



August 3, 2011

To whom it may concern,

This letter affirms that the Westminster Hall Zero Waste designation fulfills the criteria for the innovation credit in this year's submission for the STARS report. The University of Western Ontario has a superb track-record for environmental initiatives and I proudly endorse the efforts of our Division and the occupants of Westminster Hall for maximizing their diversion rate.

Zero Waste is a proprietary auditing system maintained by the International Zero Waste Alliance. The objective of the project is to raise the profile of recycling in all of Western's buildings through transparent audits and awareness strategies. Seeking a diversion rate of 90% or better for every building is a unique concept in high-learning institutions. However, the program is effective because it acknowledges that no two buildings are alike.

Westminster Hall was the first building to be audited in 2010 and successfully achieved Zero Waste status the same year. This project is significant because it incorporates a commitment from a large group – in this case, the occupants of Westminster Hall and an effective diversion infrastructure. This combination of process and user engagement is why I support the Zero Waste designation at Westminster hall as an innovation credit for Western's STARS submission.

Sincerely,

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