

# BEST PRACTICES FOR SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION CIRCULARITY IN COSTUME, SET DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, SCENIC ART, AND PROPS



# EVERYONE IN ONTARIO'S FILM INDUSTRY CAN HELP EXTEND THE LIFE OF SET MATERIALS. HERE'S HOW.

The Ontario film and television industry is working to implement sustainable best practices, including reducing waste to landfill through circular economy solutions. The <u>circular economy</u> is a new, innovative approach to designing and using products; it's achieved when resources are used continuously and waste is thereby reduced or eliminated. Extending the useful life of set materials is just one way the film and television industry can support the circular economy.

While many production companies are voluntarily adopting waste diversion programs, they are often left with a significant amount of reusable construction materials, costumes, and props after wrap. These materials have embedded value but are not necessarily accepted in some recycling programs. Productions send a significant amount of material to landfill, items that could likely be reused in another production, resold, or donated to support local community groups.

# **BEST PRACTICES FOR CIRCULARITY**



#### RESELL

Look for ways to resell materials to the local community, businesses, or other productions. Consider using online marketplace websites, hosting a set sale, working with a prop rental business, or hire an auction company for wrap. By reselling materials, your production can regain costs from purchasing.



#### DONATE

Donating leftover materials to local charities is an excellent way to reuse set materials and support local communities. Visit Ontario Green Screen's resources page to find organizations who accept donated materials. Partners in Project Green's Material Exchange Program is also an excellent resource to use. Contact Ontario Green Screen to learn how your production can get involved.





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## **DESIGN FOR DECONSTRUCTION**

Keep disassembly and deconstruction in mind when building sets. Get creative with ways to make sure the materials can be taken down and stored until next season or can easily be rebuilt for a new production. One way to do this is by using screws instead of nails and glue. Also consider building modular sets that use lightweight materials.

#### **FACILITATE SHARING**

Have conversations with colleagues in your union or guild to find out if materials can be repurposed or shared with an upcoming production.

## **RENT, BORROW, REUSE**

When sourcing materials for an upcoming production, look for ways to purchase used, to rent, or to borrow as much as possible. This can save money and reduce the need to purchase brand new items that will only be used for a few weeks/months.

#### CIRCULAR SETS ONTARIO FACEBOOK GROUP

Ontario Green Screen has created a community Facebook group for material sharing in the industry.

Connect with other industry professionals who are also interested in keeping valuable set materials in use and out of landfill.

## JOIN THE GROUP





## DEVELOP OR PARTICIPATE IN A SUSTAINABLE LOCK-UP

Lock-ups are storage spaces for production companies to conveniently drop-off, store, and/or pick up material. These initiatives have proven to be very successful in other filming jurisdictions both across Canada and internationally. Ontario Green Screen encourages organizations with storage space to consider starting a lock-up space. Ideal organizations to develop these spaces include (but aren't limited to) vacant municipal properties, studios, waste management service providers, material/equipment companies, prop houses, and facility management companies. It is up to the organizer to determine how materials flow through the lock-up, the target audience, and costs involved.

By developing a sustainable lock-up, your organization can contribute to advancing sustainability and circularity goals for Ontario's film industry, reduce carbon emissions, help productions reduce waste management costs, and streamline pre-production and wrap processes.

Have questions or would like more information? Visit <u>OntarioGreenScreen.ca</u> or email <u>OGSInfo@OntarioCreates.ca</u>.

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