



July 6, 2011

Re: University of Calgary – Institutional Sustainability Report

To Whom It May Concern:

The University of Calgary has initiated an innovative process for the development of its first Institutional Sustainability Report (ISR), a significant step towards advancing performance measurement in campus sustainability.

The ISR is an institutional version of a Corporate Sustainability Report, and reviews campus sustainability performance at the University of Calgary using both quantitative and qualitative measures and indicators. The comprehensive report – which covers Education & Research, Campus Operations and Planning, Administration & Engagement – was informed through stakeholder engagement on campus, as well as several sustainability reporting and planning frameworks including:

- The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS)
- The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) – an international standard for corporate and institutional sustainability reporting frameworks.
- imagineCALGARY – Calgary's long-term community plan for urban sustainability, developed with the input of over 18,000 citizens.

Additionally, the Office of Sustainability took an innovative approach in developing the ISR by collaborating with faculty and students in the Haskayne School of Business. An MBA student group and a University of Calgary professor recognized in the field of CSR was engaged to contribute to the report and worked with the Office of Sustainability to survey global CSR practices, conduct consultations with the campus community, develop the report format and draft content.

The University of Calgary's Institutional Sustainability Report is anticipated to be among the first in North America to combine the comprehensive sustainability framework provided by STARS with the rigorous reporting processes of the Global Reporting Initiative. The innovative partnership between students, staff and faculty in developing the ISR is a testament to the University of Calgary's commitment to experiential learning and collaborative approaches to sustainability.

Yours truly,

Dexter Lam  
Program Development Manager, Office of Sustainability

cc: Joanne Perdue  
Director of Sustainability, Office of Sustainability