



A local network of business and organizations
Leading the way in sustainability

2017
ANNUAL
REPORT
May 31, 2018



York Region Business

Taking Action on Climate Change



A MESSAGE FROM CLIMATEWISE

We are proud to present the 2017 annual report for ClimateWise Business Network. The report highlights the sustainability achievements of ClimateWise members over the past year and is released on the occasion of the second annual ClimateWise Sustainability Awards.

ClimateWise membership tripled in 2017 and we are excited by the diversity of member organizations demonstrating leadership through their sustainability initiatives. Business sectors represented include retail, manufacturing, technology, finance, education, farm operations, a community centre, faith based organizations, a local utility, a public company and municipal governments.

Together, with our business members, their employees, and our many delivery partners, ClimateWise builds the business case for sustainability and works to shift how business resource users operate by making sustainability the norm.

ClimateWise Leadership Team



Brent Kopperson
Founder and
Executive Director,
Windfall Ecology
Centre



Jen Atkinson
Managing Director,
Windfall Ecology Centre



Harry French
Program Manager,
ClimateWise
Business Network



Kirthan Sathananthan
Marketing and Member
Services Coordinator,
ClimateWise
Business Network



Jacqueline Tung
Events and Communications
Coordinator,
ClimateWise
Business Network



ClimateWise is a network of businesses and organizations in York Region Ontario
We are taking action on climate change with verifiable emission reductions

WHY GO SUSTANABLE ?

↓ Lower your carbon emissions ↓ Reduce waste and water usage

- ✓ See real savings
- ✓ Increase profitability
- ✓ Enhance your brand

But we can't manage what we don't measure

Our members receive the tools, support and expertise required to measure, track, and manage their emissions, waste, and water usage... and to meet government regulated or supply-chain mandated, reporting obligations.

3 Reduction Frameworks

work with one, two, or all three



WATER



EMISSIONS



WASTE

Experts in benchmarking tools for measuring and tracking, energy, waste and water usage

including Natural Resources Canada's:

ENERGY STAR®
Portfolio Manager™

ClimateWise Business Network is one of seven Green Economy Hubs across Ontario representing:

OVER **240** PARTICIPATING BUSINESSES and ORGANIZATIONS



As of December 31, 2017, businesses in Green Economy Hubs have collectively:

REDUCED

44,257
tonnes of CO2e

✓ The equivalent of taking 9,477 cars off the road for a year

Join ClimateWise: Call 905.727.0491

Member Services

One on One Coaching and Support

We offer customized services and tools to help businesses every step of the way to realize the economic and sustained benefits of GHG reductions.

Learning and Networking Workshops

ClimateWise offers the opportunity to learn about how the changing environment will impact your organization.

Premium Resources and Tools

Tools and resources are offered to help quantify and report your emissions reduction goals and progress and execute an action plan to meet your objectives.

Access a Network of Industry Leaders and Proven Solutions

Through Sustainability CoLab, ClimateWise connects businesses of all industry types with similar organizations across Ontario.

Member Benefits

Bottom-line Cost Savings

Migrating to a sustainable business model is an opportunity for innovation, cost savings and increased profitability.

Stay on Top of Available Incentives

More incentives and regulatory opportunities will be available to help your firm stay competitive.

Attracting and Retaining Top-tier Employees

Research suggests that employees are more inclined to work and stay at a firm with a good reputation with respect to environmental sustainability.

Engaging Employees

Build a culture of employee collaboration and enjoy the benefits of enhanced productivity.

Being Part of a Movement

Consumers and investors turn towards organizations that show a commitment to achieving emission reductions.



When we were looking for a community partner for an innovative building owner and operator energy program, we knew the team at ClimateWise would be up for the challenge based on their continued support with Markham's Municipal Energy Plan. They took on the challenge and delivered, we look forward to future collaborations.

Graham Seaman, City of Markham,
Director, Sustainability & Asset Management



Key benefits are access to resources such as the Verisae accounting tool, and also ClimateWise staff resources. ClimateWise representatives feel like additional team members, as the sustainability team at the workplace is generally only one or two people. Great to have additional guidance and confidence in that guidance.

Caroline Karvonen, Alectra Utilities,
Manager, Sustainability Strategic Growth & Special Projects

A year of achievements...

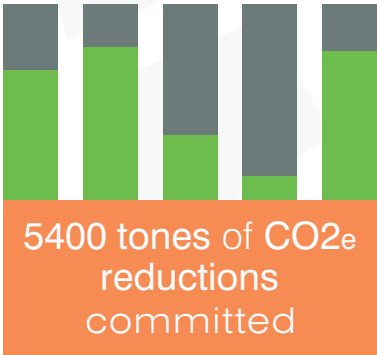
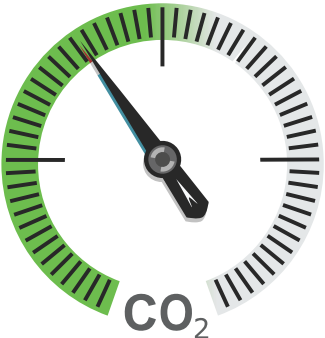
BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

GROWING THE NETWORK



More Than Tripled Our Membership

11 Members with framework inventories completed and baselines set



NEW
Waste & Water Reduction frameworks added

2 new sponsors



Brent Kopperson, Executive Director of Windfall Ecology Centre and Lucy Cummings, Executive Director of Faith and the Common Good sign partnership agreement



In 2017, ClimateWise launched a partnership with Faith & the Common Good, an interfaith charitable network inspiring religious congregations and spiritual groups to take action in creating sustainable communities.

Through the Faith Building Energy Benchmarking Initiative, ClimateWise is working with York Region faith-based community partners to reduce their building energy use.



ClimateWise learning events included Energy Efficiency and Incentives in Buildings, Driving to Sustainability, and Smart Green Program for Manufacturers



Keynote speaker David Miller, former Mayor of Toronto and President/CEO of WWF-Canada, at the 2017 York Region Sustainability Awards



When evaluating how our business could be a friendlier contributor for a healthier planet, ClimateWise has served as a great resource. They have helped us in planning achievable objectives for reducing our ecological footprint.

Susan Chan, Man Brothers



A discussion forms at the ClimateWise Reporting of Energy Use and Water Consumption Regulation seminar in February 2018



York Region Sustainability Awards

2017



Surrounded by the latest EV's at the Sustainability Awards

May 31, 2017

Celebrating sustainability achievement in York Region

ClimateWise held the first annual **York Region Sustainability Awards** with over 100 sustainability champions attending this inaugural event. Keynote speaker David Miller, former Mayor of Toronto and President/CEO of WWF-Canada, presented the business case for sustainability in the GTA.

Held at the **Plug 'N Drive Electric Vehicle Discovery Centre** in North York, early arrivals were able to test drive some of the newest EV's — such as the fully electric BMW i3, Ford Focus, Chevrolet Bolt, Nissan Leaf and the Mitsubishi i-MiEV — and get a close-up look at the innovative BMW i8 and Tesla Model S.

ClimateWise Founding Members were recognized for their continued support over the first year, helping create a solid foundation for years to come.



Leaders Sustainability Forum

2017



Leaders Sustainability Forum panel discussion

Nov 30, 2017

How climate change will impact the future of business and the workplace

Over eighty local business leaders came to the historic Aurora Cultural Centre to hear opening remarks by the Honourable **Chris Ballard**, Ontario's Minister of the Environment and Climate Change and Newmarket-Aurora MPP.

The evening featured an in-depth panel discussion focussed on the emerging trends and opportunities for sustainability and how climate change will impact the future of business and the workplace.

Pictured at left, from left to right, are panellists **Karine Rashkovsky** (Brain Power), **Jordann Thirgood** (Mowat Centre), **Simon Guan** (General Motors) **Brent Kopperson** (Windfall Ecology Centre), **Chris Ballard** (Ontario's Minister of the Environment and Climate Change) and Moderator **Mike Morrice** (Green Economy Canada).

York Region

BEEP

Business Energy and Emissions Profile



Over **35,000 businesses** are based in York Region.



595,000 employees work within York Region.

The **largest business sectors** in York Region are **office-based businesses, construction, and retail.**

Total business emissions in York Region:
over **3.86 MT** of CO₂e every year



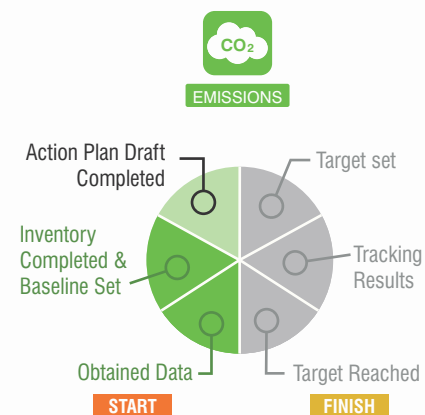
Full details at: www.climatewise.ca/beep



FOUNDING MEMBER

Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's (LSRCA) mission is to work with the community to protect and restore the Lake Simcoe watershed by leading research, policy and action. They work year round with community partners to provide scientific investigations into the health of the watershed, and to establish programs to ensure its protection and restoration. The organization successfully completed a draft of their action plan.



i The Lake Simcoe watershed sweeps across 3,400 square kilometres and 20 municipal borders including the urban areas of Newmarket, Aurora, Whitchurch-Stouffville, Mt. Albert, King City, Georgina, Bradford and East Gwillimbury in addition to the unique agricultural areas of Holland River and the Marsh.

“ With the help of ClimateWise, we have created a solid action plan and together with the whole organization we will put it into action. We are committed to this.

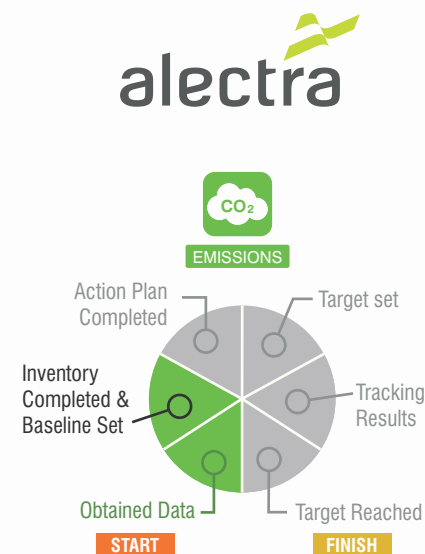
Mike Walters, CAO of the LSRCA

FOUNDING MEMBER

Alectra Utilities

Alectra is a founding member of ClimateWise Business Network through the involvement of one of its four legacy utilities. Alectra is the electricity services provider to approximately one million customers in the Greater Golden Horseshoe area.

The company launched an internal sustainability framework called AlectraCARES. This five pillar approach ensures sustainability is addressed throughout the organization. The “Resource Preservation” pillar addresses the intent to manage facilities and operations through a risk-based approach that mitigates greenhouse gas emissions, minimizes both waste of resources and impacts of the environment.



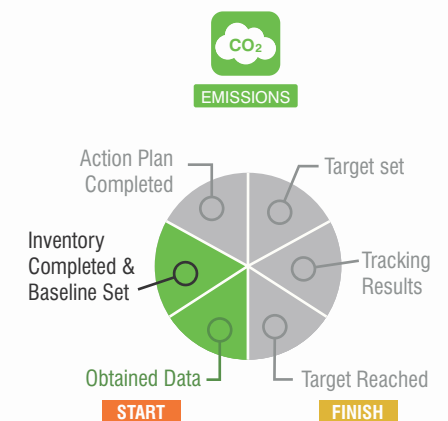
i With the support of the ClimateWise Business Network, Alectra completed a 2016 baseline greenhouse gas inventory of their merged facilities, and conducted a 2017 inventory.

FOUNDING MEMBER

City of Vaughan

The City of Vaughan, with over 330,000 residents, is the 17th largest municipality in the country and continues to be one of the fastest growing municipalities. The City operates 57 municipal buildings and completed energy-reduction retrofit projects at 10 of the largest facilities. For instance, upgrading rink refrigeration controls and replacing arena humidifiers at community centers is saving the City over \$30,000. City staff reported to Council that energy retrofits are saving over 2,000 MWh annually and avoiding over \$250,000 in annual energy costs. The City of Vaughan aims to lead by example as they promote energy efficacy and other sustainability initiatives to businesses and residents.

Saving 2,000 MWh annually and avoiding over \$250,000 in annual energy costs.

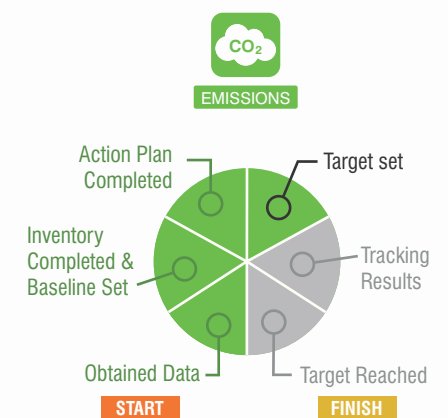


FOUNDING MEMBER

Regional Municipality of York

The Regional Municipality of York (York Region) stretches north from Toronto to Lake Simcoe. With a population of 1.2 million residents, The Regional Municipality of York is one of Canada's largest municipalities and the second largest business centre in Ontario. Ranked as Ontario's fastest growing large municipality, York Region is forecast to reach 1,790,000 residents and 900,000 jobs by 2041. The Region includes nine cities and towns and consists of urban city centres, suburban areas and protected agricultural and rural lands. York Region's economy is diverse including a thriving manufacturing, high-tech and agricultural sector. The organization set an emissions reduction target per capita of 6 per cent by 2021 and 44 per cent by 2041.

i York Region's Plan includes a wide range of Greenhouse Gas reduction projects guided by a Council-endorsed comprehensive Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan.



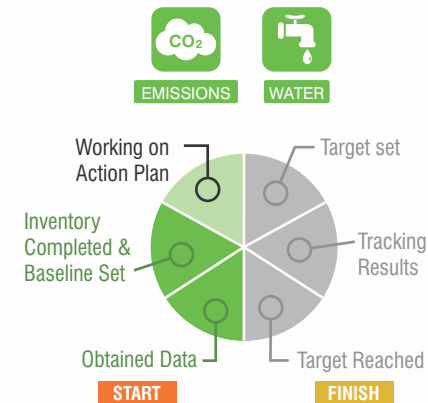
MEMBER

MAN BROTHERS

Office Systems Furniture Installers & Movers

Man Brothers

Man Brothers specializes in corporate moves and office systems furniture installations. Based in Markham they serve Toronto, the GTA and regions across Ontario. The organization has focussed on reducing their energy, natural gas and water usage through leading practices. Man Brothers successfully completed their GHG inventory and are now in the primary stages of creating an action plan.

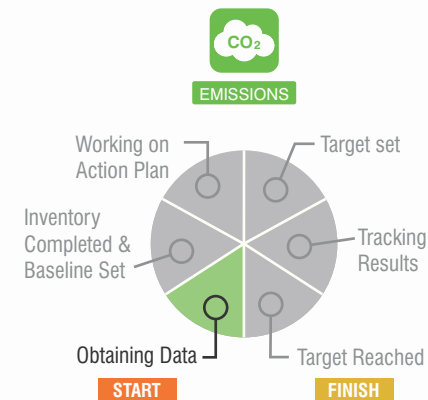


MEMBER

IC Savings



IC Savings is a community credit union that serves more than 14,400 members at seven branches in the Greater Toronto Area, including two in York Region. Currently in the process of setting a baseline and identifying energy reduction opportunities, IC Savings' investment in community aligns with their philosophy of banking with a higher purpose.

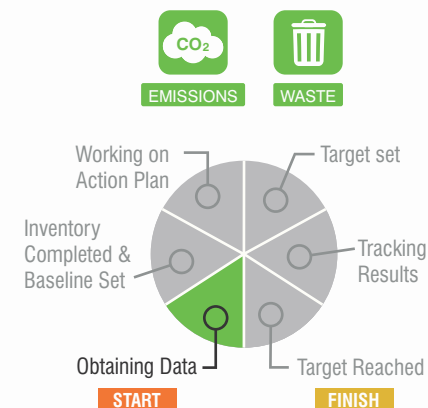


MEMBER

Miele Canada



Miele is an international producer of high-end appliances and commercial equipment. For Miele, sustainability is not only entrenched in the values and traditions of the company, but it is also the foundation for long-term corporate success. Miele Canada is in the process of establishing an emissions and waste baseline.

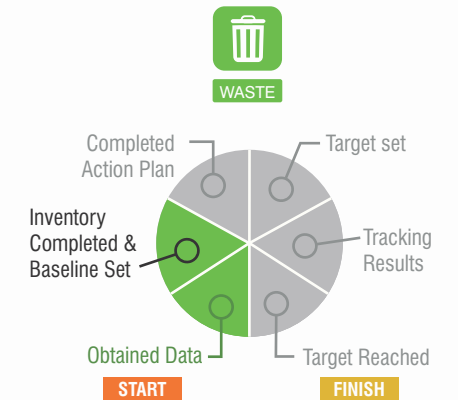


MEMBER



Treefrog Inc.

Treefrog specializes in digital marketing, including web design and development, mobile app services, social media and graphic design. Before joining ClimateWise, Treefrog completed several sustainability projects including moving to low-powered servers, using Smart Commute and installing LED lights and smart thermostats. With the help of ClimateWise, the organization launched a green team, conducted a thorough waste audit and established a waste diversion baseline.



MEMBER



Toromont Cat

Toromont Cat is your Caterpillar dealer in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, P.E.I., Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut. Toromont believes that sound environmental practices are a corporate responsibility and can also yield business and economic advantages.

MEMBER



Brain Power

Brain Power is a leader in after-school enrichment, with environmental sustainability and social justice embedded in its innovative curriculum. Creating an eco-build location with a paperless learning environment, Brain Power is also spearheading efforts to improve waste diversion within the Schwartz/Reisman Lebovic Campus Community Centre. Integrating park clean-ups, tree-planting expeditions, and Earthship construction into its experiential learning, Brain Power encourages students to engage in transformative projects related to the environment and climate change.

MEMBER



Compugen

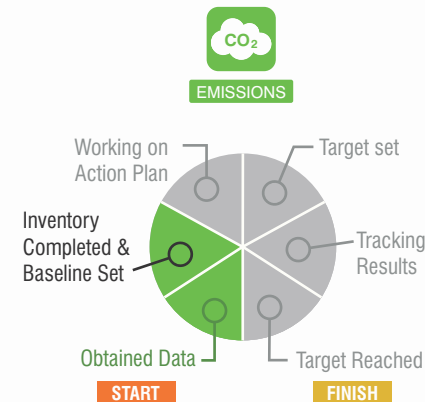
One of Canada's top IT solutions and services providers, Compugen works with mid- to large-sized organizations to help them maximize the business value of their investment in information technology. Compugen's award-winning service quality, unequalled depth and breadth of technical expertise and national footprint have made them the partner of choice for Canadian businesses and government organizations for more than 35 years.

MEMBER



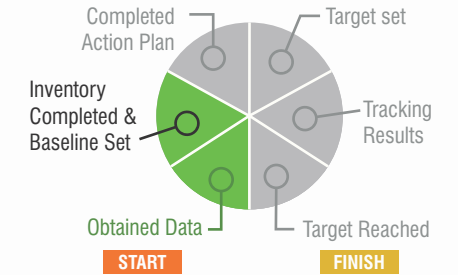
Irvine Generations

Irvine Generations is a family owned business with deep roots in Aurora. For over forty years, the family operated Aurora Cable TV Ltd. Irvine Generations and their tenants (Aurora Food Pantry, Big Brothers Big Sisters of York, Hope House Community Hospice and York Region Food Network) are members of the ClimateWise Business Network. Collectively, the members conducted a walk-through audit tracking energy and water usage. The members completed their GHG inventory.



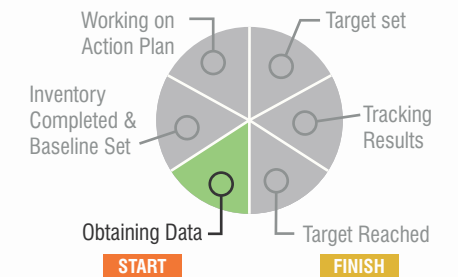
MEMBER

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
Thornhill



MEMBER

Valley View Alliance Church

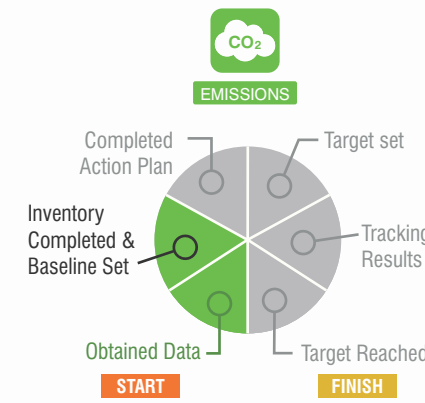


MEMBER

Reesor's Markets

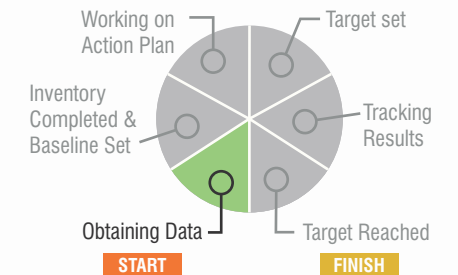


The Reesor family has been providing fresh and local food for the region since 1804. They operate a production kitchen and retail store in Stouffville and a farm/farm gate operation in the City of Markham. Reesor's commitment to environmental stewardship is demonstrated by their support for local food and sustainable packaging. Reesor's Markets is currently in the process of establishing an emissions baseline for their York Region facilities. The organization is also looking into opportunities to reduce waste and water within their operation.



MEMBER

St. Mary's Anglican Church
Richmond Hill



MEMBER

Compugen Finance



Compugen Finance, recently registered as a B-Corporation, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Compugen Inc. and was founded in 2007. Its award-winning Green4Good program, with its innovative CarbonBank option, offers Canadian enterprises an effective way to solve end-of-life IT asset disposition challenges while generating carbon credits and donating cash and new technology to charity.



CASE STUDY



INVESTMENT	PROJECTED FUEL SAVINGS PER YEAR	EMISSION REDUCTIONS PER YEAR
\$100,000	\$53,000	102 tonnes

Idle Reducing Technology

Part of York Region's *Action Plan* was to install idle reducing technology in ambulances and emergency response vehicles. The technology allows the vehicle to maintain the battery charge level required for internal temperature and patient care, while reducing idling time, saving fuel, lowering emissions, and increasing the resale value of the fleet.



2018

York Region SUSTAINABILITY Awards

Sustainability Advocate

This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of an organization in facilitating the advance or support of sustainability activities in York Region.

and the winner is...

Meridian

Innovation

This award recognizes individual project initiatives that directly contribute to measurable GHG reductions or an environmentally focussed product, service or process that demonstrates outstanding innovation and impact.

and the winner is...

The Regional
Municipality of York

Leadership

This award is given to a member who has put in place organizational support activities that will enable the launch of a proactive environmental sustainability program.

and the winner is...

Alectra Utilities

City of Vaughan

Engaged Green Team Recognition

This award recognizes the comprehensive efforts of a member organization to engage employees.

and the winner is...

Treefrog Inc.

Passion into Practice

This award is given to an organization that demonstrates a holistic, integrated approach to embedding sustainability principles throughout their own operations and products or services they provide.

and the winner is...

Brain Power

Faith & the Common Good

This award is given to a faith-community in York Region in recognition of notable efforts to embed environmental sustainability actions within their community.

and the winner is...

Holy Trinity
Anglican Church, Thornhill

The making of the award...



Harry French, Program Manager of ClimateWise Business Network and the ClimateWise team designed a unique trophy using wood from a downed tree (windfall). It was locally milled, dried, and inscribed. The award is reflective of the stewardship of its recipients, demonstrating commitment to sustainable practices within their organizations

York Region's Environmental Champion

Nominated by the York Region community members, the York Region Environmental Champion award is given to an individual within an organization that brings forth new ideas in sustainability.

and the winner is...



The **York Region Sustainability Awards** are an annual event for York Region to celebrate sustainability achievements. Organizations and individuals, from across the region, are recognized for their efforts as we take action on climate change and lead the way to a more sustainable future

Program Sponsors



Community Partners



Evening of Recognition Sponsors

Platinum Sponsor



Silver Sponsor



Gold Sponsor



Bronze Sponsor



Food and Beverages by:



from the team...



Thank you for all your support!

back row (left to right)

Alanna Sheehan, Harry French, Brent Kopperson, Jodi Cain, Jacqueline Tung

front row (left to right)

Jen Atkinson, Kirthan Sathananthan, Gemma Goldstein, Kathleen Ko

climatewise.ca

A MORE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY REALLY IS POSSIBLE



ClimateWise Business Network is one of seven Green Economy Hubs across Ontario supporting networks of businesses to set and achieve sustainability targets. Together, we're demonstrating a more sustainable economy is possible.

greeneconomy.ca

ClimateWise Business Network

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ClimateWise is a program of Windfall Ecology Centre, a non-profit social enterprise inspired by a vision of healthy communities where environmental, economic and social needs achieve balance through social innovation, community partnerships and community action