

# POLICY OF ECO RESPONSIBILITY

# EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2020

UPDATE: December 19, 2023

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# 1. Preambule

This policy of eco-responsibility follows a pilot project led by Mandoline Hybride in 2019, in which the organization measured for the first time the culmination of its carbon emissions related to transport, as well as adopting concrete measures to eliminate food waste, non-recyclable waste and single use containers during its events. Drawing from this eye-opening experience, in 2020, the company is formalizing its actions and commitments as part of an evolving policy, adopted by its board of directors. Inspired by similar approaches in other fields, MH's policy of eco-responsibility has been designed to respond specifically to the issues that affect the company's activities in the cultural sector.

# 2. Spirit of the Policy

The spirit of this policy is one of collegiality and shared learning. Therefore, Mandoline Hybride's board of directors seek-out exchanges and sharing of expertise in order to feed its thinking. Although imperfect, this document aims to put clear commitments into action, while striving to identify its flaws through a self-education process, and remaining open to feedback from within the community. Thus, Mandoline Hybride hopes to encourage other organizations to put forward their own commitments, even if they may be modest or still in development. This will make it possible to collectively cultivate a critical awareness, to have a better understanding of the current environmental issues, and to develop various tools to guide the implementation of our values.

Furthermore, this policy is intended to be accessible. In writing it, we avoided the use of specialized, technical language, substantiated historical context or footnotes providing further information. An appendix is available for anyone wishing to know more on our sources of inspiration and our research in environmental thinking. For any questions on Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility or to open a discussion on a specific subject, please contact us by email: gestion@mandolinehybride.com

# 3. Mandoline Hybride Mission

Mandoline Hybride's mission is to develop contemporary art in its various forms, with dance as its anchor. Mandoline Hybride's activities support a large number of arts professionals, artists, researchers and curators, whether through its presentations, workshops, services or research and production activities.

Its mandate revolves around a number of initiatives (Regards Hybrides, Salon58, FURIES - contemporary dance festival, L'Hybride - café & bookshop) which require constant monitoring to ensure that they are in tune with the needs and values of the communities and artistic milieu they serve.

## 3.1. Regards Hybrides

Founded in 2012 by Priscilla Guy and Claudia Hébert, the project aims to promote the expression, development and outreach of practices and discourses that border between dance and cinema. With its web platform, its international biennial and its range of services for artists and presenters, Regards Hybrides is the only project of its kind in Canada.

#### 3.2. Salon58

Established in 2018 by Priscilla Guy and Benoit Paradis in Marsoui in Gaspésie, Salon58 is dedicated to hosting artists in residence and the programming of intimate concerts. Focused on artistic experimentation and proximity to the audience, the project promotes encounters on a human scale in rural and remote regions.

#### 3.3. FURIES – contemporary dance festival

Under the artistic direction of Priscilla Guy, Sébastien Provencher and Karla Etienne, FURIES is a contemporary dance festival based in Marsoui in Gaspésie, which highlights striking and distinctive choreographic forms.

#### 3.4. L'Hybride – café & bookshop

Since it was founded in 2022, L'Hybride – café & bookshop has functioned as a hub that enables Mandoline Hybride to innovate, consolidate its initiatives, put them into action and share them.

# 4. Ethical And Political Commitments

Mandoline Hybride acts as a leader with regards to ethical issues in the arts, particularly those concerning the challenges of decolonization and diversification of artistic programming, as well as the attention given to the work of women<sup>1</sup>, non-binary and / or marginalized people. With clear commitments, the company hopes to help reduce inequalities and advance the artistic community towards healthier practices. This present policy is entered in a continuum for a better ecology, beneficial for all. To learn more about Mandoline Hybride: www.mandolinehybride.com/en/about/

## 5. Policy Objectives

## 5.1. Reduction Of Ecological Footprint

Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility first aims to reduce the overall ecological footprint of the company. It is organized around four main focuses, which make it possible to address the impacts of our choices around consumption, food waste and composting, responsible production practices, reuse of materials, recycling, land and air transport, the local economy, urban and rural issues, the socio-economic impacts of our choices and digital technology, etc.

#### 5.2. Community Emulation

The policy equally aims to serve as a point of departure for other cultural organizations that would like to draw inspiration from it. We hope to generate a collective reflection on our shared responsibilities in light of the environmental situation and health of the different ecologies, within which we are all working.

#### 5.3. Dissemination Of An Evolving Tool

Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility is seen as a constantly evolving tool. As a vector of change on a human level, this document is to be modified, improved and renewed continuously through different ways in the short and long term. This flexibility is a key element to the reflection that underlies this policy. With its evolving nature, Mandoline Hybride's policy of eco-responsibility can be transformed in response to new environmental protection practices and recommendations from the community.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Anyone who identifies as a woman.

## 5.4. Sustainability Of Actions

Finally, the policy aims to perpetuate and standardize the organization's eco-responsible actions. In sharing the policy with all members of production in Mandoline Hybride projects and joining it to partnership agreements signed with other entities; its values will be promoted and applied throughout the years to come, regardless of the personnel in place.

# 6. Policy Application: 5 main focuses

## 6.1. FOCUS 1 – Adoption Of A Zero Waste Mentality

Continuing its efforts in recent years, Mandoline Hybride is committed to adopting a "zero waste" mindset in the production of all its events and activities.

## 6.1.1. Criteria

- Eliminate the use of disposable containers;
- Reduce food waste;
- Compost and recycle.

#### 6.1.2. Actions and strategies

- Hire an on-site catering service to avoid transporting cooked food in containers that are not be reusable;
- Use food items to their full extent (e.g. vegetable peels to make broth, leftover fruit purees for desserts, leftover bread for croutons, etc.);
- Send surplus food to food banks or to agencies of local food recovery;
- Avoid the purchase of over packaged products;
- Promote the purchase of organic and fair trade products;
- Favor buffet service rather than prepared lunch boxes so that each person takes only what they want to consume;
- Compost all table scraps and recycle all recyclable materials;
- Use tableware rental services rather than buying containers sold as "Eco-cups" or so-called compostable lunch boxes.

# 6.2. FOCUS 2 – Reduction Of Paper Printing And Reuse Of Materials

Whether in its promotional activities, internal/external communications or in the production of its activities, Mandoline Hybride is committed to thinking wisely about its consumption.

#### 6.2.1. Criteria

- Reduction of printing;
- Repair, reuse or recycling of materials.

#### 6.2.2. Actions and strategies

- Favor a general printed program format rather than small evening programs for each activity, when it seems difficult to eliminate complete programs;
- When possible, print a few large posters rather than individual programs;
- Share digital documents at board meetings;
- Production of targeted promotional documents and reduction of printing quantities;
- Repair and recuperate objects from one activity to another;



## 6.3. FOCUS 3 – Adaptation Of Transport Practises

Since 2019, the company has been tracking the mileage covered by car, truck, boat, train or plane by its team members, collaborators and artists taking part in its various activities. Mandoline Hybride is committed to doing the same every year, as well as significantly reducing its travel.

#### 6.3.1. Criteria

mandoline hybride

- Travel reduction;
- Strategic transport organization;
- Offsetting CO2 emissions.

#### 6.3.2. Actions and strategies

- Keep track of the number of kilometers traveled in the course of our activities, so that we can draw up an overall picture and make comparisons from one year to the next;
- Rethink travel by combining different initiatives in a single trip, or by postponing certain trips to a later year to limit the number of trips in a single year;
- Encourage greener modes of travel, even if this means longer journeys (e.g. train or bus rather than plane);
- Diversify the company's activities so that they rely less on international trade and travel, and more on local development;
- Work with other local presenters to create tours that maximize artist travel within a given region;
- Budget a contribution to offset the company's carbon emissions through the purchase of carbon credits, recognizing that this can only be a complementary action to a global transformation of the organization's habits.

#### 6.4. FOCUS 4 – Local Consumption And Local Economy

Working mainly in Montreal and Gaspésie, Mandoline Hybride has developed a culture of local consumption adapted to each of its events. Its various partnerships are set to grow stronger and more numerous over the coming years.

- 6.4.1. Criteria
  - Reduce the distance traveled by consumer goods;
  - Promote the local economy.

#### 6.4.2. Actions and strategies

• Prioritize partnerships with suppliers of local or at least Quebec products.

#### 6.5. FOCUS 5 – Reduction Of Digital Footprint

In a spirit of digital sobriety, while taking into account the imperatives linked to Mandoline Hybride's activities which require the contribution of new technologies, we wish to pay particular attention to our digital footprint. We are embarking on this major project, which will continue to develop, starting with concrete and immediate actions.

#### 6.5.1. Criteria

- Eliminate as much data as possible from the cloud;
- Reduce our use of online data;
- Imagine sustainable alternatives to move further towards digital sobriety.



## 6.5.2. Actions and strategies

- Once a year, delete as many messages as possible from team and Board e-mail boxes;
- Remove all images and logos from team e-mail signatures, and encourage Board members to adopt this practice;
- Use wi-fi or cable Internet connections as much as possible, rather than LTE, 4G/5G networks;
- Avoid using 5G when using cell phones (when available);
- Encourage audio conversations rather than audio and video conversations, whenever possible<sup>2</sup>;
- Remove as many non-public archive videos as possible from our Vimeo account and archive them on an external hard drive;
- Change web browser settings to avoid automatic video playback;
- Change playback settings on applications (YouTube, Vimeo, etc.) to reduce video quality where possible;
- Reduce the duration of free viewing of our videos on Mandoline Hybride's Vimeo account;
- Budget a contribution to offset the company's carbon emissions linked to its digital footprint through the purchase of carbon credits, in the knowledge that this can only be a complementary action to a global transformation of the organization's habits;
- Extend the lifespan of team members' electronic devices, rather than purchasing new ones, wherever possible, and encourage a second life for older devices;
- Shoot videos in HD rather than 4K, whenever possible;
- Compress videos before transferring them to colleagues, whenever possible;
- Offer digital sobriety training to the team;
- Don't buy "smart" and connected appliances or objects; instead, favor appliances and objects that consume less energy;
- Switch off your computer or put it into extended standby mode if it is not used for more than an hour.

## 7. Commitment

CONSIDERING THE CONTENTS OF THIS ACCOUNTABILITY POLICY, Mandoline Hybride commits to:

- Apply the policy across all its projects;
- Disseminate the policy widely to open discussions with the arts community and encourage other organizations to develop their own policies;
- Create a permanent committee within its Board of Directors dedicated to this
  policy. This committee will monitor technological advances with a view to
  reducing energy costs in general (electricity, lighting, heating, etc.) and including
  new measures in the policy to address these issues in particular. The committee
  will also initiate a reflection on the ecological impacts of digital development, data
  storage and the company's use of the Drive;
- Adopt updates to the policy at each of its Board of Directors meetings throughout the year via recommendations from the standing committee and Mandoline Hybride's management team. The latest version of the policy will be available in PDF format on the <u>www.mandoliehybride.com</u>;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For more information, see this article in Le Devoir:

https://www.ledevoir.com/videos/661191/internet-quelles-sont-les-consequences-environnementales-desvideoconferences (FR)



• Support the training of Mandoline Hybride's management team in eco-responsibility and sustainable development, and in obtaining eco-responsible certification.



# APPENDIX 1 – Ressources

#### Eco-responsibility kit and tools for the cultural milieu

RQD - Eco-responsible dance practices kit <u>https://www.quebecdanse.org/ressources/trousse-pratiques-ecoresponsables-danse/</u> (FR)

#### **Examples Of Eco responsible Policies**

Recyc-Québec https://www.recyc-quebec.gouv.qc.ca/sites/default/files/documents/politique-eve-ecoresponsabl es.pdf (FR) University of Quebec in Montreal https://instances.uqam.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/47/2018/05/Politique\_no\_37.pdf (FR) Quebec's fauna foundation https://fondationdelafaune.qc.ca/documents/File/Politique%20evenement%20ecoresponsable% 20(PEE).pdf (FR) The Lanaudière food festival http://www.fetesgourmandes.ca/PDF/politique-decoresponsabilite.pdf (FR) Quebec association of palliative care https://www.aqsp.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/politique-eco-responsabilite.pdf (FR) Ecoresponsability Guide – Earth Day Canada https://jourdelaterre.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Guide\_Ecoresponsabilite\_JourdelaTerreCa nada.pdf (FR)

#### Zero Waste Mentality And Recycling/Reuse

Definition, timeline and other info on the Quebec zero waste association's website <a href="https://www.aqzd.ca/">https://www.aqzd.ca/</a> (FR)

Center for creative reuse at Concordia University

https://www.cuccr.ca/

#### **Carbon Credits**

Guide by the David Suzuki's foundation https://davidsuzuki.org/science-learning-centre-article/purchasing-carbon-offsets-a-guide-for-can adian-consumers-businesses-and-organizations/ A text on carbon credits, on why they are not a magic solution and must be complementary to a serious eco-responsible approach https://www.lapresse.ca/actualites/2019-10-15/ou-sont-les-arbres-des-credits-carbone.php (FR) Article from Équiterre : How to better understand carbon credits https://www.equiterre.org/geste/geste-du-mois-davril-2019-mieux-comprendre-la-compensationcarbone (FR) Planetair - Supply of carbon credits certified Gold Standard https://planetair.ca/ Arbre Évolution - Solidarity cooperative located in Bas-St-Laurent, instigator of the "Social reforestation program" https://www.arbre-evolution.org/ (FR) The Ecoresponsible program https://www.ecoresponsable.net/la-certification-ecoresponsable-4-niveaux/ Digital carbon footprint calculator (web browser extension) https://positivr.fr/internet-un-outil-pour-calculer-son-empreinte-carbone-sur-le-web/

#### **Digital Sobriety**



Ecoist Club - social impact project raising awareness of digital ecology issues <u>https://ecoistclub.com</u>

Insertech Angus - a non-profit integration enterprise that trains unemployed young adults, while giving a second life to computer equipment recovered from companies

https://www.insertech.ca

Click Clean (2017) - Site that lists applications that use greener servers

http://www.clickclean.org/international/en/

Eco-Responsible Certification

https://www.ecoresponsable.net/la-certification-ecoresponsable-4-niveaux/ (FR)