

April 8, 2015

Meghan Fay Zahniser
Executive Director
The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
1536 Wynkoop St., Suite 901
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Ms. Fay Zahniser,

It is with great pleasure that Sheridan College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning presents its second STARS report. I am proud to report that, in less than three years and with dedicated effort by a large number of our employees and students, we have advanced from a Bronze to a Silver rating.

Sheridan delivers a premier, purposeful educational experience in an environment renowned for creativity and innovation. Within this context, Sheridan defines its core values as Academic Excellence, Creativity and Innovation, and Global Citizenship.

While Sheridan's Strategic Plan describes how the academic character of the institution will be shaped to transfer these values to students through curriculum and experience, the Plan also describes Sheridan as an institution exemplifying these values. Our Sustainability Policy states that "*as an academic institution, employer, investor and community partner, Sheridan strives to become the institutional model for how a 21st century organization practices sustainability - balancing economic, social and environmental priorities as a responsible corporate citizen.*" It is this commitment and Sheridan's unique character you see reflected in the programs and actions described in our report.

Much progress has been made in the Operations category through the ambitious goals of our Mission Zero program. The Integrated Energy and Climate Master Plan incorporates a number of strategic investments in efficiency and energy infrastructure that will see Sheridan reduce its energy consumption by 50% and its greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2020. Under this plan, our Facilities Services department has been working with the Sheridan community to gain control of building systems, improve energy performance of existing buildings, and ensure that all new construction exceeds typical LEED construction to an energy performance of 70-100 kWh/m² (22-32 kBtu/ft²) per year.

Zero Waste Stations incorporating recycling, organics, and landfill bins with clear signage have now been deployed at all campus locations. These bins, accompanied by an educational campaign about the importance of proper sorting, have significantly boosted diversion of waste from landfill.

This STARS submission also shows a drastic improvement in Public Engagement. We are now able to claim over half of the available points, up from under 10%. This category accounts for our innovative Repair Café, our inter-campus collaboration with the Ontario College and University Sustainability Professionals network, as well as partnerships with local business, organizations, and regional governments.

Academic administrators were engaged early in the process of identifying courses containing sustainability content, and as a result, we are submitting a thoroughly-examined course list that has allowed us to claim nearly half of the Academics credits, up from 16% in the first submission.

Lastly, we are now able to claim all four Innovation credits with our Repair Café, intelligent thermostats, mandated energy performance requirements for new buildings, and MakerSpace Creative Hub.

Sheridan's journey to transition to a university by 2020 includes program and service expansion and increased enrollment. During this transformation, we will maintain our commitment to sustainability, keep

sustainability best practices in mind, and strive for continuous improvement. The transparent and accountable framework of STARS has been a valuable tool that has allowed us to identify key areas for future improvement, which we will attempt to address for future submissions.

As President and CEO of Sheridan College, I affirm that the information in this submission has been thoroughly checked for accuracy. I thank the many faculty and staff that were involved in collecting and providing information, without which this STARS submission would not have been possible. I look forward to continuing on this journey along with the other colleges and universities who have made the commitment to sustainability, especially our peers in Canada.

Sincerely,



Jeff Zabudsky, Ph.D.
President and CEO