

Cabinet du recteur

Friday, December 13th 2019

STARS Steering Committee  
The Association for Advancement  
of Sustainability in Higher Education  
2401 Walnut Street, #102  
Philadelphia PA 19103  
USA

Dear Madam or Sir,

On behalf of the entire Université de Montréal community, I am very pleased and proud to submit our second STARS certification report to the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

The Université de Montréal is one of the largest research universities in Canada and one of the leading academic institutions in the French-speaking world. We hope that this new certification process shows our commitment to sustainable development through the efforts we have made over the last three years. These efforts have focused particularly not only at the heart of our mission, education research and creation, but also in mission support activities such as our engagement in the community, environmental standards for our new buildings and sustainable mobility in an urban context.

Recently, facing the climate emergency, we have joined other Quebec universities in an international movement and signed a commitment to become carbon-neutral in 2040. At the local level, we are already committed in the preservation of the unique and heritage character of Mount Royal, the city's defining landmark and where our campus is located.

Looking forward, our new Mil campus located in the heart of Montreal will meet very high standards in sustainable construction and achieve both LEED and LEED Neighborhood certifications. Also, addressing the current socio-environmental and humanitarian challenges of our times, we have launched in 2019 an innovation laboratory: Building the Future Sustainably. This academic project aims at creating a collaborative dialogue between the sectors of excellence in the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences, public health, political science and law. This essential interdisciplinary meeting will equip, we believe, future citizens and decision-makers to face the major challenges facing our society in the upcoming years.

... / ...

We believe that STARS certification is an important leverage to mobilize our community towards a more sustainable future and to spread knowledge and science in our community and around the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'G. Breton', with a long vertical line extending downwards from the bottom of the signature.

Dr. Guy Breton, C.M., M.D.  
Rector