

# **UpMedia Inc**

Disclosure Report Date Submitted: August 1st, 2023

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### **Disclosure Materials**

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company



# **Disclosure Questionnaire**

#### **Industries and Products**

#### Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services** $\boxed{}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Alcohol Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels $\square$ Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human $\square$ **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** $\square$ **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High **Interest Lending Water Intensive Industries** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Tax Advisory Services

#### **Outcomes & Penalties**

	Yes	No	
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.			
Anti-Competitive Behavior		$\checkmark$	
Breaches of Confidential Information		V	
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption			
Company has filed for bankruptcy		V	
Consumer Protection		V	
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		N	
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		N	
Labor Issues		V	
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		K	
Litigation or Arbitration	V		
On-Site Fatality		$\searrow$	
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		V	
Political Contributions or International Affairs		N	
Recalls			
Significant Layoffs		V	
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		N	
Other		$\triangleright$	



#### **Practices**

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		K
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		V
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		$\searrow$
Company workers are prisoners		$\searrow$
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		$\checkmark$
Confirmation of Right to Work		V
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		$\searrow$
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		K
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		N
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		\
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		V
No signed employment contracts for all workers		V
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		$\checkmark$
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		V
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		V
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		$\searrow$
Workers paid below minimum wage		N
Workers Under Bond		$\checkmark$
Other	$\checkmark$	

### Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		V
Child or Forced Labor		V
Negative Environmental Impact		$\vee$
Negative Social Impact		$\vee$
Other		$\checkmark$



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

**Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Arbitration** 

Issue Date	2019
Topic	Arbitration related to client contracts.
Summary of Issue	UpMedia reported one Arbitration related to disagreement on issues pertaining to work amount and budget in relation to a client contract. The company alleges it needed to be adequately informed about the scope of work that should be provided to the client. Once UpMedia identified that, the company proposed alternatives to the client, refusing them all. UpMedia was not protected by a typical "scope change" clause. The client brought their claim to small claims courts demanding a 100% refund.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	UpMedia paid a value equivalent to 8% of the company's 2019 revenue.
Impact on Stakeholders	Minor financial harm to UpMedia and potential financial harm to the client.
Resolution	The case was settled outside of small claims court.
Management Practices	UpMedia hired a lawyer to update all the contracts and teach them how to outline all deliverables in enough detail. The contracts went from 3 to 10 pages of legal terms (which nowadays it's discussed with each client to make sure they fully understand what they're agreeing to) which includes multiple sections about out of scope requests and how they are handled when they arise.
Related Incidents	No.



# **Disclosure Questionnaire Statement**

### **Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Disclosure Industries**

Topic	Clients in controversial industries.
Summary of Issue	UpMedia is an advertising and market research company that has had clients operating in the alcohol industry on an ongoing basis over the last 5 years. The clients the company has had in this industry have been small scale farm breweries and the nature of the company's service to each client was the production of a promotional video aimed at hi-lighting their environmentally friendly brewing methods. The company's services can be sold to clients in both controversial as well as non-controversial industries.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	In FY 2022 1.7% of the company's revenue was derived from 3 clients in the alcohol industry.
Impact on Stakeholders	Companies that work with clients in controversial industries can indirectly increase the harmful impact to stakeholders by enabling business growth. Therefore, companies that work with clients in these industries should have practices in place to ensure that their impact is aimed at decreasing the negative impacts of the industry.  B Lab has flagged the involvement of companies with clients in controversial industries as a material issue and new standards will be created to address possible risks related to this matter.
Implemented Management Practices	UpMedia reported that does not work with sensitive industries, with the only exception being if the brand has a large commitment to sustainability. The 3 different alcohol brands they work for, all have curring edge farming practices:  - The first is Persephone Brewing which is a Certified B Corp - and has won farming awards: top 5% of B Corporations; Best for the World (Environment, 10-49 Employees)  - The second company, Festina Lente is recognized for its organic farming practices that are improving the declining bee populations  - The third, Klippers Organic Acres is an important grower in B.C. (British Columbia) of organic fruits and vegetables. They also happened to produce Cider.



Links to websites: Klippers Organic Acres: https://www.klippersorganics.com/ Festina Lente: https://www.festinalente.ca/ Persephone Brewing: https://www.persephonebrewing.com/

It's also important to note that the company is committed to never showing anyone actually consuming liquor. Its videos and stories focus around the farming practices that lead to its end product, and how supporting these brands over mainstream competitors helps do good for the BC sustainability movement.