



SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

*Prepared for
ROSCon 2017*

OVERVIEW

ROSCon 2017 was a chance for ROS developers of all levels to spend an extraordinary two days learning from and networking with the ROS community. ROSCon is a developers conference, in the model of PyCon and BoostCon. Similar to previous years, the two-day program was comprised of technical talks and tutorials that introduced participants to new tools and libraries, as well as taught attendees more about the ones they already know.

Date	September 21 - 22, 2017
Location	Vancouver, BC Canada
Venue	Vancouver Convention Centre West
Number of Attendees	503 registered attendees
Presentations	44 sessions, including two lightning sessions comprised of 24 short presentations
Number of Sponsors and Exhibitors	34
Event Features	66 presentations, 2 lightning talk sessions, poster reception, 1 sponsor networking reception, exhibition hall, diversity scholarship program, and extensive meal functions



LOCATION

Vancouver, BC was the ideal location for ROSCon 2017. By co-locating the conference in conjunction with IROS, ROSCon enables attendees to participate in both conferences with reduced environmental impact as attendees do not have to travel between conferences.

In addition, Vancouver BC is a thought-leader in promoting sustainable initiatives throughout the city, including, but not limited to the following features:

- Green Grants
- Greenest City Action Plan
- Renewable City Strategy
- Zero Waste Vancouver
- Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
- Neighborhood Energy Strategy
- and more!



To learn more about the powerful and important steps Vancouver is taking to become the “greenest city”, visit the City of Vancouver website

<http://vancouver.ca/green-vancouver.aspx>



VENUE

The Vancouver Convention Centre West Building was not only an extraordinarily beautiful venue to host ROSCon, but the walls were, in fact, assembled with the assistance of robots!

Check out the short video on YouTube to learn more about the use of robots in the creation of the wooden walls
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7A6yHsB58as>

The Convention Centre West Building is the **FIRST double LEED Platinum-certified convention centre** and uses the latest green technology to promote their mission of being as environmentally sustainable as possible.

A few of the notable features of the Centre include:

- Six-acre living room which features more than 400,000 indigenous plants and grasses.
- The roof is home to four beehives with European honey bees.
- A restored marine habitat is built into the foundation, which has improved the water quality in the area and contributed to the increase in sea life.
- The black water treatment plant recycles grey and black water that goes back into the washrooms for toilet flushing.



The Centre has won many awards and has a number of additional green initiatives. Visit <https://www.vancouverconventioncentre.com/about-us/environment#> to learn more!



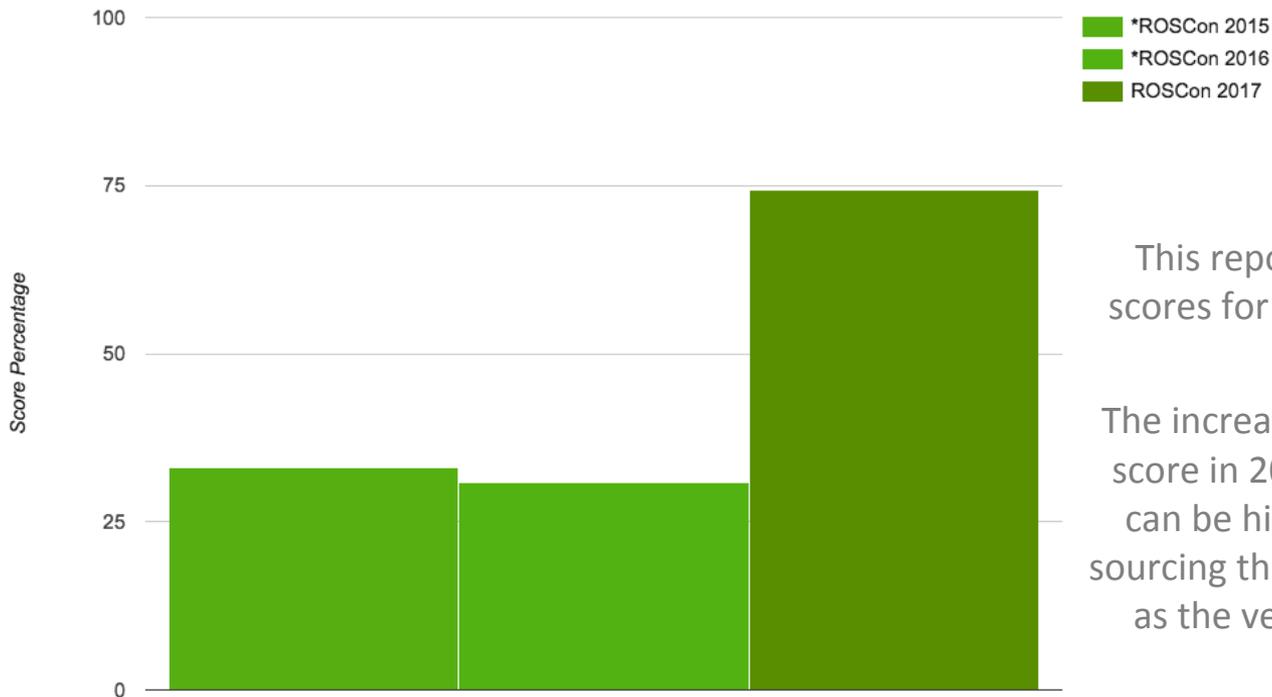
SUCCESSSES



- All MeetGreen minimum guidelines were met by the facility!
- Facility had extensive back and front of house recycling.
- 100% elimination of plastic bottled water, approximately 2,012 plastic bottles.
- All glass beverage containers were washable and reusable.
- China service used for catering functions.
- Conference signage produced on falcon board, which was recycled by the Convention Centre.
- All meal functions provided 100% seasonal, climate-appropriate, fairly traded, GMO-free, and ethical DELICIOUS food options.
- The Conference eliminated handouts at registration and did not provide any printed items to attendees.
- Sustainability initiatives were communicated to attendees via the conference website, in the “know before you go” email, as well as on onsite signage.
- Public transportation from the airport to local housing options was easily accessible and widely utilized.
- A diversity scholar was able to attend the conference via BeamPro, providing increased accessibility and reduced carbon impact.

CONFERENCE LEVEL REPORT

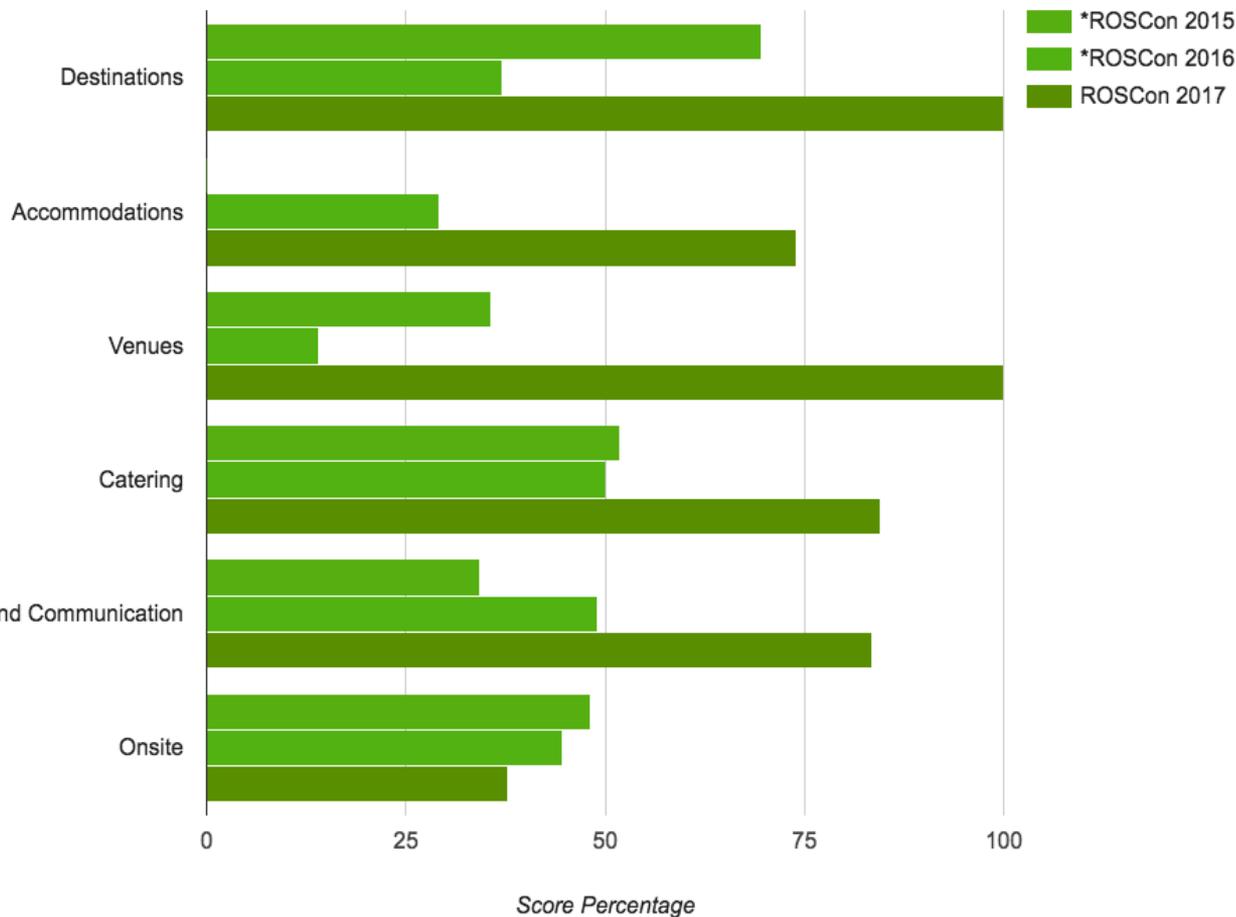
Event Summary



This report shows the total calculator scores for ROSCon 2015, 2016 and 2017.

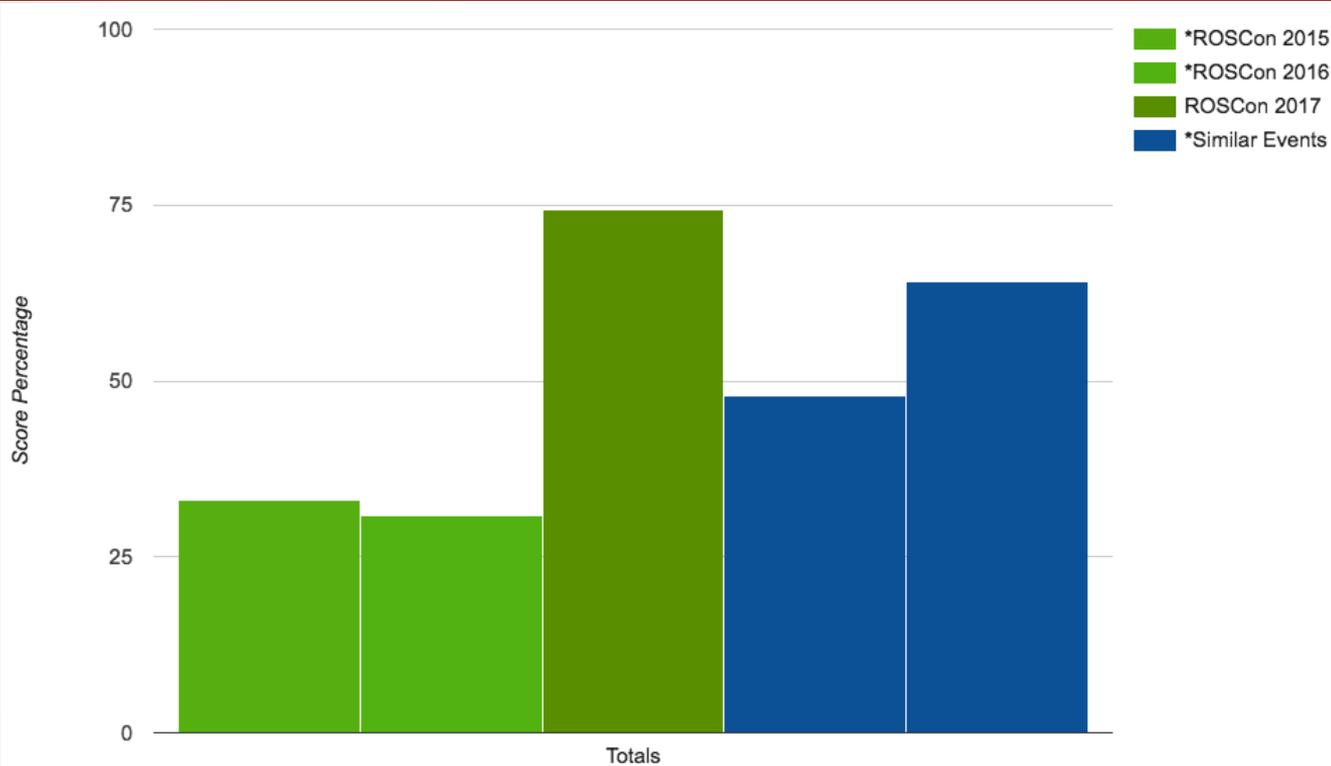
The increase in the MeetGreen calculator score in 2017 as compared to past years can be highly attributed to MeetGreen sourcing the Vancouver Convention Centre as the venue for the 2017 conference.

CONFERENCE CATEGORY SUMMARY REPORT



This report shows the total score for each category across the 2015, 2016 and 2017 conferences.

CONFERENCE COMPARISON REPORT



This report shows how the conference compares to other conferences scored in the MeetGreen calculator over the last 2 years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

✓ DEVELOP a formal Sustainable Meeting Policy for OSRF Events

- Begin a sustainability policy and consider the [ISO 20121](#) Event Sustainability Management System guidelines. The policy will establish commitment and ensure that sustainable meeting practices are incorporated into the conference planning.

The policy would include:

- Sustainability priorities
- Minimum guidelines for cities hosting the ROSCon meetings
- Minimum guidelines for meeting venues and accommodations
- Minimum guidelines for food and beverage
- Minimum guidelines for marketing and communications practices

✓ PROMOTE sustainability goals and initiatives

- Increase attendee awareness of sustainability initiatives and empower them with steps they can take to contribute to the enhancement of sustainability.

✓ GENERATE opportunities for attendee engagement in sustainability

- Include carbon off-set options on the registration form.
- Educate attendees on carbon-offset options and what the funds will contribute to.
- Recognize attendees that contribute onsite and add a recognition section on the conference website.
- Offer sustainability sponsorship opportunities in the sponsor prospectus.

✓ CREATE New Initiatives and goals

- Offer 100% locally and organically sourced food items.
- Ensure the facility has food composting.
- Create a reusable signage plan and/or create all signage with sustainable materials.
- Keep a green tagline at bottom of any eblasts.
- Expand hybrid meeting component.
- Actively encourage smart transportation. Encourage ride share and carpooling.

