

November 18, 2022

Dear AASHE STARS Steering Committee,

I am pleased to write this letter for the University of the Fraser Valley's (UFV) inaugural STARS submission. Achieving STARS certification builds on and aligns with UFV's Integrated Strategic Plan, specifically to a key strategic theme focusing on social innovation and environmental sustainability. The information in this report provides an accurate and comprehensive summary of our current efforts and commitment to sustainability and climate action.

As shown in this report, UFV has a demonstrated commitment to sustainability in operations, administration, academics, and engagement. Our commitment to reconciliation is at the forefront of everything we do, our Indigenization Plan, Indigenous Affairs office, and Indigenization Committee offer meaningful commitments to our Indigenous partners. Our expansive sustainability course offerings allow students to deepen their understanding of sustainability and prepare them to make meaningful impacts as graduates. UFV's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Action Plan recognizes the diversity of our population, the importance of creating and implementing equity, and exploration of ways in which inclusion can and should take place on our campuses and beyond.

I am proud of our sustainability accomplishments to date, and I look forward to building upon the excellent work identified in this submission and to continuing to commit to sustainability as a priority throughout the institution.

Undertaking the STARS process has offered the opportunity to both catalogue the various outstanding sustainability efforts currently underway at UFV, as well as to identify some important next steps to take in our sustainability journey. As part of these next steps, we will work to increase student engagement in sustainability issues, build upon our relationships with other post-secondary institutions in the realm of sustainability, formalize our sustainable procurement and waste management planning processes, and work to formalize a climate action plan for the campus.

I look forward to the University continuing along the path to sustainability. Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Goudsblom", is written over a horizontal line.

Mark Goudsblom

Associate Vice President, Campus Planning and Facilities Management

University of the Fraser Valley