



December 11, 2023

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 Y2 N. Limestone
Lexington, KY
United States of America 40507

Re: Okanagan College STARS Report Submission

To whom it may concern:

This letter confirms that the information in the attached Okanagan College STARS Report is accurate and up to date. This is the third opportunity Okanagan College has had to submit this report and after a nine-year hiatus we are treating this submission as a new baseline. We have a long-term goal of reaching a minimum Gold standard in our subsequent submission.

In 2021, we made a renewed commitment to sustainability through our new Strategic Plan, *Inspire*. Outlined in *Inspire* are five key responsibilities one of which is sustainability. This responsibility identifies a number of strategic results including that we be an active partner in the UN Sustainable Development Goals and that we exceed all provincial and federal standards for carbon reduction.

Okanagan College has long been motivated to pursue an ambitious sustainability agenda. We believe that there is no better way to teach and encourage sustainable building practices than to feature our facilities as part of our curriculum. This has been, and continues to be, illustrated by our capital construction projects. In 2011 we completed construction of The Jim Pattison Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Building Technologies and Renewable Energy Conservation at our Penticton campus. The Centre is one of the most innovative and sustainable buildings of its type in the world. We have carried that commitment to sustainable construction with our later construction projects, which have all pursued various sustainability standards including LEED, Passive House, Carbon Zero and BC Step code. Like the Jim Pattison Centre these more recent builds all aspire to the highest standards of sustainability and will also act as living classrooms that model what we teach.

Our intent is that this 'new baseline' submission will help us focus our efforts and parlay our green building successes into a more meaningful culture shift so that we can prepare our students and employees for the future.

Thank you for your continued commitment to providing a system for institutions, such as ours, to monitor our sustainability performance.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'N. Fassina', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Neil Fassina
President