

Bow Valley College
345 6th Avenue SW
Calgary AB, T2G 4V1

AASHE
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia PA, 19103

Dear AASHE

RE: STARS Submission for Bow Valley College

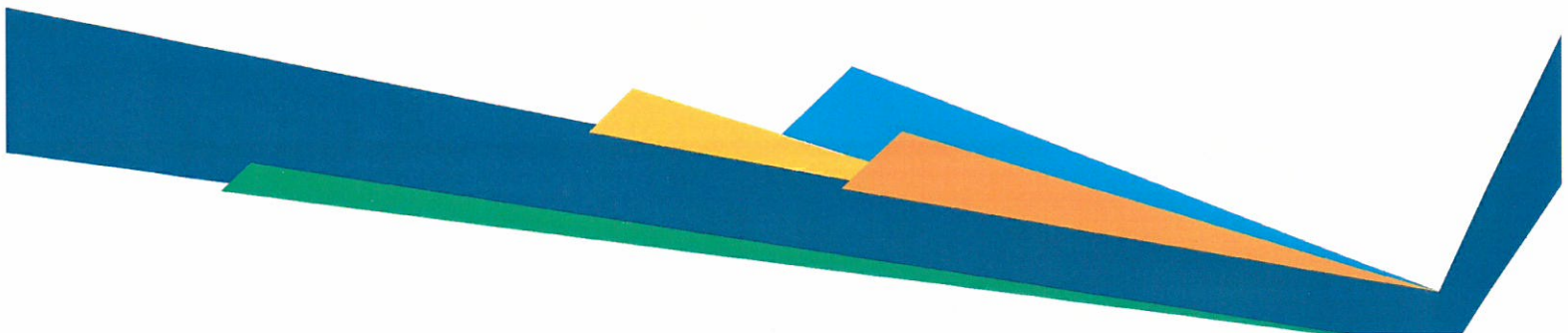
As the fastest-growing college in Alberta, Bow Valley College serves more full- and part-time learners than any other community college in the province. In order to meet this demand, our third building, referred to as South Campus, was completed in 2013 and awarded LEED Silver certification in 2015. Our mandate to offer high-quality instruction at *Any Time, Any Place, Any Path, any Pace* attracts students from around the world, and results in one of the highest graduation rates in North America.

Our culturally diverse and highly international student population inspires us to continually strive for holistic sustainability. Not only do we learn from our students about various sustainability initiatives around the world, but for many students Bow Valley College is one of the first Canadian public institutions in which they interact. Therefore, part of our sustainability mandate involves educating students not only in their field of study, but about provincial and federal environmental initiatives more broadly. We see our campus and programs as an opportunity to inform learners and staff about the multi-disciplinary nature of sustainability at the local, municipal, provincial, and federal level.

As the next step in our sustainability journey, Bow Valley College is applying for STARS reporter status for the following reasons:

- a) To connect and collaborate with other colleges of similar size on sustainability projects,
- b) to showcase our sustainability efforts, both internally and externally, and
- c) to push ourselves to become even more environmentally sustainable, by providing a baseline to which future initiatives can compare.

As of 2018, Bow Valley College is a signatory on two environmental commitments: The Pan-Canadian Protocol for Sustainability through the Association of Canadian Community Colleges, and the University and College Presidents' Climate Change Statement of Action for Canada. The College is also a



co-convenor of the Calgary Postsecondary Sustainability Community of Practice. We are proud of our award-winning green roof, 80% waste diversion rate, and LEED certifications on two of our buildings. We work collaboratively with our internal partners, striving to ensure sustainability is an ethic weaved into every event, course, and initiative across the college. Becoming a STARS reporter is one more step toward institutional environmental sustainability, and will act as a tool and inspiration for our continued improvement.

We have several long-term goals, which we will strive to meet in future STARS submissions. Such as a formalized college-wide Sustainability Policy, increasing the prevalence of sustainability in curricula, receiving Canada's Greenest Employer certification, performing a food waste assessment and greenhouse gas emissions inventory, assessing our sustainability culture, and working with our regional campuses to meet their unique sustainability goals. As a representative of the Bow Valley College community, I am proud of the strides we have made toward sustainability, and am eager to continue becoming even more sustainable with the support of AASHE.

I affirm that the information presented in Bow Valley College's STARS submission is accurate and complete.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vaughn Ravenscroft". The signature is stylized with long, sweeping lines.

Vaughn Ravenscroft
Vice President, Strategy and CIO

