



## ACSI Press Conference - Aliant Remarks

Welcome and thank you for coming today. I am proud to be here on behalf of Aliant to celebrate our first year's successes as a charter member of the Atlantic Canada Sustainability Initiative. At Aliant we believe strongly in protecting our environment and supporting the communities in which we live and work.

For us, one of the greatest benefits of this initiative was the sharing of information among partners and the diversity of the group was one of its real strengths. While we often approached things from different perspectives, we worked productively together because of our shared common vision of sustainability for Atlantic Canada and beyond.

As a major employer across Atlantic Canada we recognize that we have a responsibility to set the right example. For us, being environmentally responsible is nothing new. We've been hard at it for more than a decade.

Internally in the last year we put a strong focus on the education and engagement of our employees around sustainability. This consisted of sustainability training and lunch and learn sessions along with participation in larger organized events such as Earth Hour and an Earth Day tree sale.

As a company this year we tackled issues such as greenhouse gas emissions by developing a carbon footprint toolkit in association with one of the other partners, Jacques Whitford. We have purchased the first hybrid vehicles for our fleet and will be evaluating their performance. Our paper reduction initiative has resulted in an 18% decrease in a little over a year. In addition, we are looking at the products we deliver that can help our customers reduce their environmental impacts such as paperless billing and teleconferencing.

We plan to continue our participation in this initiative and look forward to the growth in participation along with the continued successes being achieved by our employees and all of the partner organizations.

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