

Strive for Sustainability

Annual Report 2021-2022

Nov. 17 2022

Overview

We are pleased to be able to report on many positive sustainability initiatives across the university in 2021-2022.

With Covid-19 remaining a factor in how we engage with our campus, a lot of what we have done has continued to take place remotely. We have made good progress on our plans and have identified opportunities for carbon reduction, demonstrating climate commitment and assessing our sustainability work against benchmarks and external assessments.

- **Sustainability Leadership**
- **Community Engagement and Collaboration**
- **Operations**
 - **Energy and Buildings**
 - **Travel**
 - **Waste**
 - **Dining**
- **Looking Ahead**

Sustainability Leadership

Carleton will demonstrate leadership by integrating sustainability principles into its decision-making and activities - Sustainability Plan 2020-2025

AASHE STARS Gold Certification

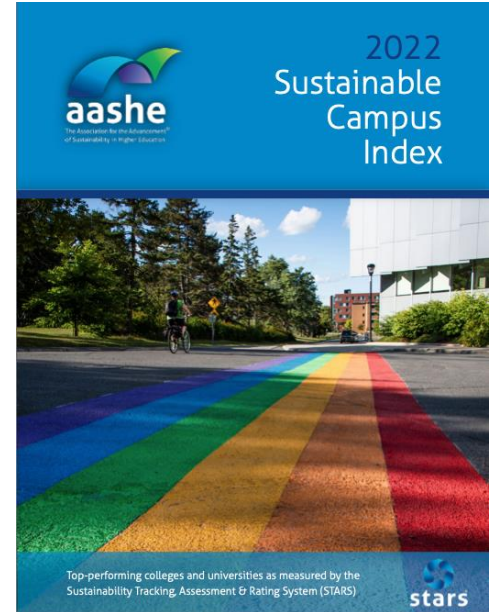
Carleton earned a Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) Gold rating in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). With more than 900 participants in 40 countries, the STARS program is the most widely recognized framework in the world for publicly reporting information related to a college or university's sustainability performance.

Sustainable Campus Index Top Performer

Carleton has been recognized as a top performer in the 2022 AASHE Sustainable Campus Index, achieving a Top 10 ranking in the impact areas of Water and Well-being and Work.

UI Green Metric Recognition

Carleton was pleased to be ranked 39th globally and 2nd in Canada. The rankings are the first and only university rankings in the world that feature each participating university's commitment to developing an 'environmentally friendly' university. The rankings look at several indicators including infrastructure, energy, climate change and education.



Responsible Investment Policies

Carleton has updated its responsible investment policies to include a commitment to not hold any direct fossil fuel investments in its Endowment and Non-Endowed Operating Funds, as well as a strategy to achieve significant decarbonization of these portfolios by 2030. In addition, Carleton will establish a fossil-fuel free investment fund to which donors may direct their gifts.

Signatory of University Climate Change Commitment

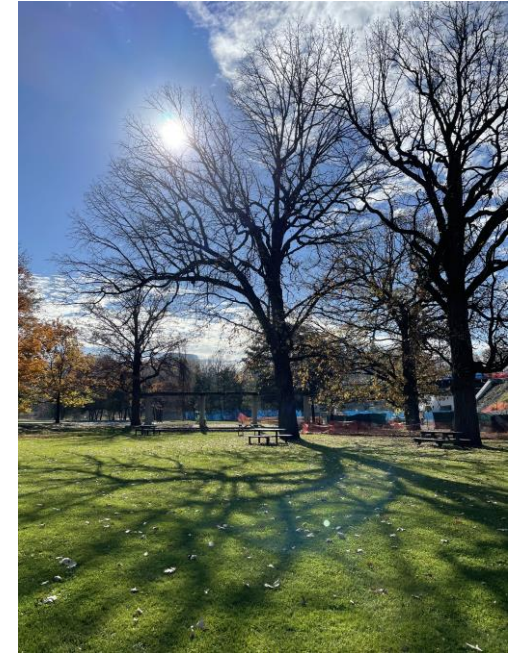
Carleton is now a signatory of Investing to Address Climate Change: A Charter for Canadian Universities, which provides principles and practices to guide responsible investment decisions. This action builds upon the university's pledge signing of the United Nations supported Principles for Responsible Investing (PRI), one of the key tenets of the Climate Charter.

Sustainability and Climate Change Committee Established

A new Sustainability and Climate Change committee has been established with pan-campus representation including faculty, staff and students. Sub-groups focus on Teaching, Research and Operations.

Sustainability Policy Update

Carleton has updated its Environment and Sustainability Policy to better reflect sustainability programs and to provide guidance towards future operations.



Community Engagement & Collaboration

*Progress in driving improvement towards sustainability is dependent on the active involvement of all members of our community - **Sustainability Plan 2020-2025***

Training towards UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)

Joint program with the Innovation Hub Changemaker program and the Carleton University Students' Association (CUSA) to provide students with direct training toward the UN SDG goals, with program delivery by The Foundation for Environmental Stewardship.

Green Workplace Certification

Update to the internal Green Workplace Certification program with inclusion of working from home suggestions and an individual certification. The Office of Procurement (Green) and Sprott (Silver) have achieved certification.

Department Planning and Champions Committee

The Sprott School of Business has established a school-wide sustainability committee with inclusion of students, faculty and staff. To date, the committee conducted a survey of behaviours, set up communications and reviewed sustainable procurement towards gift giving and catering. Departments have also looked to include specific sustainability goals within departmental plans.



Earth Hour Program

Carleton joined in with other communities to show support for our planet and raising awareness of climate change. Activities took place across Dining Services and Residence, including a “dine in the dark” event.

Green Business Ottawa - Tour

Carleton is a proud member of the Green Business Ottawa program, overseen by Envirocentre. As part of our commitment towards carbon reduction within the program, Carleton has also hosted a Sustainability Campus Tour.

Living Campus Program

“Clean up the Campus” events have taken place on campus for students. This event is linked to our WWF Living Campus Program to offer on-campus volunteer opportunities and engagement.

Green Economy Webinar Series

Carleton hosted webinar presentations to highlight the many sectors and industries that will see growth during the transition to a low carbon economy. Several companies and start-ups were discussed, showcasing the various climate, low/zero carbon, sustainability, and environmental stewardship goals that their services and products address.



Operations

*Work towards a future where both operations and infrastructure embody and exemplify sustainability principles, best practice and innovation - **Sustainability Plan 2020-2025***

Energy and Buildings

New Building Standards

All new buildings to be certified to Canadian Green Building Council (CAGBC) Zero Carbon Building Standard where applicable.

Bird-Friendly Glazing

Installation of bird-friendly glazing within existing buildings including Southam Hall and the Nicol Building. This glazing will also become standard and its use expanded on campus to prevent bird deaths due to collisions.

Forward Planning

A comprehensive evaluation of the electrical infrastructure is underway across campus, including a detailed nodal plant study, an electric steam boiler feasibility study and the Bronson hydro sub-station replacement.

LED Upgrades

LED lighting retrofit program completed for MacOdrum Library and lighting audits completed in other buildings.

Carbon Budget 2030

A Carbon Budget is under development and will document the path to our 50 per cent carbon reduction by 2030.



Sustainable Travel

Bike Month Events

Carleton engaged in the Ottawa Bike Month through a series of in-person and virtual events. This included a free bike tune-up day, a Family Cycling workshop and the Let's Bike Ottawa Team which cycled 5,235km and averted 1,300kg of GHG in June.

Electric Scooters

Carleton partnered with Bird Canada to introduce the city-wide rental e-scooters program to the campus, providing an alternative to the last mile car journey.

Secure Bike Parking

Carleton introduced a third secure bike compound for students, staff or faculty cycling to the campus.

Scope 3 Travel Emissions

Research project conducted to review the scope 3 carbon emissions as a result of commuting.

Electric Vehicle Parking

Twenty new EV parking spaces introduced to the campus, allowing for charging of vehicles on campus by visitors and community members.



Waste and Dining

New Waste Bin Roll Out

Further roll out of new four-stream waste bins and additional external bins, including solar-powered bins. Removal of office, single stream bins across locations.

Waste Reduction Week

Participation in the national waste reduction week with events in dining operations and an electrical waste recycling collection event.

Carleton University Reuse Base (CuRB)

A new surplus sales program where Carleton-owned goods that may no longer have any useful value to the department can be resold to other departments on campus or to parties external to the university.

Packaging

A full review of all packaging from dining locations was conducted with our waste contractor, to move towards compostable-only offerings for take-outs. This will support the forthcoming federal single-use plastic ban.



Cool Food

Introduction of Cool Food meals within the residence dining location. The Cool Food Meals badge identifies dishes with a lower carbon footprint and will appear on meals throughout the year.

Fairtrade Week

Campus Fairtrade certification retained, and steering committee established with student and faculty involvement.

Looking Ahead

Looking Ahead

Implement the university's Sustainability Plan, Energy Master Plan, Transportation Plan and Outdoor Space Plan.

Develop a program of work to review and ensure baseline data to reduce scope 3 emissions and establish priority areas.

Promote the use of electric vehicles, active and public transportation as the primary means of getting to and from our campus.

Review of Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) synergies with ongoing work, including reporting and key themes (i.e. Investments and Energy).



Establish and implement a university-wide Green Workplace and Green Lab program, through an internally developed checklist and certification.

Re-engage with key campus stakeholders including CUSA and other student groups towards shared outcomes.