

POLICY STATEMENT

Fair Trade Vancouver is committed to ensuring that any purchasing decision promotes the development of healthy communities and a healthy environment. For this reason Fair Trade Vancouver will produce all paper publications on materials made of recycled and/or post-consumer materials, and will give preference to printing companies who can produce publications on materials certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). More broadly, we look for management standards that are based on continuous improvement.

OUR COMMITMENT:

This policy will ensure that Fair Trade Vancouver commits to:

- Produce all internal and external publications and documents on paper that is FSC-certified and contains the highest practical content of recycled and/or post-consumer materials
- Display the recycled content logo where applicable
- Ensure that all requests for publications from suppliers or companies routinely state that any written reports or publications to be submitted to Fair Trade Vancouver are printed on the highest practical content of FSC certified recycled and/or post-consumer materials

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Official letterhead, envelopes, and other stationary products
- Director's business cards
- Fair Trade Vancouver's program/educational/promotional brochures and posters
- Display Materials

WHY FSC

This policy complements our **Fair Trade Endorsement Policy** as the FSC is a certification system that is transparent, independent, traceable, and participatory, allowing the best practises to be employed.



A responsible purchasing program for forest products should aim to improve the environmental and social performance of the supply base by ending the purchase of forest products from illegal or controversial sources and by continuously increasing the proportion of those products purchased from credibly certified forests.

- FSC is an international certification and labeling system that guarantees that the forest products you purchase come from responsibly managed forests and verified recycled sources. Independent third-party auditors conduct all FSC certification audits.
- Under FSC certification, forests are certified against a set of strict environmental and social standards, and fiber from certified forests is tracked all the way to the consumer through the chain of custody certification system. The end result is products in the marketplace carrying the FSC 'check-tree' logo.
- FSC certification is a voluntary and market-based mechanism for ensuring that our forests are healthy. Consumer demand for FSC-certified products encourages forest managers and owners to become FSC-certified.