

**Boucher Institute  
POLICY**

**Policy Title:** Statement on Sustainability  
**Date of Initial Board Approval:** March 18, 2014  
**Date of Last Approved Revision:** n/a  
**Person(s) Responsible for Implementation & Adherence:** Board of Governors,  
President and Leadership Team  
**Related Procedures:** TBD

*Because we believe there can be no personal health without social and planetary health, the Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine staunchly supports multi-disciplinary sustainability initiatives.*

In December 2013, members of the Boucher Institute of Naturopathic Medicine Society voted unanimously to publicly endorse sustainability practices and initiatives across all social and economic sectors. We define sustainable initiatives to be those practices that promote responsible stewardship of the natural environment and that are good for people, for other living organisms and for the planet.

As naturopathic physicians and teachers, we recognize and embrace our social responsibility to speak out on issues critical to the health and well-being of our communities. Encroaching environmental degradation and climate change poses an unprecedented threat to the health and welfare of all people world-wide, as well as to the complex ecosystems on which our survival depends.

The immediate challenge is clear: sustainability initiatives must become status quo.

Therefore, we commit to becoming informed about the issues, including possible solutions, and to be governed by sustainable practices and standards in the following areas:

- Assessing the operational practices of the school and implementing strategies to lower our own carbon footprint;
- Assessing our facility infrastructure and usage, developing and implementing a plan to improve efficiency and lower our building carbon emissions, as resources allow;
- Developing and implementing our long term strategic plans;
- Educating our BINM community, as well as the community at large, by researching and sharing sustainability information resources and strategies that can be implemented on an individual as well as on a societal basis;
- Contributing in a positive way to the collective will required to secure a healthy global future for the generations to come.