



Exhibition Place Becomes First Canadian Venue to Achieve GBAC STAR™ Accreditation



Exhibition Place

TORONTO, ONTARIO, Sept. 3, 2020—Exhibition Place in Toronto is the first Canadian venue to earn [GBAC STAR™ Facility Accreditation](#) from The Global Biorisk Advisory Council® (GBAC), a Division of ISSA.

GBAC STAR is an industry accreditation focused on ensuring a clean, safe, and healthy environment in public and commercial facilities of all sizes. The program outlines best practices, protocols, and procedures to control risk factors associated with infectious disease, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19. The program is administered by GBAC, a division of ISSA, the worldwide cleaning industry association.

“At Exhibition Place, we are ready to reopen safely,” said General Manager Laura Purdy. “We are committed to protecting staff, clients, customers, contractors, visitors, and our community and environment. We have implemented training and awareness programs for our employees that are aligned with the GBAC STAR program, Toronto Public Health and the Provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health guidelines. We look forward to welcoming in-person Business Events back to Toronto’s Exhibition Place with the highest level of safety and cleanliness.”

The following facilities have earned GBAC STAR accreditation:

- Beanfield Centre in Toronto
- Better Living Centre in Toronto
- Enercare Centre in Toronto
- Queen Elizabeth Exhibit Hall in Toronto

Exhibition Place is working collaboratively with clients to plan and execute events within the thresholds established by the Medical Officer of Public Health and multiple levels of government. As part of this effort, all departments across Exhibition Place have been tasked with developing recommendations and best practices that will enable clients to operate within venues during the recovery phase of the pandemic such as:

- Staff training: Exhibition Place will have dedicated housekeeping staff assigned to the public spaces to clean identified high touch point areas.
- Personal Protect Equipment: Exhibition Place has in place a detailed standard operating procedure for the use of PPE. All staff have been taught how to properly wear and install PPE according to regulatory protocols.
- Revised venue space and usage: A well thought out exhibit hall plan keeping in mind consideration for traffic pattern, flow, and feature areas. Creating a traffic flow throughout the event may alleviate the additional cross over of attendees and may assist with physical distancing measures.
- New cleaning protocol: Hospital grade cleaning products are being used. Additional hand sanitizer units have been installed in common spaces.
- Signage: Exhibition Place will have venue signage that will be placed along the route(s) travelled to get to the event on the site. Informational Signage such as, common sense hygiene practices, physical distancing, be prepared for possible line-ups, specific event entrances and sanitization practice signage will be placed in key locations.

To review a full list of GBAC STAR accredited facilities, committed facilities, and industry supporters, visit <https://gbac.issa.com/gbac-star-facilities-and-supporters/>. Additionally, hear from leaders of GBAC STAR-accredited facilities in the GBAC STAR Experience video series, available at <https://gbac.issa.com/media/>.

To apply for GBAC STAR facility accreditation, visit gbac.org/star.

About Exhibition Place

Exhibition Place is an iconic City of Toronto landmark featuring Enercare Centre, Canada's largest convention centre, Beanfield Centre, one of Canada's Greenest Conference Centres and a variety of entertainment and live-sporting venues. Set in a 192-acre urban parkland, [Exhibition Place](#) is enjoyed by Toronto's residents and visitors as a cultural centre with significant heritage properties and public art collections.

Located on Toronto's waterfront next to Lake Ontario, and accessible by transit and major highways, Exhibition Place facilities together offer over 1 million square feet of exhibition and meeting space for hundreds of national and international events annually.

About GBAC, a Division of ISSA

Composed of international leaders in the field of microbial-pathogenic threat analysis, mitigation, response and recovery, the Global Biorisk Advisory Council (GBAC), a Division of ISSA, provides training, guidance, accreditation, certification, crisis management assistance and leadership to government, commercial and private entities looking to mitigate, quickly address and/or recover from biological threats and real-time crises. The organization's services include biorisk management program assessment and training, Forensic Restoration® response and remediation, the GBAC STAR™ facility accreditation program, training and certification of individuals and consulting for building owners and facility managers. For more information, visit www.gbac.org.

About ISSA

With more than 9,300 members—including distributors, manufacturers, manufacturer representatives, wholesalers, building service contractors, in-house service providers, residential cleaners and associated service members—ISSA is the world's leading trade association for the cleaning industry. The association is committed to changing the way the world views cleaning by providing its members with the business tools they need to promote cleaning as an investment in human health, the environment and an improved bottom line. Headquartered in Northbrook, Ill., USA, the association has regional offices in Mainz, Germany; Whitby, Canada; Parramatta, Australia; Seoul, South Korea; and Shanghai, China. For more information about ISSA, visit www.issa-canada.com or call (866) 864-8273 or (905) 665-8001.