

June 16, 2015

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY, 40507
United States of America

Dear STARS Steering Committee:

## Re: NAIT STARS 2015 Report Submission

NAIT is one of the largest and most respected polytechnics in Canada. We are committed to being relevant and responsive to the needs of our students and staff members, to industry, and to Alberta. We provide pragmatic, hands-on learning opportunities to students, conduct applied research to solve real world problems, and have been recognized as one of Alberta's top employers for the past three consecutive years.

Through various consultations with our campus community, NAIT has created a vision for the institute entitled NAIT 2021. The NAIT 2021 document provides observations about NAIT's current state; presents a vision for NAIT in 2021; describes NAIT's promises to Alberta, to industry, to students, and to staff; and describes the NAIT Way and how staff will work together to achieve the vision and promises. NAIT 2021 has proven invaluable in defining our culture and the nature of our commitment to Alberta as a polytechnic institute – as well as how that will look in the future.

As outlined in NAIT 2021, we are committed to integrating sustainability concepts into our programs and to achieving our goal of becoming a STARS gold rated institution. Since achieving our first STARS bronze rating in 2012 and becoming the first STARS rated polytechnic in Canada, we have continued to elevate our sustainability performance by integrating ecologically sound, financially responsible, and socially beneficial practices into our daily operations. Our applied research facilities, talented employees, and hardworking students also play an essential role in helping Alberta to reach its environmental and economic targets.

Highlights of our collective sustainability achievements include, but are not limited to:

- Greenhouse gas emissions have decreased by 21% from our 2007 baseline;
- 78% of all NAIT graduates are from programs with sustainability learning outcomes; and,
- The NAIT Applied Research Centre for Oils Sands Sustainability and the NAIT Boreal Research Institute work to provide practical solutions to address environmental challenges associated with the Alberta energy sector.

Receiving a STARS Silver rating verifies NAIT's sustainability commitments and brings us one step closer to realizing sustainability goals in our NAIT 2021 vision. It also serves as a new baseline to measure our performance from as we move forward and strive to be one of Canada's most sustainable polytechnics. I am very proud to submit the attached report and can affirm that it is accurate to the best of our knowledge and abilities.

Sincerely

Glenn Feltham, PhD, MBA, LLB, CMA, FCMA

President and CEO