



uOttawa

Université d'Ottawa
Cabinet du recteur

University of Ottawa
Office of the President

August 10, 2011

TO: The Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
(AASHE)

I am very proud to present the University of Ottawa's first ever Sustainable Tracking and Rating System (STARS) submission to the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). The University prides itself on its commitment to becoming a sustainable institution located in the heart of the Nation's Capital. For decades, our institution has been a leader in environmental practices and social justice issues.

In the past few years, the University of Ottawa has achieved many great things. Five years ago, the first sustainability coordinator was hired; this was followed quickly by the creation of a sustainable development committee. For three years running, the University has been recognized as the Canadian champion of RecycleMania, an achievement that is a true demonstration of our community's ability to come together for the environment. In this past year, the University of Ottawa became one of the first campuses in Canada to implement a ban on bottled water. These activities have created momentum, momentum which has resulted in the inclusion of sustainability in the latest version of the University's Strategic Planning exercise.

The purpose of this letter is to attest to the validity of the information submitted by the University of Ottawa to AASHE. In this regard I am confident that the information included in our submission is valid. It has been researched and checked thoroughly. The University of Ottawa has scored a Silver this time, a score that we are very proud of. This score is a symbol of the amazing work that our community is capable of when we work together. The survey itself is the culmination of many hours of work by many dedicated individuals, but of more importance is the content of the survey which paints a picture of a campus moving towards becoming a good corporate citizen.

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This STARS submission marks a new era of sustainability on our campus. With this comprehensive analysis, we can now begin to focus our efforts at improving in the areas where we do not perform well, and maintaining our status in the areas where we excel. We have a long journey ahead of us, but our institution is committed to giving it our best shot. We are in it for the long haul.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allan Rock". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Allan Rock
President and Vice-Chancellor