

President and Vice-Chancellor

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28 January 2014

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education 23 ½ N. Limestone Lexington, KY 40507 USA

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: University of Victoria STARS Report Submission

Since its early days a half century ago, the University of Victoria has committed to responsible resource use, protection of natural areas and the development of a compact, pedestrian oriented campus. Over the decades, UVic has developed nationally renowned programs relating to the sustainability of natural and social environments. Today, in a world in which the most challenging problems around sustainability are shared and cooperative international solutions are required, UVic remains committed to taking action.

As a centre for learning and innovation that supports knowledge creation and transfer, UVic is uniquely positioned to be a leader in sustainability. Sustainability is integrated into all of our academic disciplines. Our world class teachers and researchers are examining sustainability in business models, climate change solutions, environmental law, restoration of natural systems, engineering, community development and renewable energy systems.

The university's 2009 Sustainability Policy and Sustainability Action Plan formalized our commitment to sustainability through 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.

The enclosed submission was compiled by our Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability as part of a campus wide effort. The information provided is current and accurate and reflects the progress that has been achieved on a wide range of campus sustainability initiatives over the past five years related to academics, engagement, operations and planning and administration.

The STARS gold rating highlights the achievements of our campus community and our overall successes in advancing sustainability at all levels of the institution. The report also draws our attention to new opportunities and ongoing challenges and the dedicated efforts that are required to continuously improve into the future.

Your sincerely,

Professor Jamie Cassels, QC President and Vice-Chancellor