

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability
in Higher Education (AASHE)
213 ½ N. Limestone, Lexington, KY 40507

August 20, 2011

Dear AASHE STARS Program Staff,

I am writing to affirm the University of Northern British Columbia's (UNBC) qualification for an innovation credit for our participation in the *goBEYOND Teach-In Project*.

UNBC has partnered with the goBEYOND Campus Climate Network since September 2008 to implement the Teach-In Project at UNBC. The Teach-In challenges post-secondary institutions to engage in conversation and problem solving on the issues of climate change. Over the past three years, hundreds of professors at UNBC have committed 15 minutes or more of class time to host discussions and work on collaborative class projects related to climate change. The program engages UNBC students in important dialogue about climate solutions and how they can take action on campus.

One of the most innovative Teach-In Projects at UNBC was lead by a Chemistry Professor and class. The students found that changing the main campus road traffic pattern from one way to two ways would lead to 16.5 tonnes reduction in CO2 emissions each week. This study was presented to the Sustainability Manager and UNBC administration and the traffic pattern change was successfully implemented in 2009.

The Teach-in is an innovative project that integrates teaching, learning and problem solving to generate on the ground solutions for mitigating the effects of climate change. Furthermore, the project has allowed students to develop the problem solving and collaboration skills they will need to create a sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Danielle Smyth
Sustainability Manager