



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

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June 9, 2011

The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: University of Calgary STARS Report Submission

Four short years ago, the University of Calgary was an organization without a formal sustainability program. Today, the U of C is emerging as one of Canada's leaders in campus sustainability.

This rapid progress is most clearly demonstrated by the Board of Governors' recent approval of the Institutional Sustainability Plan (ISP), a comprehensive framework for advancing sustainability in Planning, Administration and Engagement; Learning and Research; and Campus Operations. Developed over a 2 year period, the ISP is largely aligned with AASHE's Sustainability Tracking and Rating Systems (STARS) program. It includes goals as well as key performance indicators to support measurement, verification, and reporting of our progress. The ISP is now one of a suite of institutional planning documents which guide the academic and business processes at the University of Calgary.

The University of Calgary is a signatory to the University + College Presidents Climate Change Statement of Action for Canada, and we are committed to advancing our Climate Action Plan. The U of C is currently on track to reach our initial target of reducing greenhouse emissions by 45 percent by 2015. Our ongoing Energy Performance Initiative and the completion of our new co-generation facility this summer lend critical support to reaching our target.

Our demonstrated leadership in sustainability has garnered recognition from within our community and beyond. Last year the University of Calgary earned an A- ranking from the Sustainable Endowments Institute, tying for top marks in Canada. This year the University of Calgary has been recognized by its local community with a prestigious Calgary Award for Environmental Leadership.

../2

The attached STARS report was prepared by our Office of Sustainability, based on broad consultation with the campus community. Student volunteers also assisted with data analysis and compilation. To the best of our knowledge this submission is an accurate measurement of our progress to date.

The University of Calgary proudly submits its first STARS report in support of a STARS Silver rating. This is an important milestone in our commitment to excellence and leadership in advancing the pursuit of sustainability in teaching, research, community service, and operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Cannon', with a small dot at the end of the line.

M. Elizabeth Cannon, PhD, FCAE, FRSC
President and Vice-Chancellor

Attachment