MEDIA RELEASE

VANCOUVER CONVENTION CENTRE ACHIEVES HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS ACCREDITATION

December 1, 2016  
Vancouver, BC

The Vancouver Convention Centre has received Level 4 certification for its compliance with the prestigious Convention Industry Council’s Accepted Practices Exchange (APEX) and American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Standards.

The APEX and ASTM certification is awarded to venues that achieve high standards in environmentally sustainable meetings, trade shows and conferences. The Vancouver Convention Centre obtained the highest possible accreditation, Level 4 in Meeting Venue standards, and is the first facility in Canada to do so and the second globally.

“We are very proud that the Vancouver Convention Centre is the first venue in Canada to have earned this significant certification as it demonstrates our steadfast commitment to sustainably operating our business,” said Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, Todd Stone. “The Convention Centre takes its role as a global leader in sustainable operations seriously, and these standards provide us with clear guidelines on how to serve as an example in the convention centre industry, and advance our practices in an environmentally conscious way.”

“Operating a facility of our size, scope and complexity in the most environmentally responsible way is not an easy feat,” said Craig Lehto, General Manager, Vancouver Convention Centre. “This important accreditation is truly a testament to the commitment and passion of our entire team to continually evolve our ongoing operating practices and to identify new sustainability efforts that will make a difference in our industry.”

In 2014, the Vancouver Convention Centre first obtained Level 1 certification in both the Venue and Food and Beverage Standards. Centerplate, the Convention Centre’s food and beverage partner, is currently undergoing the review process for re-certification.

The APEX/ASTM standards are comprised of nine individual sector standards; the Meeting Venue Standard delineates the procedural requirements for venue selection – the practice of researching, evaluating and choosing the facility for an event. It specifies specific performance criteria for staff management, communications, waste management, energy, air quality, water, procurement and community partners.

iCompli, a division of BPA Worldwide, a non-profit international auditing organization developed the certification protocols for the APEX/ASTM standards and performed the independent third party re-certification of the Vancouver Convention Centre’s compliance with the APEX/ASTM Standards.

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Editors: High resolution photos available here
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About the Vancouver Convention Centre
Located on Vancouver’s downtown waterfront with a dramatic mountain backdrop, the world’s first LEED® Platinum certified convention centre offers one of the most beautiful settings in the world. The award-winning Vancouver Convention Centre features two connected buildings with a combined total of 466,500 ft² (43,340 m²) of flexible meeting, exhibition, ballroom and plenary space. The facility is committed to environmental sustainability as well as unparalleled service, technology offerings and culinary excellence.

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