



**Bell** presents

# ÎLESONIQ

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS



ÎLESNIQ (or the Festival) implements sustainable development initiatives to minimize its environmental impact and maximize its positive influence on the local community and economy.

Through these various actions, the Festival demonstrates that it is possible to host thousands of festival-goers at Parc Jean-Drapeau while minimizing its environmental footprint.

In 2023, the Festival received Level 2 certification of the BNQ 9700-253 standard for sustainable development – Responsible Event Management, proving the seriousness of its commitment and efforts.

## REDUCTION OF GHGs

- Accessibility to the Festival site via public transportation (Jean-Drapeau metro station and bus network) ;
- Minimization of fuel use by collaborating with a majority of local suppliers (Greater Montreal area and surroundings) ;
- Provision of free bike parking and additional Bixi bike stations ;
- 3% of the parking fee and site rental fee are donated to the Oxygène Fund of Parc Jean-Drapeau ;
- Reduction in the number of generators used to power the Festival's facilities.

## WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Provision of water stations and fountains to refill reusable bottles. Collaboration with O'Land to add fountains on site ;
- Use of compostable and/or recyclable dishware in food kiosks ;
- Use of recyclable aluminum cups ;
- Presence of 4-way sorting stations (compost, recycling, deposit, and waste) throughout the site. A second sorting is carried out by the maintenance team to better distribute waste at an external sorting center ;
- Compost and recycling bins distributed to food vendors ;
- Responsible handling of all hazardous materials with the Ecocenter or other relevant companies (e.g., Rona for old paint cans) or by Modus Operandi, which disposes of them appropriately ;
- Excess food donated to La Tablée des chefs ;
- Use of biodegradable cleaning products ;
- Control of the amount of products distributed by sponsors to reduce waste. The sponsorship team ensures limited distribution of printed promotional materials and encourages sponsors to choose products with minimal environmental impact and packaging ;
- Use of digital promotional tools and tickets.

## AWARENESS

- Raising awareness among food vendors and suppliers about waste sorting ;
- Mentioning eco-friendly actions on social media, the website, newsletters, and press releases ;
- Providing recommendations to festival-goers (such as using active or public transportation, using reusable water bottles, sorting waste, etc.) through the event's website, mobile app, social media, and on-site screens.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC

- Hiring local workforce and establishing business relationships with local partners ;
- Prioritizing local companies for the printing of merchandise ;
- Providing a varied food offering at concessions to meet the specific needs of festival-goers: vegetarian, vegan, allergen-free, etc. ;
- Inclusive programming ;
- Donation to the Fondation evenko through the initiative \$1 per ticket sold at the Festival to provide musical instruments to schools in need in Quebec ;
- Services available for people with reduced mobility or functional limitations: adapted signage, information kiosk, boarding and disembarking area, escort agent, installation of two reserved platforms for better access to stages, adapted toilets and picnic tables, adapted counters at certain points of sale, accessible pathways (installation of cable covers and beach mats to facilitate movement), and loan of vibrating vests for individuals with hearing impairments.

## HIRING AND TRAINING

- Adherence to salary equity standards and the creation and maintenance of specialized event production jobs ;
- Implementation of an inclusion and diversity policy in the recruitment process ;
- Training on harassment prevention and workplace behavior.

## SECURITY

The safety and well-being of festival-goers are central concerns for the festival. An evolving safety plan is developed each year to ensure that visitors can enjoy the experience in a secure environment.

- Presence of various intervention teams on site (paramedics, ambulance personnel, nurses, Urgences-santé, and first aid stations) ;
- Presence of GRIP (awareness organization) and field squad to ensure the well-being of vulnerable individuals ;
- Identification of safe zones and rest areas set up at different locations on the site ;
- Systematic screening of festival-goers and employees at all entrances ;

- Safety corridors near each stage to facilitate the movement of crowds and responders ;
- Police presence around the site ;
- Implementation of a heatwave plan (if needed): misting systems, extended breaks for employees, additional first aid staff, etc. ;
- Additional lighting in darker areas of the site ;
- Training and awareness for security personnel, reception staff, and operations team on vigilance and procedures.