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23 June 2017

STARS™ Steering Committee
Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Dear Steering Committee members,

Re: University of Alberta STARS™ Submission

The University of Alberta was recently ranked 4th in Canada and 90th in the QS World University Rankings solidifying our reputation as a leading teaching and research institution. In addition to excellence in teaching and research, we are committed to integrating sustainability into all aspects of our operations, academics, and campus life. In keeping with our sustainability commitment and guiding principles, we have advanced our sustainability performance since our last STARS™ submission. Below are a few of the many accomplishments of which I am very proud:

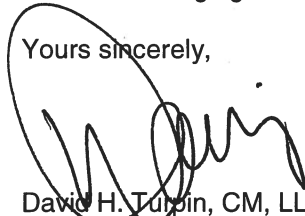
- Completion of our second sustainability plan
- Placed 43 University of Alberta graduate students with partners conducting innovative and applied sustainability research as part of our Sustainability Scholars program
- Obtained an independent review of our STARS™ submission
- Launched a “Green Labs” program
- Reached our goal of 50% waste diversion in 2015 and established a new goal of 90% by 2020
- Increased the number of green certified buildings under LEED, BOMA BEST, and Green Globes
- Received the national TOBY Award – Historical Category for Triffo Hall
- Recognized as one of Canada’s Greenest Employers for the ninth year in a row
- Increased focus on indigenous perspectives on our campus through initiatives such as the Aboriginal Teacher Education Program and the Sweetgrass Bear
- Completed nine solar energy projects for a total installed capacity of 450 kW
- Reduced our total GHGs by 7% between 2012/13 and 2015/16, the first reduction in decades

This report was coordinated by our Office of Sustainability through broad collaboration with many professionals across our campus community. On behalf of the University of Alberta, I am pleased to both thank them for their work and to affirm that our STARS™ sustainability self-assessment contains a credible accounting of our integration efforts.

While we have achieved many things on our journey to sustainability, we recognize that more remains possible. As we go forward, we will further integrate sustainability into our plans, policies, and procedures and continue to identify new ways to enhance our leadership in sustainability.

I have great confidence in our faculty, staff, and students and remain excited about how our campus culture is changing as we contribute to a sustainable future.

Yours sincerely,



David H. Turpin, CM, LLD, FRSC
President and Vice-Chancellor