Pilot in Strathcona County

JUNE

Jo-Anne spoke on a Reuse Panel at Ocean Plastics Leadership Network (OPLN)

JULY

Jo-Anne invited to #CEC32: 32nd Annual Council Session and JPAC Public Forum in Mexico City

SEPT

CIC hosts a webinar on research in partnership with ECCC, on Canada's policy landscape and 'What We Heard' from municipal and IC&I stakeholders across Canada on organics diversion in the IC&I sector.

SEPT

Circular Innovation Council attended the Circular & Fair ICT (CFIT) Pact annual meetings at the UN Operations headquarters in Copenhagen

OCT

Circular Economy Month releases a podcast episode with CSA Group, titled "Linking it Together: Standards and the Future of Reuse"

NOV

Circular Innovation Council hosts an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) webinar, titled "Shared Responsibility, Shared Systems: How EPR Frameworks Are Accelerating Reuse in Packaging", featuring international experts