



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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June 29, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to offer my endorsement and approval of the STARS Innovation Credit titled **UBC Bioenergy Research and Demonstration Project** being submitted by the University of British Columbia as part of its STARS package. As Director of Research & Partnerships, I am intimately involved in the BRDP and would like to briefly highlight three areas that demonstrate the innovative nature of this unique project.

- **Innovative Research:** The facility, in addition to supplying clean energy for the campus, will advance clean energy research and development. Researchers will conduct applied research on bioenergy systems, other green technologies and best practices and policies. UBC research collaborators for the project include the Clean Energy Research Centre (CERC), the Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS), the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, the Faculty of Applied Science and the Sauder School of Business
- **Innovative Operational Solutions:** this first-of-its-kind clean energy project that will generate enough clean electricity to power 1,500 homes and reduce the University of British Columbia's natural gas consumption by up to 12 per cent. The four-story, 1,886-square-metre facility will be the first North American commercial application of cross-laminated-timber (CLT), a European building system adapted for BC lumber and manufacturing facilities.
- **Innovative Partnership:** The \$27-million UBC Bioenergy Research and Demonstration Project (BRDP) is a partnership with Vancouver-based Nexterra Systems Corp. and General Electric Co. (GE). When it opens in 2012, it will be the first biomass-fueled, heat-and-power generation system of its kind in the world, bringing together a local technology leader with a global industrial corporation, to develop an RD&D project that exemplifies UBC's ability to connect research and industry, and meet sustainability goals. Crucially, once the project is fully demonstrated at UBC, Nexterra and GE will replicate the technology throughout Canada and globally.

If you require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Brent Sauder', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brent Sauder  
Director, Research & Partnerships Office  
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