

SuRF

FORUM SUR LA
RÉHABILITATION
DURABLE



SuRF

SUSTAINABLE
REMEDICATION
FORUM

Sustainable Remediation SuRF Canada

SURF 21

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- Our definition...
- Our beginnings and mission
- Drivers and barriers
- Our Structure
- Where we stand
- Lessons Learned/Next Steps





Definition of Sustainable Remediation

Sustainable remediation considers the **environmental, social and economic** impacts of a project to ensure an optimal outcome, while being protective of human and environmental health, both at a local level and for the larger community (SuRF Canada, 2012).



SuRF Canada beginnings

- Discussions between government and industry began in December 2010 to set up a Canadian professional network to discuss and promote sustainable remediation

- The first workgroup meeting was held in Toronto in May 2011 with representatives from industry, provincial and federal government and academia
 - Introduction to sustainable remediation concepts
 - Defined the SuRF Canada mission statement
 - Discussed drivers/barriers to Sustainable Remediations in Canada
 - Defined short, medium and long term objectives





SuRF Canada beginnings

Objectives

- Short Term
 - Define objectives for the group and definition of sustainable remediation
 - Work within the existing regulatory framework to show benefits
 - Evaluate existing frameworks that we can build upon
 - Awareness and outreach
- Medium Term
 - Structure the group
 - Beneficial Partnerships
 - National Guidelines
 - Awareness and outreach
- Long Term
 - Regulatory or policy changes if necessary
- “What is SuRF” document created





SuRF Canada - Mission

« To establish a Canadian network group to promote sustainable remediation that aims to give systematic consideration to the three dimensions of sustainability (society, economy and environment), in decision-making about rehabilitation and management of contaminated sites. The network will bring together public and private organizations and launch an information and awareness initiative in Canada. »





Drivers

Sustainable Remediation

Environment

- By-products of remediation activities
- The finite availability of resources
- Permafrost zones

Social

- Knowledgeable stakeholders/shareholders
- Local sustainability plans/programs
- First Nations

Economic

- Shareholder value of positive corporate image
- Calculating the true cost of the remediation

Drivers for Sustainable Remediation



Barriers

Regulatory / Policy

- Variability of regulations
- Current regulations
- Lack of regulatory tools to make regulators comfortable
- Regulators at Provincial Level

Procurement

- Tendering and sustainability policies

Communication / Awareness

- Lack of a clear and defined goals
- Lack of understanding
- Perceptions

Financial

- Real or perceived increase in \$
- Lack of funding pgms
- Govt and industry accounting preferences
- Financial institutions





Barriers Example

Subset of Provincial Regulations

Province	Regulations	Sustainable Remediation
BC	Prescriptive but risk assessment accepted. Some case studies for this area for sustainable remediation	Amenable
Alberta	Rigid approach	Not amenable
Saskatchewan	The tiered approach outlined in RBCA, which considers risk and allows for conditional closure, is amenable to SuR.	Amenable
Manitoba	Although regulations do exist - defer much to federal standards	Potentially amenable
Ontario	Prescriptive but risk assessment accepted.	Potentially amenable
Quebec	The requirement of the Environmental Quality Act to remove "all contaminated material" is a challenge	Not amenable
Atlantic Provinces	The tiered approach outlined in RBCA, which considers risk and allows for conditional closure, is amenable to SuR.	Amenable



Structure of SuRF Canada

- Adhocracy with no current formal structure although there is a leadership team.
- Committees created for Outreach, Planning, Technical Initiatives and Group Structure, and Website
 - Outreach
 - We have defined Provincial leads
 - Regular calls to ensure updates and consistency
 - Development of an outreach plan
 - Planning conference or sustainable remediation workshops and presentations.
 - Technical Initiatives
 - Working on a paper on “Sustainable Remediation in Canada”
 - Input on technical requests (nationally and internationally)
 - Website created www.surfcanada.org
- Membership up to over 100 members from industry, consultants, government and academia
- Regular calls initiated with group at large

SURF Canada

The Sustainable Remediation Forum

What is SURF?

The mission of SURF Canada is to establish a Canadian network group to promote "sustainable remediation" that aims to give systematic consideration to the three dimensions of sustainability (social, economic and environmental), in decision-making about rehabilitation of and management of contaminated sites. The network will bring together public and private organizations and launch an information and awareness initiative across Canada.

Remediation projects often come with a hidden cost: the impact of the clean-up itself. Cleaning up a contaminated property often requires the consumption of substantial energy, water, other natural resources, the emission of greenhouse gases, and the substantial disposal of wastes. It may also have social and economic impacts to the proponent and the community. Understanding the benefits and impacts of a remediation project allows for a more holistic approach to site remediation decision-making.

To address these challenges, a group of environmental professionals organized the Sustainable Remediation Forum (SURF).

SURF has been meeting internationally since 2006 to advance sustainable clean-up practices and develop a vision, framework, and metrics to help bring sustainability to the environmental remediation industry. In Canada, we have taken the first steps towards organizing a similar group.

Other International SURF Agencies:

- SURF US
- SURF Brazil
- SURF Italy
- SURF UK
- SURF China
- SURF Australia

SURF's primary objective is to provide a forum for various stakeholders in remediation — industry, government agencies, environmental groups, consultants, and academia — to collaborate, educate, advance, and develop consensus on the application of sustainability concepts throughout the life-cycle of remediation projects, from site investigation to closure.

Benefits of Membership

The practice of sustainable remediation is gathering world-wide momentum. By joining SURF, you establish partnerships and build relationships with a wide variety of remediation stakeholders: industry and agency peers, customers, clients, academia, technology vendors, and the public.

One of the goals of SURF is to facilitate discussions and sharing of "lessons learned" in environmental footprint reduction. You'll have access to members who are helping to shape green and sustainable remediation guidance and assessment tools.

Participation in SURF activities demonstrates:

- Environmental Stewardship
- Employee involvement and accountability
- Stakeholder engagement
- Commitment to a leadership role in sustainable remediation practices
- Alignment of business and sustainability objectives

For more information, contact one of the primary SURF Canada Contacts below:

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Website Under Construction





Where we stand

Objectives – 2012

Outreach and Planning

- ✓ Diversify membership through information sharing tools (website and social media) and conferences
- ✓ Partner for conferences, workshops and university programs
- ✓ Use Linked'in to communicate
- ✓ Continue with the monthly calls – more structured
- ✓ Develop provincial and regional leadership and increase provincial government and non-government membership and support

Technical Initiatives and Group Structure

- ✓ Collaborate on the FCSAP project for the incorporation of sustainability in the FCSAP program
- ✓ Develop definition of sustainable remediation for use
- Formalize structure as a “non profit”
- “Sustainable Remediation in Canada” to document current context and current/proposed framework (2013)
- ✓ Collaborate on international initiatives

Website

- Create a member only access ✓
- Bilingual ✓
- Post presentations from conferences, agenda for meetings, minutes of meetings, and other pertinent information ✓
- ✓ Quick links to other sustainable remediation websites



Events Planning and participation

Planning and/or participation of SuRF Canada in the following Events :

- 2011 FCS Regional Workshop - Sustainable Remediation in Canada, Kingston, May 31- June 1, 2011 <http://www.rpic-ibic.ca/en/events/federal-contaminated-sites-fcs-regional-workshops/2011-fcs-regional-workshop>
- Remediation Technologies symposium (Remtech), Banff, October 19-21, 2011 <http://www.esaa-events.com/remtech/call2011.htm>
- Salon des technologies environnementales du Québec 2012, Québec City, March 13-14, 2012 <http://steg.reseau-environnement.com/tiki-index.php>
- 2012 FCS National Workshop ,Toronto, April 30-May 3, 2012 <http://www.rpic-ibic.ca/en/events/federal-contaminated-sites-fcs-national-workshop/2012-fcs-national-workshop>
- EMA of BC 2012 Workshop , Vancouver , February 2012 http://www.emaofbc.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Workshop-Outline-V10_mm.pdf
- 2012 37th National CLRA/ACRSO Conference, Sydney, September 26-27, 2012 <http://arc2012.ca/>
- CSAP Fall PD Workshop, Vancouver, Oct. 10, 2012 <http://www.csapsociety.bc.ca/node/36>
- Sustainable Remediation 2012 - Environment Agency Austria, Vienna, Austria, November 14 - 16, 2012 http://www.umweltbundesamt.at/sustainable_remediation2012

Coming Events :

- SuRF US Meeting in Washington, D.C. December 12-13, 2012
- Americana 2013, Montréal, March 19-21, 2013 <http://americana.org/fr/calendar>
- 2013 FCS National Workshop – detail to come

Events
Planning





Lessons Learned and Next Steps

- Understand the drivers and barriers to sustainable remediation in Canada (*technical initiative*)
- Understand and continue to communicate the value of sustainable remediation
- Examine the policies and initiatives that promote sustainable remediation in Canada and make recommendations for further integration/synergies (*technical initiative*)
- Benefits of partnerships
- Perform, document and communicate case studies
- Network and collaborate nationally and internationally with wide range of professionals (industry, government, academia)



SuRF Canada

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- Sébastien Yelle - Sebastien.Yelle@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

And all our members...

- **Website** - <http://www.SuRFcanada.org/>





Questions ?

