

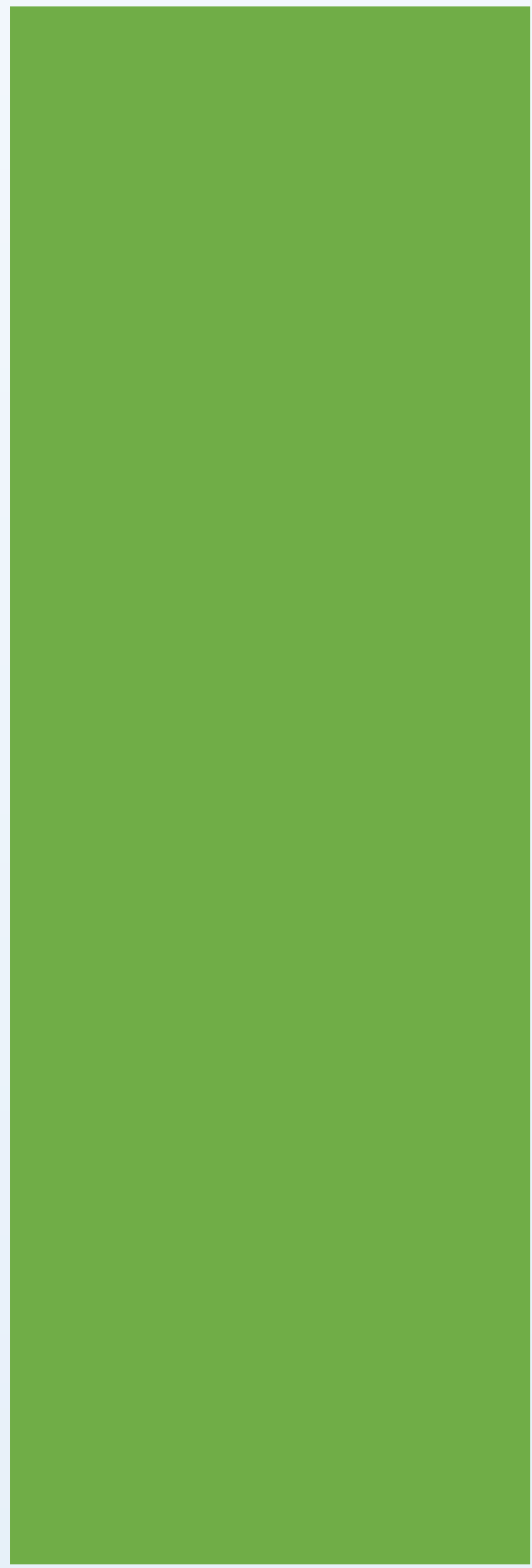
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Sustainability: By the Numbers

Since we started tracking sustainability 10 years ago, we have made great strides in improving our environmental performance. Below are some stats on key performance areas.

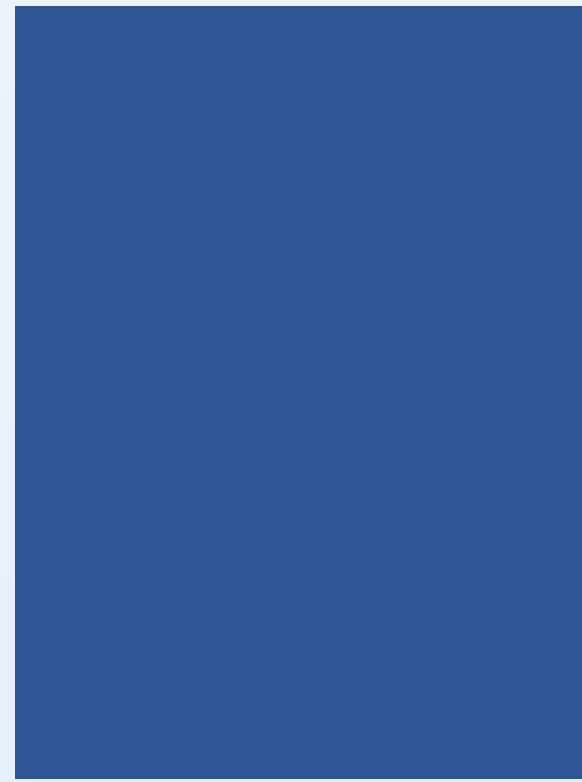
74%

Waste Diversion Rate



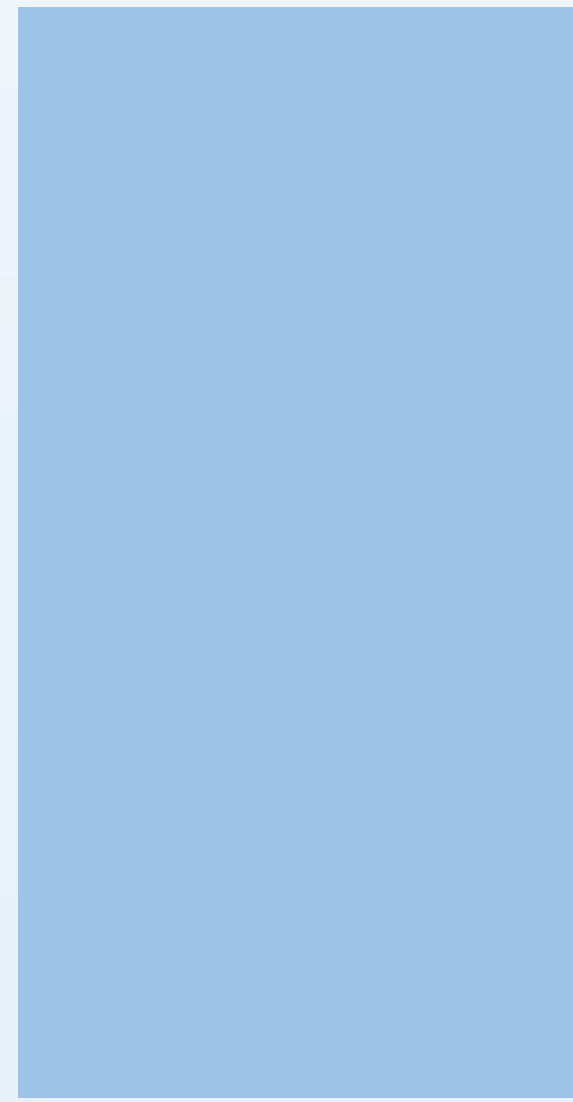
34%

GHG Emission Decrease



48%

Water Consumption Decrease



24%

Energy Intensity Decrease



Global Impacts, Local Problem

With 7,600km of coastline, Nova Scotia is especially vulnerable to the impacts of sea level rise caused by climate change. At NSCC, we have the opportunity to significantly impact the sustainable development of this province through education and leadership on environmental initiatives.

Our goal is to build a culture of sustainability and ensure the future workforce of our province is sustainability focused. It starts with you.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

ON CAMPUS

GARBAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Coffee Cups✓ Plastic Utensils✓ Styrofoam✓ Soup Cups✓ Wrappers✓ Chip Bags✓ Bottle Caps & Straws	ORGANICS <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ All Food Waste✓ Paper Plates✓ Napkins✓ Cup Sleeves✓ Paper Towel✓ Tea Bags✓ Soiled Sponges✓ Coffee Grinds & Filters✓ Paper Bags
PAPER <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Newspapers✓ Envelopes✓ Loose-leaf✓ Magazines✓ Paper Egg Cartons✓ Drink Holder✓ Trays <p>ALL CLEAN & DRY PAPER</p>	RECYCLABLES <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ All Beverage Containers✓ Aluminum & Steel Cans✓ All Plastic Bags✓ Milk Cartons✓ Cling Wrap✓ Tin Foil & Plates✓ Coffee Cup Lids

The biggest impact you can have while you're on campus is to reduce your waste! Consider bringing your own water bottle and coffee mug, and bringing your own meals from home. When you do have to throw something out, make sure you sort it properly based on the signage posted at all waste stations at NSCC.



Class work can generate a lot of paper waste. Consider using shared digital documents for group work and taking notes on a laptop or tablet if you can!

AT HOME



Look for ways to reduce your energy consumption – like switching to LED light bulbs!



Dress for the weather! Think about putting on a sweater or changing into a t-shirt before changing the thermostat.



Consider setting up a carpool with your classmates! This can significantly reduce your impact when traveling to and from campus.



Biking to and from campus (and for other daily travel) is another great way to reduce your impact – and stay in shape!

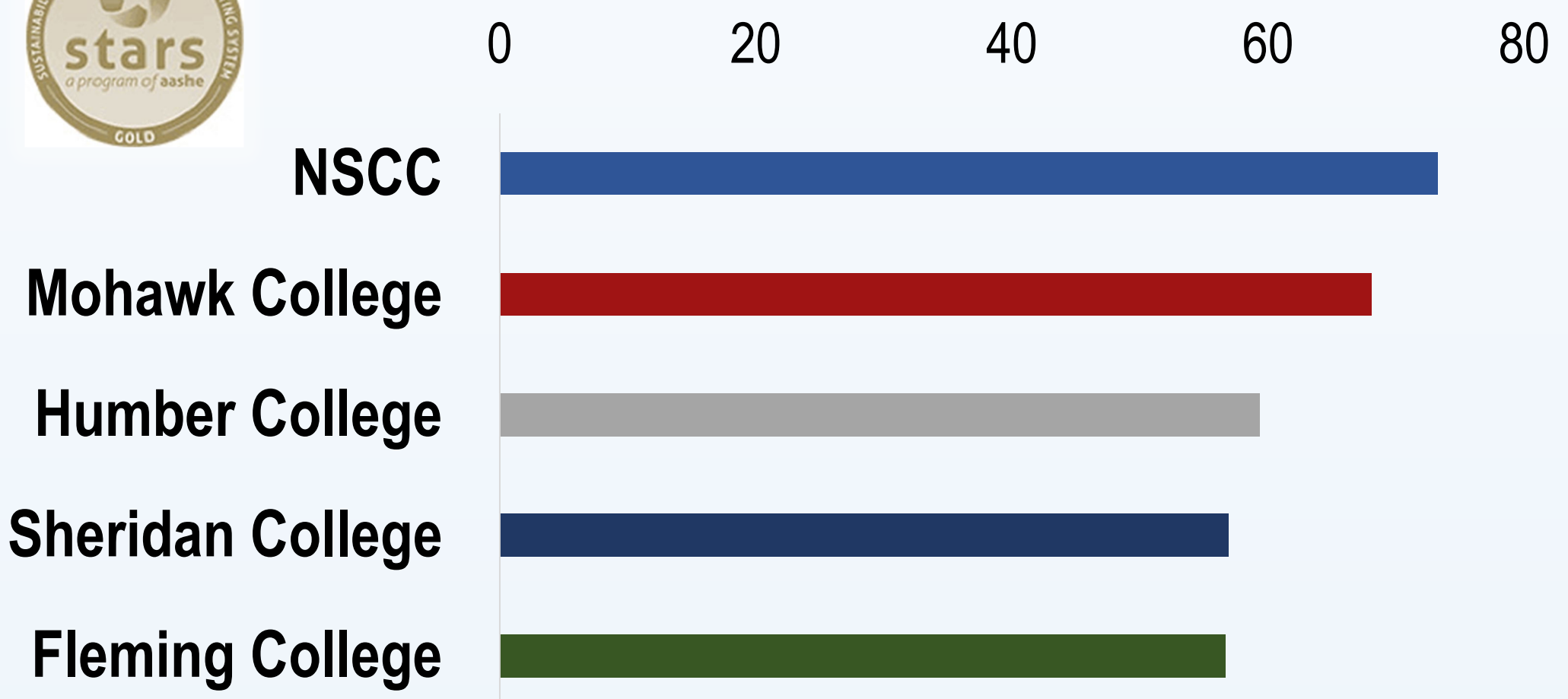
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Sustainability Achievements

NSCC is the top ranked College in Sustainability Performance in Canada!



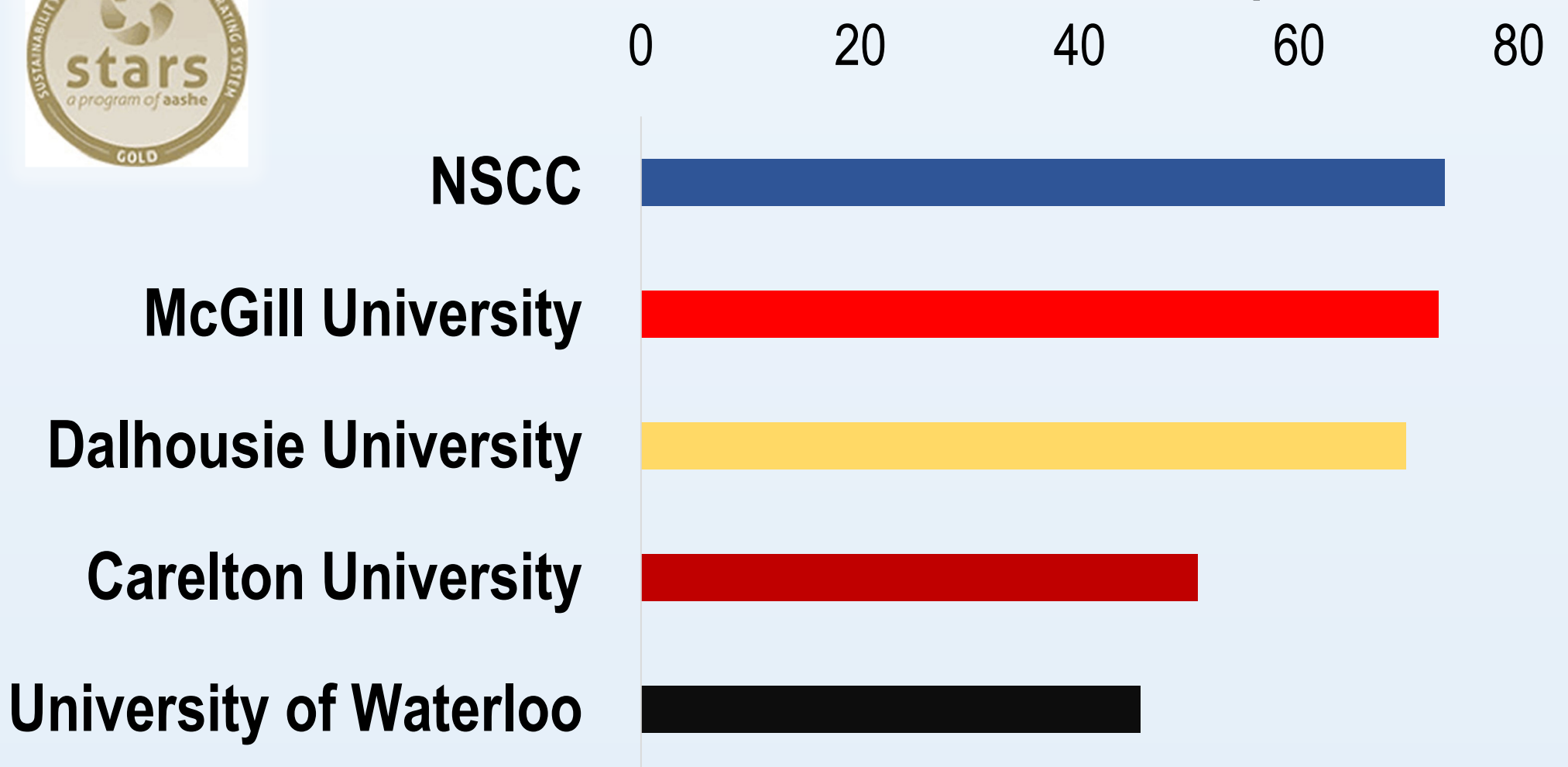
Top 5 STARS Scores for Colleges in Canada



We even outscored some of the top universities in Canada!



STARS Scores for NSCC and Some Top Universities



Sustainable Buildings

NSCC strives to ensure our buildings are constructed and operated in sustainable ways. We use LEED to certify that our buildings are built sustainably, and BOMA BEST to assess how sustainable the day-to-day operations of those buildings are. Below are some of our highest rated buildings.



Ivany Campus is certified LEED Gold and BOMA BEST Platinum

IT Campus is certified BOMA BEST Platinum



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Sustainability at Annapolis Valley Campus Our Grounds

Our grounds have lots of beautiful gardens and natural features, which help create habitat for bees and butterflies – both of which are important pollinators! We have also created bat and bird boxes to help bring more wildlife to the area.



National Tree Day

On September 25th, we will be celebrating National Tree Day by planting trees on our campus grounds. We will also give away trees for you to plant at home!



Sustainability Days

In October we host local farms, companies, and more to showcase sustainability in Nova Scotia! Get involved, and join our campus sustainability committee!



NSCC Sustainability – Orientation Support Document

This sheet will help you answer questions students may have about sustainability at NSCC. We have done our best to anticipate common questions that will arise. However, we cannot prepare for everything, so for any questions you do not know the answer to, please refer the student to the Sustainability Office email address (sustainability@nsc.ca) and encourage them to send their question to our team for a more in-depth answer. We are constantly checking it and should get back to them within a day.

Q: What does sustainability actually mean?

A: Sustainability can be a tricky term to pin down and understand fully. Lots of people assume that it relates only to the environment, and this is very true. However, sustainability has three main components that are intertwined on a fundamental level: environment, society, and economy (in other words: planet, people, and profits). The most widely used definition for sustainability was coined in the late 1980s as part of a report from the United Nations entitled “Our Common Future”, sometimes referred to as “The Brundtland Report”. The report defines “sustainable development” (another common term for sustainability) as: “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”.

Q: What is BOMA BEST? What is STARS? What is LEED?

A: NSCC participates in three main sustainability measurement systems – STARS, BOMA BEST, and LEED – that allow us to track our performance in almost all of our day-to-day operations, from building operations, to procurement of products and services, to policy advocacy. These three tracking systems help ensure our buildings are sustainable from cradle to grave. Below are some quick blurbs on each of the sustainability tracking systems we report to as a college:

STARS

STARS stands for Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System. This program is one of the most widely used sustainability tracking systems for colleges and universities in the world and helps institutions like NSCC gauge their performance in key sustainability areas institution wide.

BOMA BEST

While STARS measures sustainability for the entire college, BOMA BEST measures sustainability performance for each building/campus individually. BOMA BEST stands for Building Operators and Managers Association Building Environmental Standards. It focuses on the day-to-day practices and efficiency of NSCC’s buildings.

LEED

Where BOMA BEST and STARS help NSCC assess the sustainability of our operations, LEED (which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) helps guide our construction projects in order to minimize the environmental impact of new builds.

Q. Why are we doing the survey? How will this info be used?

A. NSCC wants to assess how much our students know about sustainability, and what their beliefs are regarding sustainability-related topics coming to NSCC, and then determine how much they learned

about sustainability during their time at NSCC with a similar survey at the end of the year. Not only is this data generally useful for us, but it helps us achieve a higher rating under STARS.

Q. How can I access the survey?

A. The survey will be sent to your **personal email address** (NOT your student email address) that you provided during the enrolment process, or we can provide a link to you here at the booth if you do not have access to your email right now.

Q. When will I find out if I won one of the prizes available?

A. Approximately two weeks after the closing of the survey (survey closes September 8th, 2019).

Q. How can I get involved with sustainability at NSCC?

A. Participating in the sustainability committee is a great way to get involved. Check with student services to find out how to sign up.

Q. How do I contact the sustainability team?

A. The sustainability team can be reached via email at sustainability@nsc.ca

Q. Where do I find more information about sustainability at NSCC?

A. A good place to start is the NSCC website sustainability page. There you can find more information on our sustainability-related activities, and find a link to our Sustainability Annual Report which highlights our progress on sustainability goals.

Q. How does NSCC track energy/water consumption or waste diversion?

A. Every year, we go through an extensive auditing process to determine these numbers. We gather data from all of our campuses on energy consumption, water consumption, and waste production. These data then get distilled down into easily trackable numbers that allow us to see our progress in these areas.

Q: When did NSCC start tracking sustainability?

A. 10 years ago, the College made a commitment to be leaders in sustainability for the benefit of all Nova Scotians. We have since honored this commitment. It has transformed how we construct and operate our buildings, how we manage and monitor our environmental performance, and has changed the way we do business overall.

Q. What is NSCC doing about climate change?

A. NSCC has set an aggressive target to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% by 2050. In the last 10 years, we have almost completely restructured how we do business. From policy changes to changes in building construction and operation, NSCC is committed to reducing our greenhouse gas emission footprint. We have already reduced our overall annual production of greenhouse gases by 34% since 2008.

