

July 20, 2021

Meghan Fay Zahniser, Executive Director Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education 2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102 Philadelphia PA 19103 USA

Dear Ms. Zahniser:

Re: Dalhousie University's 2021 STARS Submission

Dalhousie is pleased to be a long-standing STARS participant as we submit our fourth STARS submission. The University values publicly tracking, reporting and improving on our sustainability goals and actions. The AASHE STARS program provides a comprehensive system for sustainability assessment, as such, it is referenced in the new <u>University Strategic Plan</u> as one of the important reporting metrics the University will be actively engaged with.

Universities, through our teaching, research and operations, have a critical role to play in working on complex global problems from ocean and land health to the rapid impacts of climate change, and the equitable provision of food. How we engage one another is equally important as we advance cultural and organizational values of equity, diversity, inclusion and accessibility.

The University has structured our <u>research agenda</u> around the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and is engaged in five-themed clusters. Operationally, we continue to advance our scores in key areas such as green building, renewable energy and carbon reduction. We are actively working on major initiatives for off-site renewable energy. Student action and engagement in sustainability issues continues to be strong through student society work and practical internships, addition of more co-op programs, including a new sustainability co-op, and class-focused campus and community action.

We are looking forward to continuing to advance our global and local sustainability efforts in all areas of the organization. We thank you and your team for all the efforts invested in maintaining and enhancing AASHE and associated programs like STARS.

Sincerely,

Jain

Deep Saini President and Vice-Chancellor