

McGill Sustainable Events Certification Program

Locally Based Suppliers and Services

What?

Locally based suppliers and services may be involved in your event in several ways. They may be the vendor you partner with for catering, childcare services, live music, gift giveaways, or awards for your event.

Locally based suppliers and services may also be referred to as local independent businesses. As opposed to franchises, local independent businesses typically have few outlets and are owned privately by individuals, the community, or a cooperative. As such, “decision-making authority is vested in the local owners and not subject to conditions dictated remotely” [Source].

In the context of your event, we encourage you to seek suppliers and services that are founded and/or based in Montreal.

Why?

Although McGill events are most often located on campus, such occasions can involve manufacturing facilities, industries, and investors from across the world. It is therefore recommended to work with local suppliers and services in order to reduce environmental footprints, promote social partnerships, and improve the overall sustainability of our events.

Furthermore, working with local independent businesses often involves the following benefits:

- Support to local economy as profits stay in local communities rather than going to a national or international franchise,
- Promoting local crafts, traditions, and identity,
- Faster and more reliable delivery times as well as lower delivery costs,
- Fresher and seasonal produce (when involving food),
- Connections with the local community, and
- Environmental benefits through a lower carbon footprint from travel-related emissions. [Source]