

May 19, 2023

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability
in Higher Education (AASHE)
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Steering Committee Members,

On behalf of John Abbott College, I am pleased to present our report for the AASHE Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS). The report will demonstrate the accomplishments in sustainable practices made by the John Abbott College community within operations, policies, learning activities and community outreach, completed or in progress.

Since John Abbott College opened in 1971, it has been a significant part of English post-secondary education in Quebec and a pillar in the Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue community. Today, the College caters to over 6500-day students and more than 2000 Continuing Education students from Québec, Canada and abroad. About 50% of the JAC community voted on the top 10 orientations for the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan, it was clear that sustainability and the climate crisis were an important factor for the community. The College motto is “*Lakeside View, Global Vision*”. We take pride in saying that John Abbott College is a leader in addressing the climate crisis in our local perspective and approach in operations and community outreach to discover ways to reduce our institutional carbon footprint and environmental impact, all this from a breathtaking lakeside campus. We will extend our global vision and share best practices with the next generation for their continuance.

Among some of John Abbott College’s sustainable achievements are:

- our Anne-Marie Edward building which earned the LEED Gold Certification;
- students partaking in the Eco-Challenge and the United Nation’s Sustainable Development Goals;

.../2

- John Abbott College is a proud signatory of the PAN Canadian Protocol for Sustainability with the Colleges and Institutes Canada;
- the Learning Centre Plant project came about with donations from local supporters to plant a vegetable and herb garden, and embellish the College grounds with a perennial garden;
- many compost bins are located throughout the College to collect organic waste.

We thank you for the opportunity to be part of the AASHE community and we look forward to continuing and strengthening our leadership in sustainability.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Halpin', written in a cursive style.

John Halpin
Director General
John Abbott College