

# **CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

## **2023 ANNUAL REPORT**





















### **OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

How we see ourselves as a company, how we describe our culture and the values we try to embody in our day to day work. It is summed up by our mission, vision, purpose, and values as follows:

#### **Our Mission**

To provide innovative, science-based solutions to address the environmental and natural resource management needs of our clients. We work collaboratively and respectfully with clients and partner organizations, and we support the professional goals and development of our employees.

#### Our Vision

To provide high quality environmental services to private and public sector clients throughout the world.

#### Our Purpose

To enhance environmental stewardship and improve people's lives.

#### **Our Core Values**

- Do our best (technical excellence, creativity)
- Do the right thing (honesty, integrity, positive influence)
- Help out (supportive, collaborative)
- Be a "Goob" (caring, good humour)
- No egos (share in successes and challenges)

## Letter from the President

Welcome to Hatfield's seventh annual Corporate Social Responsibility. 2023 was an exceptionally busy year for Hatfield. Work continued to come through the door in all offices and departments and there seemed to be little else to do other than steam away on projects. Nevertheless, we did find the time for social and CSR events and continued to get caught up with our CSR reporting. As in past years in this report we summarize and present some of the key highlights and metrics to illustrate how we operate as a company beyond the more traditional measures of profit and loss, or chargeability and expenses.

We are incredibly grateful for the professionalism and dedication of our staff who have helped the company grow and prosper during challenging times. To acknowledge and support such dedication we continued to develop our operations to improve work efficiencies and ensure the safety and well-being of our staff. Overall, despite the challenging circumstances of the past couple of years, we have adapted as a company and continue to provide high-quality environmental services to our clients while also creating a fulfilling and supportive workplace for our employees.

This year has demonstrated that our dedication to our core purpose and values, which are shared by all Hatfield staff globally, is the key to our success. The results presented in this report would not be possible without their commitment and we continue to encourage and empower our employees to incorporate sustainability and social considerations into everything they do for Hatfield and our clients. We are also committed to providing our staff with the necessary tools, skills, and resources to support them in these endeavours.

We take our responsibility seriously in supporting and enabling our clients to effectively address their sustainability challenges. I encourage you to explore this report and find out more information about what sustainability means to Hatfield. You will also find details about the progress we continue to make, as well as the opportunities we see ahead to contribute towards a more sustainable world.

- Garth Taylor, President, Hatfield Consultants LLP

# Hatfield's CSR Vision

#### THE CSR COMMITTEE

Hatfield's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) committee was established with the aim of promoting policies and practices that align with our CSR vision. The 2023 CSR committee consisted of Hatfielders with varying degrees of experience, from across all or most of our technical areas and business units, and representing each of our Canadian offices. Monthly coordination meetings were held and the committee collaborated with other staff members to pursue the objectives outlined in Hatfield's CSR Policy and Vision.

#### HATFIELD'S CSR VISION

At the heart of our CSR vision is the integration of sustainable practices into our business operations to uphold the economic, social, and environmental pillars of sustainability in the communities where we operate. The CSR is a guiding tool that helps us incorporate environmental and social concerns into our decision-making process and interactions with our employees, clients, Indigenous Nations, and stakeholders. By adopting this approach, we can better anticipate and manage risk, improve our social license and reputation, attract and retain staff who share our values, and increase our operational efficiency, creativity, and competitiveness.

We operationalize this vision through a series of specific CSR goals and associated actions or commitments which also form the backbone of this report. Our CSR goals are inspired by seven core subjects defined by the International Standards Organization (ISO) 26000 CSR guidance. These core subjects and associated Hatfield commitments are summarized in Table 1:

Table 1 CSR core subjects and commitments

ISO 26000 Core Subjects	Commitments
Organization and Governance	We are committed to ensuring the highest ethical standards in decision-making associated with our business activities.
Human Rights	We respect human rights as a fundamental practice, and we are guided by the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
Labour Practices	We place the utmost emphasis on the health and safety of our employees and visitors. We support staff development and aim to operate as a meritocracy.
Environment	Protection of the environment, biodiversity, and restoration of natural habitats is the cornerstone of our business and corporate culture.
Fair Operating Practices	We adhere to laws and regulations, and maintain a high level of accuracy and confidentiality, respect intellectual property, and refrain from bribery.
Consumer Issues	We constantly pursue the highest level of quality and work to foster long-term alliances and partnerships with our clients. We are ISO 9001:2015 certified across our major Canadian offices and Indonesia and strive for continuous improvement.
Community Involvement and Development	We provide in-kind and cash contributions to select causes in our local communities and support volunteer initiatives by our employees both locally and internationally.

# Organizational Governance

Hatfield's governance structures, policies, and protocols ensure that business activities meet the highest level of ethics, accountability, and transparency. Key examples of these measures include:

- Our committees encourage diverse points of view and promote transparency in corporate management, planning, and decision-making. Our most important and active committees include health and safety, quality, human resources, and social.
- Hatfield's Code of Ethics to which all employees are required to abide.
- Hatfield does not provide financial support to political parties.
- Hatfield staff are empowered to report any potential conflict of interest to their supervisor, one of the partners, or confidentially through our Anonymous Feedback mechanism available on the Hatfield intranet.
- We are committed to the highest standards of professional conduct and integrity in all our business dealings and relationships. Staff are encouraged and empowered to promptly report any suspected illegal or unethical conduct in the workplace. Hatfield's Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Policy provides guidelines on how to report unethical conduct.
- Hatfield staff are encouraged to seek accreditation from provincial, national, and international professional organizations and licencing bodies (Table 2). Professional designations require members to establish a high level of competency in their field, demonstrate integrity and accountability in their professional practice, and adhere to all applicable laws, regulations, industry standards, organizational policies and codes.

# Organizational Governance

#### Table 2 CSR core subjects and commitments

Professional Designation	Organization/Licencing Body	Number of Staff	
Professionals			
Applied Science Technologist (AScT)	Applied Science Technologists & Technicians of British Columbia	1	
Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC)	International Erosion Control Association	1	
Chartered Director (CDir)	The Directors College	3	
Certified Public Accountant (CPA)	CPA Canada	1	
Chartered Professional in Human Resources (CPHR)	CPHR Canada	2	
Diplomate of the American Board of Toxicology (DABT)	American Board of Toxicology	1	
Environmental Professional (EP)	ECO Canada	7	
Professional Agrologist (PAg)	Institute of Agrologists	8	
Professional Biologist (PBiol)	Alberta Society of Professional Biologists	21	
Professional Chemist (PChem)	Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta	1	
Professional Engineer (PEng)	Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists	3	
Professional Geoscientist (PGeo)	Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists	4	
Project Management Professional (PMP)	Project Management Institute	1	
Registered Biology Technologist (RBTech)	College of Applied Biology	2	
Registered Forest Technologist (RFT)	Forest Professionals BC	1	
Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio)	College of Applied Biology	30	
Registered Technologist in Biology (RTBio)	Alberta Society of Professional Biologists	1	
Technical Agrologist (TAg)	Institute of Agrologists	1	
Subtotal		88	

Professional Designation	Organization/Licencing Body	Number of Staff
Professionals In Training		
Articling Agrologist (AAg)	Institute of Agrologists BC	2
Allied Science Forester in Training (ASFIT)	Forest Professionals BC	1
Biologist in Training (BIT)	College of Applied Biology	16
Engineer in Training (EIT)	Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists	3
Environmental Professional in Training (EPt)	ECO Canada	2
Geoscientist in Training (GIT)	Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists	6
Registered Biology Technologist in Training (RBTt)	College of Applied Biology	1
Subtotal		31

TOTAL 119

## **Human Rights**

At Hatfield, we believe in and uphold basic human rights as defined in the United Nations (UN) Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We are committed to promoting diversity and inclusivity, commitments supported by company policies including, our Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and our Anti-bullying and Anti-harassment Policy. Our Indigenous People's Policy, founded on the principles defined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), is a further reflection of our commitment to human rights.

We enforce these policies in our hiring and career advancement practices to ensure everyone at Hatfield has an equal opportunity to succeed. Discrimination based on gender, age, race, sexual orientation, religion, disability, culture, language, social or economic status is not tolerated at Hatfield.

We are committed to improving gender balance in all staff categories (Figure 1). In 2023, 44% of our total staff were female. Our technical roles were 43% female and administrative roles were 60% female (Figure 2), while management and partners were predominantly male (63% and 75%, respectively; Figure 2). We had a diverse age range across the company, although most of our staff fall within the 31-45 range. As anticipated, our growth has led to a larger proportion of our staff coming from a younger cohort in the 18-30 year age range (Figure 3).

We continuously review our hiring practices and provide opportunities for advancement in a fair and unbiased manner. In 2023, we made a commitment to employment equity under the Canadian government Federal Contractors Program (FCP) and in 2024 we are implementing the requirements.



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Female 44%

**Male 56%** 

Figure 2 Staff levels gender distribution



Figure 3 Total workforce by age



# **Human Rights**

Hatfield also takes an active approach to protecting and promoting human rights in the work we do with our clients. We carefully consider the human rights performance of our potential and existing clients, partners, and subcontractors. We will not knowingly sign on to projects that may involve conflict minerals or projects that pose a risk of using child labor, forced labor, or forced resettlement.



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## **Labour Practices**

#### Health and Safety

Hatfield places a high priority on ensuring a safe and healthy work environment for all personnel, including employees, outside contractors, and visitors both on our premises and at client sites. We strive for zero reportable health or safety incidents. We comply with all relevant legislation and regulations and closely adhere to regulatory guidelines and best practices recommended by WorkSafe BC and the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta. Our staff receive annual and periodic training to meet the requirements of other regulating bodies.

As a Certificate of Recognition (COR) certified company we carefully monitor health and safety statistics for continuous improvement consistent with COR values. Health and safety updates are a standing agenda item at monthly staff meetings to keep our policies and practices front of mind for all staff and deepen our commitment to maintaining a healthy, safe, and enjoyable work environment. We support the personal mental and physical health of our employees by offering an extended health benefits plan, paid sick days, mental health supports, and provisions for fatigue management.

Our total recordable injury frequency decreased in 2023 from 0.57 in 2022 to zero. Table 3 provides a summary of the health and safety recordable incidents between 2017 and 2023.

Table 3 Summary of health and safety recordable incidents, 2017 to 2023

Health and Safety Recordable Incidents	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Occupational Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Medical Injury	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Near-misses	6	11	14	10	9	10	8
First Aid Incidents	8	5	8	4	3	6	6
Vehicle Incidents	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
Total Recordable Injury Frequency	1.02	0	1.64	0.74	0	0.57	0

## **Labour Practices**

#### Training and Professional Development

At Hatfield, we are committed to the growth and development of our staff to help ensure everyone derives as much professional satisfaction from their work as possible. Hatfield partners and managers work closely with their teams to establish personal objectives that align with the company's strategic vision and to make clear the invaluable contributions they make to our business. To facilitate the achievement of these objectives, Hatfield provides a range of personal and professional development programs, technical mentorship, training opportunities and succession planning initiatives. Additionally, six-month performance reviews for new hires and annual reviews henceforth provide a structured platform for staff to review their objectives, assess their career progression, and overall satisfaction with their professional growth.

#### **Attrition**

In 2023, Hatfield implemented additional employee-focused initiatives and flexible work arrangements to support the overall wellbeing and retention of staff, including implementing alternative options to the traditional 5-day work week as part of our Earned Day Off policy. Most of our staff had a tenure of <1 to 4 years in 2023 (Figure 5). Our rate of attrition continued to decline and in 2023 was the lowest in more than six years (Figure 5). Two-thirds of our attrition was from technical positions and roughly equal for female and male employees (Figure 6).

Figure 4
Average training hours per employee

Training

Years

Figure 5 Staff tenure

147

147

147

21.17

Years

Years

Figure 5 Staff tenure

147

21.17

Total Staff tenure

Years

Years

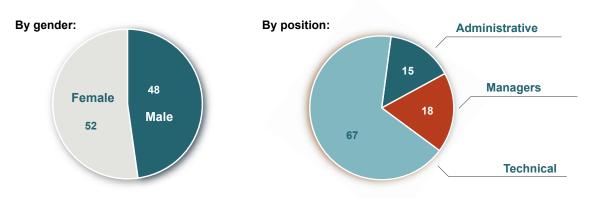
Years

Figure 5 Staff tenure

147

2023 Rate of Attrition: 16.18% (0 retired)

Figure 6 Staff attrition by gender and position (%)



## The Environment

Protection of the environment is a cornerstone of Hatfield's business and corporate culture. We are committed to minimizing the impact of our activities on the environment as well as supporting our clients' efforts to protect the environment. Most of Hatfield's direct environmental impacts originate from commuting to our offices and work sites, use of resources and electricity, and waste generation. The following are initiatives and metrics we implemented and tracked in these areas in 2023. Many of these annual metrics continued to be affected by our ongoing response to, or compliance with, COVID-19 restrictions.

#### General

Given the nature of our business and the backgrounds and experiences of our staff, it is unsurprising our collective level of environmental awareness and commitment to sustainability is high. Nevertheless, through the practices and measures described below under transportation, resource use, and waste generation, we continue to promote environmental awareness, responsibility, and best practices throughout Hatfield.

We also support sustainability initiatives and practices through the work we do with our clients, which includes the following objectives:

- Minimizing environmental risk while providing our services, for example through implementing controls to avoid spills of harmful chemicals while sampling and opting for non-lethal sampling of organisms wherever possible.
- Ensuring environmental assessments, studies, and recommendations by Hatfield to our clients are made in an unbiased and scientifically supported manner, upholding the principles of environmental stewardship and social responsibility.
- Supporting the environmental initiatives of our clients and encouraging the implementation of environmentally sustainable practices.

Our core values are driven to find sustainable, resilient solutions for our clients and our daily practices. Many, if not all the projects Hatfield worked on in 2023 had a direct focus on supporting sustainability.



# The Environment

#### **Transportation**

The majority of Hatfield staff worked hybrid in 2023, which greatly reduced commute times in comparison with the pre-pandemic conditions. Prior to March 2020, most staff were driving alone or using transit to commute into their offices. The majority of staff reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their daily commute.

Hatfield offices provide bicycle storage and shower facilities to support cycling as a healthy, emission-free option for commuting. In 2023, North Vancouver staff were active participants in Bike to Work Week and a small, committed, group cycled to work regularly. Hatfield's North Vancouver Office has two designated electric vehicle charging stations.

In 2023 technical staff logged 523,977 km driving to and from project sites, a substantial increase from the previous years. We attribute the increase to a combination of factors, but especially to the many large field programs associated with our projects (lots of long commutes to field sites) and a generally very busy year with many hours worked by Hatfield staff and contractors.

#### Resource Use

Hatfield's procurement practices and office operations are consistent with our environmental responsibility policies. We vet our suppliers to ensure we are purchasing products and services from companies with high environmental standards such as supplying FSC-certified paper or Fair-trade coffee.

Hatfield offices have aimed to reduce paper use through investment in accounting and administrative software tools. The transition to digital processes continued, including submission of proposals and reports, and the use of digital accounting forms further reducing consumption of paper and printing supplies.

#### Waste Reduction

We have systems in place to decrease waste generation which include recycling paper products, as well as electronics, batteries, plastic and glass containers, and organics. We generally aim to eliminate single-use plastic waste by providing staff with reusable cups, plates, utensils, and water bottles, and to recycle used ground coffee beans by sharing it with staff to use as garden compost.

Figure 7 Paper Use (per year)



# Fair Operating Practices

We place great emphasis on, which are integral to our operations. We remain resolute in our commitment to ethical and fair business principles and practices and work to ensure that we understand and adhere to all applicable laws and regulations in the countries where we conduct business.

Our fair operating practices include:

- Bribery, which includes offering any form of money, entertainment, or gifts to officials, whether within Hatfield, other organizations, or government that may result in personal or corporate gain is not tolerated.
- Hatfield will not use or infringe on third party intellectual or real property rights without documented permission, nor abuse Hatfield's property.
- Hatfield will not share personal, confidential, or sensitive data and information without the owner's free, prior, and informed consent.
- Hatfield is committed to fair and transparent bidding practices and prohibits collusion.
- Information released to the public or to potential or existing clients will be accurate, fact-based, and in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

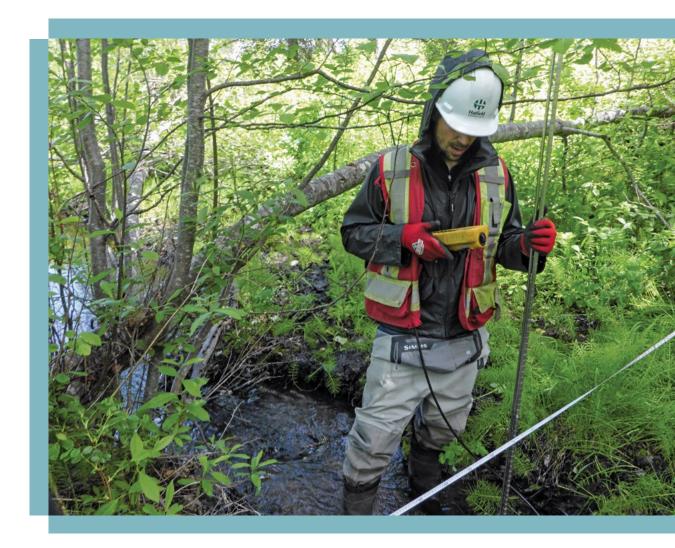


## **Consumer Issues**

At Hatfield, we believe in establishing strong and long-lasting relationships and partnerships with our clients. Our approach is based on building mutual trust by adhering to and practicing our core values (Section 5.0). We are committed to consistently delivering high-quality and professional services that meet or exceed the expectations of our clients worldwide. As a certified ISO 9001 company, we have a corporate quality management plan that promotes continuous improvement in all areas of our business operations.

Regardless of position, we encourage collaboration across the company to improve the quality of our services and enhance customer satisfaction and trust. We understand the importance of investing in our staff's professional development, as it ensures that our services remain relevant while fostering innovation and collaboration.

We place great value on the feedback we receive from our clients. This feedback helps us to continually improve our services and ensure their quality. In 2023, we received 18 responses from clients, primarily focused on the timeliness and high quality of our deliverables and the expertise of our staff.



# Community Involvement

#### Community Involvement

Hatfield supports the development of more collaborative approaches with communities, recognizing the value of supporting the communities in which we work. We are committed to the following community involvement and development initiatives:

- We offer paid time off for staff to volunteer with causes they feel passionate about. The amount of volunteering engagement we could do has increased since the pandemic. In 2023, staff volunteered a total of 387 hours of their time to help local initiatives. They have participated in projects such as shoreline clean up and restoration, invasive plant removal from streams in North Vancouver, and helping pack food bank deliveries with the Calgary Food Bank by our Calgary office. The Calgary office also collected over 1026 lbs of Black Henbane and Spotted Knapweed combined with the Weaselhead/Glenmore Park Preservation Society.
- We provide both in-kind and cash contributions for select causes in local communities. In 2023, Hatfield donated \$11,313 to local charities. In 2023, staff and the company exceeded donations to local charities made in previous years as we led a fundraising campaign during the holiday season to support local Food Banks in BC and Alberta.
- Each year we offer co-op internships for students from local education institutions.
   In 2023, Hatfield hired five co-op / technical practicum students giving them experience in a large set of project work.
- We engage with local industry associations and organizations, supporting our staff to be part of their membership and engage in their operations and award nominations.
- Hatfield seeks to develop partnerships with Indigenous communities and companies both as consultants and business partners.





### **CLOSURE**

We hope this report provides insight into Hatfield's efforts to be a good corporate citizen by treating our staff, the environment, and the communities and constituencies in which we work with the respect they deserve. We welcome any comments or feedback from anyone who has read this report. You may email our President, Garth Taylor, directly at gtaylor@ hatfieldgroup.com or, if you are a Hatfield employee, you may also respond through our anonymous feedback portal on the intranet.