

November 1, 2023

Dear Committee members,

On behalf of the Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS), it is a pleasure to express our commitment to the Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System certification process. By submitting our application to STARS certification for the first time, we affirm our unwavering commitment to transparency, as we validate the accuracy of the data provided in our report.

The STARS certification holds great significance for our higher education institution as it allows us to underscore and strengthen our dedication to sustainable development. Indeed, this certification appears to be an excellent tool to assess our performance, track our progress in sustainability, draw inspiration from universities worldwide and share our commitment to sustainable development. We firmly believe that sustainability is a fundamental pillar for higher education institutions, and the STARS certification provides an effective framework to showcase our ongoing efforts in this area.

INRS commitment to sustainability is illustrated by various elements.

We have recently hired a Sustainability Advisor under the supervision of the Scientific Director. This marks an exciting development as INRS celebrates a significant milestone this year: the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sustainable development policy. This strategic initiative demonstrates our institutional commitment to sustainability and the effective management of sustainability actions and programs, such as our 2022-2025 Sustainability Action Plan. We have developed a comprehensive action plan that outlines our sustainable goals, reflecting our proactive approach to addressing sustainability challenges and opportunities within our institution such as our commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2040.

The uniqueness and strength of INRS lie in its distinction as an institution exclusively dedicated to research and training through research. Therefore, INRS is proud of the active engagement and involvement of its researchers and academic community in advancing sustainability and contributing to a better society for future generations.

INRS is fully committed to the STARS certification process and is proud to share its journey towards achieving sustainability excellence with the AASHE.

Thank you for your consideration and support of our sustainability initiatives.

Chief Executive Officer,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Luc-Alain Giraldeau". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Luc-Alain Giraldeau, Ph.D.