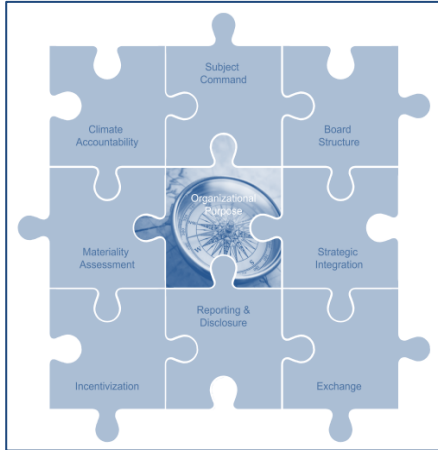




KINDRED SPIRITS ORCHESTRA

Environmental Policy



Climate Governance Principles and Guiding Questions – World Economic Forum (2019)

Overview. The Kindred Spirits Orchestra (KSO) strives to change lives through music's extraordinary power to communicate, inspire, uplift, educate, and entertain. Through the presentation of evocative, dramatic, and passionate performances, the KSO brings together people from diverse communities, enriching their cultural lives and developing new audiences of all ages for orchestral music.

The KSO performs an international repertoire, including Canadian contemporary music, presented at various concert hall in the Greater Toronto Area. The KSO also delivers community outreach and family concerts, educational programs and activities for children, senior citizens, and people with disabilities. The KSO continues its pursuit of innovation, being one of the first civic orchestras in Canada to stream live concerts and to reduce the impact of its operations on the environment.

Background. Since 1998, the *Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Division* of Natural Resources Canada has conducted work on climate change impacts and adaptation. The Division has developed, together with a vast network of external experts and partners, considerable expertise that led to the development of several policies intended to mitigate the impacts on Canadian communities through economic development, social well-being and environment.

In the spring of 2021, as part of its Strategic Plan review, the KSO Board of Directors felt that it was important to adopt a position with respect to the Orchestra's environmental impact within the communities it serves. While a few orchestras abroad had already adopted various environmentally conscious initiatives, this was a leading position within the performing arts in Canada.

KSO Environmental Sustainability Commitment. The KSO Strategic Plan contains four Executive Commitments, one of which is devoted to environmental sustainability:

The KSO aligns with leaders in the global arts community in reducing its environmental impact over time.

The commitment has two parts:

1. activate ecologically responsible initiatives; and
2. grow digital capabilities across musicians', patrons', and donors' experiences including transactions, communications, and concert accessibility.

Metrics for successful implementation include:

1. achieve a 90% reduction in paper use in all services, programs, and operations;
2. introduce, where within KSO control, 90% contactless transactions;
3. offer digital content "on demand".



Photo: Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra (2012).

Guiding Principles

1. Apply eco-conscience lens to decision-making and operations.
2. Seek to both educate and to act.
3. Communicate along the journey.
4. Pursue partnerships with other organizations and individuals.
5. Revisit this policy periodically to ensure it reflects current circumstances.

Specific Actions

1. Convert its own paper-based music library to digital format.
2. Replace paper-based music parts with electronic files on tablets.
3. Reduce the number of printed concert programs by 80%.
4. Reduce the size of printed concert programs by 20%.
5. Offer digital concert programs.
6. Prioritize digital channels over printed marketing.
7. Reduce the number of guest artists traveling by air.
8. Implement an online paper-free ticketing platform.
9. Partner with organizations on eco-conscience projects.
10. Commission new works that reflect on climate change.
11. Encourage musicians, staff, and volunteers to utilize carpooling.
12. Use electronic file sharing for internal communications and operations.
13. Encourage the use of online recordings instead of physical media.
14. Form a Digital Transformation Committee to help identify future opportunities.