

PAR COURRIEL

Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

Meghan Fay Zahniser  
Executive Director  
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102  
Philadelphia, PA 19103  
USA

Dear Madam,

On behalf of the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), I am very pleased to submit our first STARS certification report to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

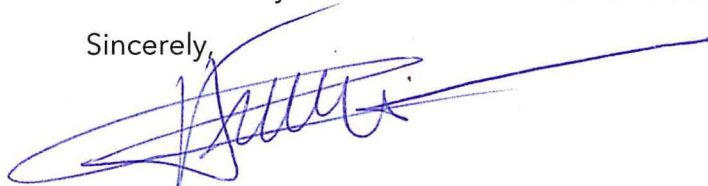
As a French public university, UQAM is one of the largest in the French-speaking world and is a pioneer in sustainability research. We are committed to becoming carbon-neutral before 2040. The quality of programs at UQAM, along with its research activities rooted in social issues and its innovation and creativity, have all contributed to establishing its reputation, here and around the globe. Our strong Community Services Office, the only one of its kind in Québec, collaborates with about fifty social groups not traditionally served by universities, with a view to meeting their specific needs by actively engaging professors and students in research.

From the beginning, our university has opted for a collaborative approach through its programs, research, community services and governance. Consequently, UQAM demonstrates its tangible contribution to sustainable development by making strategic decisions regarding eco-responsible practices to collectively improve quality of life and environmental conservation.

In 2019, UQAM signed the Global Climate Letter for Universities and Colleges sent to key UN and government officials. The UQAM Foundation has totally divested from fossil fuel companies since 2018. Moreover, our energy efficiency plan implemented in 2006 improved energy consumption and reduced GHG emissions by 35 percent.

We hope the STARS certification process will allow us to showcase the efforts made over the last 15 years and we believe it will be an important lever to mobilize our community towards a more sustainable future.

Sincerely,



Magda Fusaro  
Rector