

September 10, 2014

STARS Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
213 ½ North Limestone
Lexington, KY 40507
USA

Dear Steering Committee members,

I am pleased to present Fanshawe College's first Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS) submission to the Association for Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

With its main campus in London and three regional campuses – in Simcoe, St. Thomas, and Woodstock – accommodating 44,000 students and 1,600 staff in more than 2.2 million square feet of operating space, Fanshawe College has the footprint to make a significant contribution to the sustainability of Southwestern Ontario.

In 2009, Fanshawe College signed the Pan-Canadian Protocol for Sustainability, agreeing to provide leadership and maximize our contribution to a sustainable future. This allowed us to formalize our commitment to sustainability and begin establishing a sustainable culture at the College. Since then, we have been working hard to make changes to all areas of the College to improve practices in our operations and academics. Today, this desire is embedded in our new strategic framework with one of the goals being to, "foster a high-performing and sustainable college."

Eco-friendly solutions are gradually transforming Fanshawe College into the responsible and sustainable institution we strive to become, including:

- Hiring a Sustainability Coordinator;
- Instituting a compost program throughout the College;
- Providing a secure bicycle lock up to encourage students and staff to leave their car at home; and
- Hosting a sustainability speaker series as well as lunch and learns for employees.

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As Fanshawe College grows to meet student and employer needs, we continue to make sustainable choices in new development projects. In 2010, Fanshawe unveiled the new Centre for Applied Transportation Technologies (Z Building). The project, supported by a LEED certified consultant, incorporates many sustainable features, including storm water reclamation for irrigation, solar shading, daylighting of offices, classrooms and labs to allow for significant natural light and a 43,000-square-foot green roof.

Our newest location – the Howard W. Rundle Building in downtown London, which houses the Centre for Digital and Performance Arts – also incorporates many energy-efficient features including LED lighting, motion sensors for lighting, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, daylight harvesting and low flow washroom fixtures.

At Fanshawe, our goal is to unlock potential through a promise to educate, engage, empower and excite in everything we do. As an institution focused on providing pathways to success, an exceptional learning experience and a global outlook to meet student and employer needs, we look to advance a conversation that gets people thinking about sustainability and ways they can make a difference. In short, while our school colours are red and white, we want our students and staff to think “green.”

We believe this inaugural STARS submission has helped make our College and surrounding community more sustainable. Many of the students, employees and senior leaders we have engaged during the process of gathering information for this report have committed to supporting sustainable initiatives. We have also learned a considerable amount about our own contributions to sustainability through education, research, operations, coordination and public engagement.

I affirm the information in our first STARS submission is correct to the best of my knowledge and accurately represents the College’s current sustainability performance.

Sincerely,



Peter Devlin
President
Fanshawe College