



1 May 2020

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

Dear Sir or Madam,

Re: University of Victoria 2020 STARS Report Submission

The University of Victoria (UVic) is annually recognized as one of Canada's top universities, and with sustainability integrated into our operations, academic disciplines, research, and planning initiatives, we are uniquely positioned to be a leader in sustainability.

The university's Strategic Framework, released in 2018, Sustainability Policy, updated in January 2017, and the 2020-2021 Sustainability Action Plan guide all of our sustainability efforts. These documents formalize our commitment to sustainability by stewarding the university's physical and financial resources in a responsible and sustainable fashion, and by integrating sustainability into our teaching, research, community partnerships and campus operations.

Sustainability is also reflected in our Campus Plan, which sets policy directions for the physical development of the campus, including infrastructure to support active transportation. It provides the framework to ensure that future changes on campus are sustainable, support and inspire excellence in education and research, and further build our extraordinary academic environment. The implementation of these principles will be demonstrated in the development of new student housing and dining facilities on campus that are targeting Passive House certification.

The university's Indigenous Plan, released in 2017, further builds on sustainability and places Indigenous students, faculty, staff and their communities at its heart. It highlights how the university strives to integrate and honour Indigenous cultures, histories, beliefs and ways of knowing and being into the university's strategic planning, curriculum, teaching, research and operations.

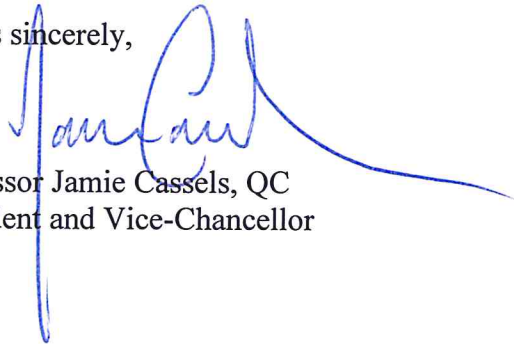
As sustainability is becoming more integrated at the University of Victoria, our efforts are further recognized globally. The Times Higher Education (THE) ranked UVic fourth among the world's universities for climate action—meaning research and action taken to understand and respond to the global challenge of climate change. The university registered global top 100 finishes in five of the eight United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in which it was ranked, including a #25 for "responsible consumption and production".



This third STARS report supports a continued STARS gold rating from our 2017 submission. The report was compiled by the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability as part of a campus wide effort to assess and report on the university's sustainability achievements. The information in the report was systematically gathered from all of the various university departments that participate in, teach and conduct research in sustainability. It is current and factual, and reflects the sustainability achievements across a wide range of initiatives over the last three years related to teaching, research, engagement, operations and planning and administration.

The STARS gold rating highlights the achievements of our campus community and our overall success in continuing to focus on sustainability at all levels of the institution. Our participation in STARS has also assisted in our target setting, monitoring and in our ongoing planning for advancing sustainability and climate action at the University of Victoria.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Jamie Cassels, QC
President and Vice-Chancellor

