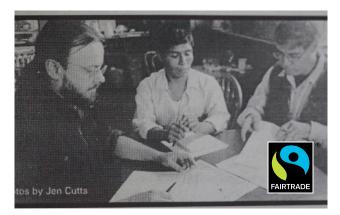


Planet Bean Vision

Planet Bean is an innovative business model that is fair, sustainable and passionate.

Planet Bean was established in 1997 and was an early adopter of the emerging North American specialty coffee movement.

From the beginning Planet Bean distinguished itself from other coffee companies by focusing on high quality coffee grown using organic techniques by small-scale family farmers through certified Fairtrade relationships. Growing from a cafe based roastery on a corner in downtown Guelph, Planet Bean now has three retail coffee bars, a coffee roasting facility and more than 300 whole-sale clients in food-service, retail, offices, churches and universities in Ontario.



Signing the agreement as a founding licensee of Fairtrade Canada 1998

Ontario First is a procurement objective we pursue, except in the case of our coffee beans. Our dairy purchases support 14 Ontario farms, our baker uses Ontario grown grains and other ingredients, and for the past two years we have been able to move our retail bag supplier from off-shore to an Ontario manufacturer. Seventy percent of our non-coffee purchased goods and services are from Ontario.



Coffee flowers and green fruit within which the beans are growing.

Planet Bean Mission

Planet Bean creates the best tasting coffee and through fair trade, links producers and consumers in a meaningful way.



Tassew and his family, growing coffee in Ethiopia for nearly a century.

We Are Ethical

We believe our success is grounded in a moral economy informed by the principals of fair trade for our producers, our workers, our shareholders and our customers.



Wyndham Coffee Bar, downtown Guelph, Ontario.

We Are Passionate

We have a passion for excellent coffee, and this is reflected in our knowledge and advancement of gourmet coffee creation.

We Are Respectful

We are respectful of the many hands that touch our coffee from the farmers who grow it, to the roasters who roast it, the baristas who brew it and to those who drink it.



Erlita and Kate, mother and daughter involed in Cafe Femenino, Peru.

Cafe Femenino is an initiative in the Andes in Northern Peru which involves over 700 indigenous women coffee farmers who grow and sell their own coffee. This project has helped women improve their lives through education for their children, home upgrades and improve their communities through things like road construction and bridges. Planet Bean has been working with Cafe Femenino since it began in 2004.

We Are Co-operatively Driven

We believe a democratic workplace based on the international principals of co-operation is the way to create a model for a people centred economy.



We own it! Planet Bean is owned by a group of its workers through the Sumac Community Worker Co-operative. All of the coffee purchased by Planet Bean comes to us from farmer owned co-operatives.







We Are Ecologically Sustainable

We believe our success as a business is measured not only by our financial earnings but also our ability to reduce our ecological footprint, improve the health of the planet and advance organic production.





Planet Bean's coffee grows in forests such as the one above on the left. These forests are rich in biological diversity and important carbon sinks. Supporting shade grown coffee not only protects habitat for Ontario's migratory songbirds, but also ensures that the complex ecosystem on the left does not become the very simple and lifeless farm on the right.