

NORTHLAND COLLEGE

Office of the President

January 18, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

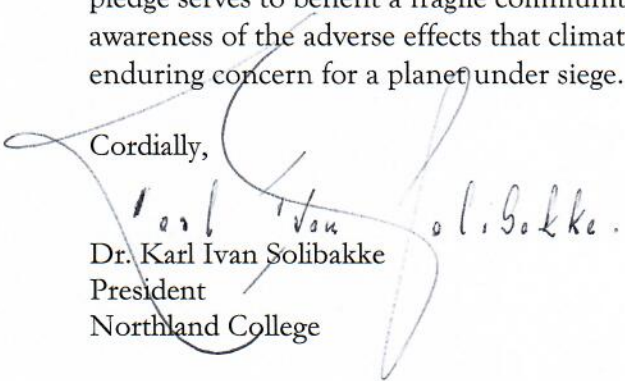
In keeping with the spirit of Northland College's mission and values, I am pleased to reaffirm the College's commitment to moving aggressively toward sustainability as we submit our data to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS®). Engaging Northland College faculty, staff, students, and community stakeholders, the process undertaken to gather and collate appropriate data for submission has been characterized as collaborative, comprehensive, and forward-looking. In spite of extraordinary circumstances posed by the COVID-19 crisis, we are satisfied that our current results have integrity and that the college community is keenly aware of the merits and demerits of our approach to sustainability as well as the upgrades that need to be substantiated in future years.

On the basis of the STARS process we have already initiated vibrant conversations about anchoring sustainability at Northland within our governance documents, facilitating board and college management as well as our faculty, staff and students to foreshadow priorities for continual enhancements. At this time, the avenues for improvement that have been determined conjoin a broad segment of our community constituents and anchor sustainability into the fabric of our strategic planning.

To this avail, we are crafting a sustainability charter that will coalesce board and management into pragmatic steps to achieve carbon neutrality, apply comprehensive waste reduction methodologies, reengineer energy-efficient plant and facilities, and identify sustainability-sensitive curricula. Although our past has informed our future, we continue to assess and reaffirm our regional mandate as an environmental college in the North Woods.

As such, we pledge to achieve the highest echelon of ecofriendly integrity within our means. Our pledge serves to benefit a fragile community nestled on Lake Superior, to inform our critical awareness of the adverse effects that climate change has wrought on our nation, and to frame our enduring concern for a planet under siege.

Cordially,


Dr. Karl Ivan Solibakke
President
Northland College