

Part of that process requires departments to publicly state anticipated environmental impacts when announcing initiatives and to demonstrate that assessments have been properly conducted.

THE CODE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

The Code of Environmental Stewardship, adopted by Cabinet in 1991, sets out environmental objectives to be applied to all aspects of government activities, such as:

- Integrate environmental concerns with financial, safety development and other relevant concerns in decision-making;
- Meet requirements of federal environmental laws and, where appropriate, the provincial and international standards;
- Increase the awareness of the environmental and health benefits and risks of operational decisions and to encourage employee actions;
- Control hazardous substances;
- Ensure that environmental considerations are integrated into government purchasing policies and practices;
- Reduce the use of raw materials, energy, water and other resources; and
- To acquire, manage and dispose of its lands in a manner that is environmentally sound.

THE OFFICE OF THE CO-ORDINATOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND STEWARDSHIP (JEN)

The principal function of the Office is to co-ordinate and provide guidance to Departmental employees, at headquarters and abroad, on how DFAIT can meet, and wherever possible exceed, the requirements of current and emerging laws, regulations, statutes and Cabinet directives regarding the environmental impacts of Departmental policies, programmes, projects and practices. The Office is also responsible for developing, introducing and evaluating policies, procedures and manuals on the incorporation of environmental considerations into Departmental decision-making at all levels, at home and abroad.