

30 October 2020

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street – Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA USA
19103

To whom it may concern,

As President of Brock University, I am proud to introduce the enclosed documentation that inaugurates our institution's active and committed engagement in the Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System.

Embracing green initiatives is in Brock's DNA. Located in the Niagara region of Ontario, Canada, we are among a handful of universities in the world to be situated within a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Brock's culture makes sustainability and environmental stewardship key considerations in major academic or operational files as well as day-to-day activities.

This principle runs deep at Brock. To illustrate, here are just a few examples:

- In the classroom, undergraduate program offerings include a Minor in Environmental Sustainability, and graduate programming includes a Master's of Sustainability;
- In research, our world-class Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) combines the diverse expertise of scholars from many different faculties and disciplines to create new knowledge that advances environmental sustainability, for instance helping area communities and agencies deal with climate change, plan for intelligent urban development or protect habitats from the effects of intense tourism;

- Brock is a leader among North American universities for its hot-water-based District Energy System (DES), used to heat buildings on main campus. A state-of-the-art co-generation system, the DES also produces electricity and chilled water, significantly reducing Brock's carbon emissions and operating costs, and giving the University in-house capacity to sustain campus operations in the event of regional power outages caused by extreme weather events;
- In 2018 the ESRC and Brock's Department of Facilities Management, supported by the University's senior leadership, created a partnership called the Brock University Project Charter to focus and advance sustainability at Brock. In its first year, this partnership created a full Environmental Sustainability Plan for the University, which addresses tangible energy conservation and greenhouse gas emission targets, environmental sustainability management, and education for sustainability;
- The Brock University Students' Union (BUSU) collects a \$1-per-credit Green Levy from undergraduate students, to fund energy-efficient renovations of BUSU facilities, divert waste from landfills and reduce BUSU's environmental footprint;

Environmental sustainability is intrinsic to everything we do. Brock University is making decisions today that will contribute to a sustainable and vibrant future tomorrow.

Becoming active participants in and supporters of STARS will only further inspire and enable the passionate forces for sustainability that are already entrenched across our campus community.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Gervan Fearon, President
Brock University