



Social Enterprise Certification

Join the growing network of Certified Social Enterprises, businesses that sell goods or services, embed a social, cultural or environmental purpose into the business, and reinvest the majority of profits into their social mission.

Why become Certified?

- Grow your business, expand your impact
- Be listed on the Buy Social Canada Social Enterprise Directory
- Network with our other suppliers and purchasers
- Be a part of the social value marketplace revolution
- Use the Buy Social Canada Certified Social Enterprise Badge

Build your capacity

You will have access to:

- Two hours of consulting
- Access to Buy Social Canada events as a vendor or exhibitor
- Access to discounted rates for workshops
- Access to our forum for certified social enterprises

Join and support the network of social enterprises across Canada

Be part of the growing movement to buy and sell with impact.

Guidelines for certification

A Social Enterprise is a business

- That generates a significant portion of its revenue through the sale of goods or services

Verified with:

- Financial documents

The majority of profits are reinvested into the social, cultural or environmental mission

- With no, or limited, distribution to shareholders and owners Majority is 51% or more.

Verified with:

- Incorporation documents

It embeds a social, cultural or environmental purpose into the business

- A clear social, cultural or environmental purpose that is evident in your operations and marketing.

Verified with:

- Business' mission defined in incorporation documents

Certification takes into account the age and impact model of your social enterprise.

Social enterprises are diverse, and our certification process considers your mission, impact and processes rather than just your corporate status.

We work closely with you to understand your model and how our standards apply.





Certified Social Enterprise: The Raw Carrot



Certification Fee

Certified Social Enterprise: EMBERS

Certification is free for everyone for the first year!

Billing occurs each September, so you may get more than one year free.

After fees are based on your annual business revenue:

Under \$500,000, \$100 per year

Under \$1 million, \$200 per year

Above \$1 million, \$300 per year

Above \$15 million, \$2,500 per year

[Apply now](#)

Other ways to integrate social value

Interested in social procurement, but don't fit the criteria of a social enterprise? Social Purchasing Partnerships could be the option for you to make a difference and connect with social procurement.

[View Social Purchasing Partnerships](#)

“Buy Social Canada is a nationally recognized organization known for its tremendous advocacy and support of all types of social enterprises. It is important for Eva's Print Shop to be recognized as part of the community that Buy Social Canada is helping to bring together and strengthen.”

JONATHAN GAULT
EVA'S PRINT SHOP

Explore

Find a social enterprise near you to connect with

Certified Social Enterprise Directory

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Land Acknowledgement

We respectfully acknowledge that we live, work, and learn on unceded, traditional, and ancestral lands of Indigenous and First Nations peoples. We invite you to consider what efforts we can all take to repair and improve our relations with Indigenous people locally and globally.

Site by Railyard Lab