



2017 Annual Sustainability Report



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Office of Sustainability
STRATEGIC PROGRAMS OFFICE
SUSTAINABILITY.USASK.CA

A Letter From the Sustainability Co-ordinator

The future whispers and the present shouts.
Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

The Office of Sustainability is pleased to present the 2017 University of Saskatchewan Sustainability Report. It highlights the work of the main sustainability actors on campus like the School of Environment and Sustainability, the Sustainability Education Research Institute, the Office of Sustainability, the President’s Sustainability Council and the USSU’s Sustainability Committee. It also captures the contributions of numerous units and individuals throughout our university who are doing their part to move us toward a more sustainable world.

The word sustainability is used in many different ways and has become something of a buzz word. However, if you look at the origins of the word emerging from the 1987 *Report of World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future*, it is clear that it is a holistic concept that includes the environment, society, the economy and their many interconnections. Because sustainability is connected to so many parts of our lives, it is also clear that no one person, committee or university unit can do it all. It takes many well-meaning and committed people who are willing to reach across long-standing silos to collaborate on finding new ways of doing things. We are lucky to have such people on our campus.

2017 was marked by some important sustainability milestones. The year started with the University of Saskatchewan achieving a STARS (Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System) Silver rating, three years ahead of our target of 2020. Later in the year, sustainability emerged as one of the pillars of our University Plan 2025. The President’s Sustainability Council, first proposed in the *President’s Office and USSU Memorandum of Understanding on Sustainability* in 2016, was established in 2017. Headed by Chelsea Willness of Edwards School of Business, the Council’s mandate is to advise and counsel the President on how to advance the sustainability agenda at the University of Saskatchewan. Throughout 2017 the Office of Sustainability was also pleased to provide coordination and communication support for public consultation process of the Campus Master Plan update which establishes planning principles for the future of our campus, many grounded in sustainability.

In the last decade we have made considerable progress in regards to sustainability across all areas of campus life – operations, education, research, governance and community engagement. However, we still have a lot of work to do and much of it will prove to be increasingly challenging -- it is very difficult to respond to the whispers of the future when the present demands so much of our attention, but we can rise to that challenge.

Margret Asmuss

Margret Asmuss
Sustainability Co-ordinator
University of Saskatchewan
Office of Sustainability

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The Office

Matt Wolsfeld

Community Engagement Co-ordinator

Matt works with staff, faculty, and students to facilitate the development of a strong culture of sustainability that is visible throughout campus. By supporting and carrying out the Campus Sustainability Plan's Community Engagement objectives, he helps to achieve the Plan's goal of having all members of the campus community intentionally choosing and initiating sustainable behaviour in all areas of campus life.



Margret Asmuss

Sustainability Co-ordinator

Margret oversees the day-to-day activities of the Office of Sustainability and progress on Campus Sustainability Plan. She also supports the Campus Sustainability Plan's Education and Research initiatives by facilitating linkages to sustainability in disciplines outside the traditional environmental and sustainability disciplines. This includes coordinating the Sustainability Living Lab and supporting professional development opportunities for faculty and instructors.



Odili Obi

Waste Prevention Co-ordinator

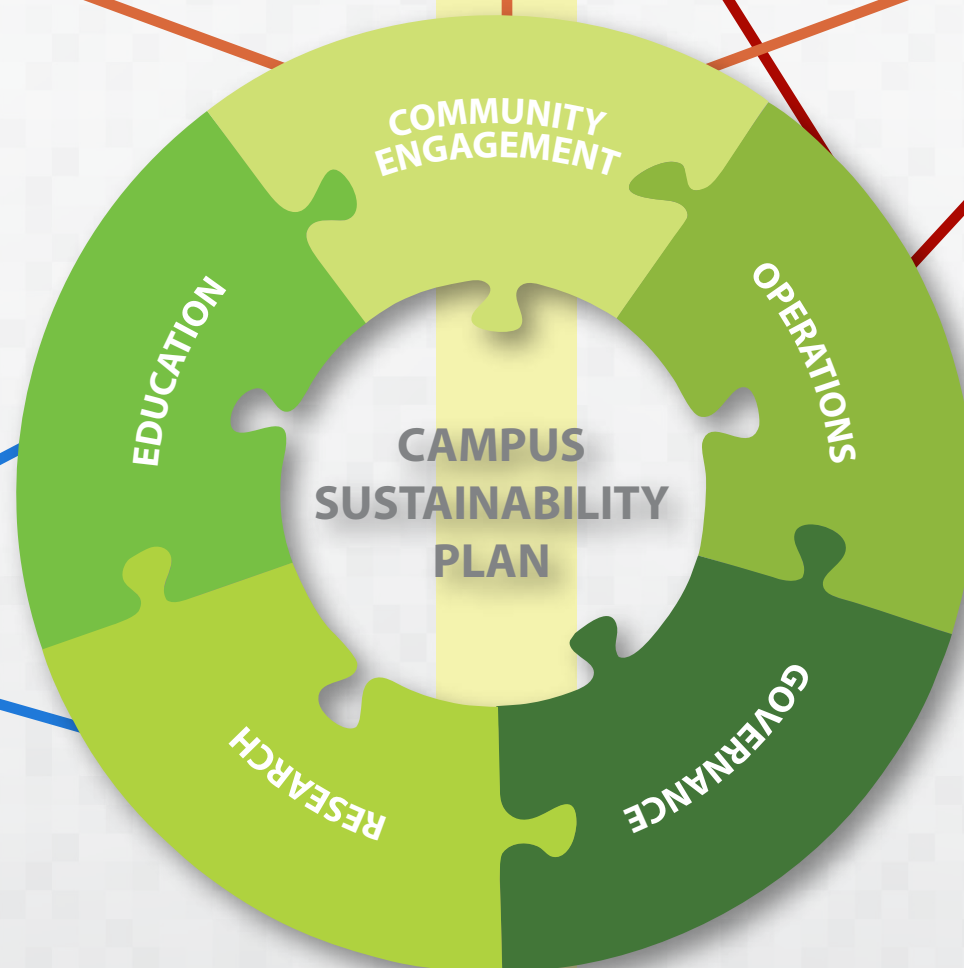
Odili is in charge of managing the university's single-stream recycling program along with all other aspects of solid waste management and prevention around campus. His position includes both operational and managerial components and ensures that recycling on campus stays accessible and effective.



Erin Akins

Sustainability Initiatives Co-ordinator

Erin works to integrate sustainability into all aspects of university operations by facilitating changes to day-to-day activities, planning, and decision-making across campus. She works directly with various work units to review existing practices and facilitate positive change. She also oversees the Work Green program.



Recruitment Underway

Energy and Emissions Officer

The Energy and Emissions Officer develops initiatives and implements strategies to conserve energy and reduce the university's greenhouse gas emissions. This position enhances energy management practices in such areas as facilities, campus utilities, solid waste, water, transportation, infrastructure, and equipment. This position is currently vacant, but the Office is working to restaff it in the near future.



Governance

Sustainability is a core value that is embedded in everything that we do at the University of Saskatchewan

Campus Sustainability Plan Goals for Governance

For large organizations like the University of Saskatchewan an essential component of change management for sustainability is formalizing its commitment to sustainability.

The [Campus Sustainability Plan](#) Governance goals focus on approaches to embed sustainability into the very fabric of our organization. By including all three of our governing bodies — Senate, Board of Governors, and University Council — the Plan aims to enhance our organizational capacity to integrate sustainability at all levels of the university.

President's Sustainability Council

Building off the successful 2016 *Memorandum of Understanding between the President's Office and the USSU*, the President's Sustainability Council was created in early 2017. The Council's primary purpose is to advise and counsel the President on how to advance and support sustainability values, commitments, and actions at the University of Saskatchewan. It serves as a forum to discuss campus sustainability challenges and to support students, faculty, and staff to participate in institutional sustainability initiatives and practices.

The Council reports directly to the President of the University of Saskatchewan and is led by a chair or co-chairs appointed by the President. By design, Council membership is populated with individuals with a keen interest in sustainability and the ability to bring a variety of perspectives to the group. Chelsea Willness, the Associate Dean Research and Academic of the Edwards School of Business is the current chair.

Some of the Council's priorities in its inaugural year include continuing to investigate the university's sustainable investment opportunities, ensuring that sustainability is incorporated into the upcoming University Plan, exploring new opportunities for partnerships with the community, and developing the university's existing connections with the City of Saskatoon.

President's Sustainability Council Members

Chair: Chelsea Willness

Associate Dean, Research & Academic, Edwards School of Business

Martin Phillipson

Dean, College of Law

Irena Creed

Executive Director, School of Environment and Sustainability

Marcia McKenzie

Professor, Director, Sustainability Education Research Institute (SERI) and Project Director, Sustainability and Education Policy Network (SEPN)

Tony Chung

Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, SaskPower Research Chair in Power Systems Engineering and NSERC/SaskPower Senior Industrial Research Chair in Smart Grid Technologies, College of Engineering

Alec Aitken

Professor, Department of Geography & Planning, College of Arts & Science

Susan Shantz

Professor, Sculpture & Extended Media, Department of Art & Art History, College of Arts & Science

Colin Laroque

Professor, Department of Soil Science, College of Agriculture and Bioresources and Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability

Colin Tennent

Strategic Advisor, Master Planning & University Architect

Crystal Lau

VP Student Affairs, University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU)

Jaylene Murray

PhD Student, President of the School of Environment and Sustainability Students' Association (SENSA), and Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Council Member

Kara Leftley

Alumni Representative

Sustainability in the University Plan

The four principles of the University Plan 2025 are connectivity, sustainability, diversity, and creativity. These are woven into the text of the Plan and will help to focus the university's work in the future. These principles incorporate a dichotomy of tension within: to be connected within our practices, yet diverse in our program delivery and inclusive of different communities, and to be creative in our challenge of convention while adhering to sustainability of our institution.

Sustainability in the Campus Master Plan

In summer 2017, the university initiated a process to develop a new [Campus Master Plan](#) that will guide how the physical campus will grow and develop over the coming years. The Plan represents an opportunity to take stock of priorities, objectives, and aspirations to develop a sustainable vision for the future of campus.

A major consideration of the Campus Master Plan is addressing sustainability and developing a sustainable approach for the existing campus and future growth in terms of financial, social, cultural, and environmental ramifications.

Sustainability needs to be the lens through which we write the Campus Master Plan, and that drives all aspects of design. The university should be committed to sustainable, environmental, social, educational, and economic growth. The landscape, public realm, and built environment should provide opportunities for outstanding contributions to sustainability, research, and innovation.

- Campus Master Plan Phase 2 Findings Report



Education & Research

Students from across Canada and the world recognize the U of S for its innovative sustainability-related and sustainability-focused academic programs and services.

...

The University of Saskatchewan will be recognized across Canada for its outstanding sustainability-focused research, scholarly, and artistic work across all disciplines.

Campus Sustainability Plan Goals for Education & Research

The importance of education as a foundation in moving towards a more sustainable world was recognized by the United Nations when it declared 2005 to 2014 the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

Education — in all its forms and at all levels — is not only an end in itself but is also one of the most powerful instruments we have for bringing about the changes required to achieve sustainable development.

UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005 – 2014; The DESD at a glance (ED/2005/PEQ/ESD/3)

The [Campus Sustainability Plan](#) set out to build on the university's existing strengths and to identify areas for improvement in regard to education for sustainability. Recommendations range from cataloguing what we currently do to developing entirely new programs to fill in existing gaps.

Sustainability transcends traditional academic disciplines, so the university's ongoing support of interdisciplinary scholarship is an important element in sustainability education and research.

Academic Sustainability at the U of S

% of courses with sustainability content:

7.7%

across 63% of departments

% of faculty engaged in sustainability research:

10%

across 56% of departments

Sustainability Course and Research Inventories

The Office of Sustainability's [2017 sustainability course inventory](#) and [2017 sustainability research inventory](#) are both publicly available. In addition to acting as a valuable information resource to students, staff, and faculty, these inventories provide baseline information which informs future initiatives to support sustainability education and research. The inventories will be updated in 2019.

Our Common Future: Undergraduate Student Symposium on the Environment and Sustainability

In 2017 the university saw the first annual joint symposium of the [Office of Sustainability and Undergraduate Environmental Programs](#). The Office of Sustainability featured several projects from the Sustainability Living Lab (see the following section). The Undergraduate Environmental Program featured undergraduate research. The symposium was held over two days and featured 28 student presentations.

The University of Saskatchewan offers

228

courses that include sustainability focused or related content

Sustainability Living Lab

The [Sustainability Living Lab](#) uses the campus and community as a laboratory for students to explore sustainability and develop solutions to sustainability issues. Past projects have studied campus farmer's markets, fruit orchards, solar installations, planning proposals for regional mega-projects, and much more.

Sustainability Course Development Institute

In 2017, the Office of Sustainability partnered with the [Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness \(GMCTE\)](#) to offer *Sustainability in Higher Education* as a special topic in its May Course Design Institute. The day-long session provided support, tools, and resources to faculty and instructors who are looking to integrate or strengthen sustainability content in their curriculum. The session was attended by 10 faculty and instructors.



The Our Common Future Symposium features student projects which advance sustainability in all areas of campus.

Undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability

In September 2014, [SENS](#) began offering the [Undergraduate Certificate of Proficiency in Sustainability](#). The certificate enriches a student's current degree program by providing significant exposure to sustainability-related concepts and practices. Students gain an understanding of how to integrate human-environmental systems within our current reality and how to critically evaluate sustainability efforts. Students choose their elective courses from one of three areas of focus: natural resources and sustainability, community and sustainability or food systems and sustainability.

The program saw 5 students graduate in 2015 followed by 13 additional graduates in 2016. Enrollment has continued to grow, with 38 students enrolled in ENVS 201 and 67 enrolled in ENVS 401 (the two flagship courses of the certificate). As of publication, the certificate expects 19 more graduates in 2017.

Becoming Water Course

In a remarkable accomplishment for interdisciplinary work at the U of S, the School of Environment & Sustainability and the Department of Art & Art History collaborated in 2017 to create ART 356 - Becoming Water, a course for senior and graduate art students that bridged art, science, and traditional and local knowledge. Taught by Assistant Professor Graham Strickert (SENS) and Professor Susan Shantz (A&AH), the course featured field trips to the Saskatchewan River Delta at Cumberland House, the Gardiner Dam, Mistaseni rock, and the Saskatoon water treatment plant. In the words of Prof. Shantz:

"Using our local waterway, the South Saskatchewan River, as a "case study" and artistic inspiration, students in the course explored the multiple perspectives from which to consider water — environmental, social, cultural, and political — to reflect on the complexities of our very intimate relationship with water."

The course also featured a mini-residency at Cumberland House with artist and author Basia Irland (professor emerita, University of New Mexico), during



The Becoming Water art exhibition featured art made from the stories and artifacts of the Saskatchewan River Delta.

which Métis guides and hosts Gary and Karen Carriere helped the class explore the Saskatchewan River Delta. A [15-minute documentary film](#) covering the course was produced by Ian Toews (291 Film Co.) and is available online.

CREATE Program in Water Security

[NSERC CREATE for Water Security](#), led by Dr. Cheri Westbrook, brings together top water security researchers from the University of Saskatchewan, University of Waterloo, McMaster University, University of Manitoba, and University of Calgary, with federal and provincial government partners and industry partners. The training offers students broad exposure to the biophysical and social forces that affect current water systems, deep knowledge and concentrated capabilities in some aspect of water security, and the personal and professional skills needed to put this understanding to work.

The program is now three years into a six year grant and has been very successful to date. 45 graduate students and three post-doctoral fellows have participated or are currently participating in the program.

Environmental Undergraduate Program Co-ordination

With environmental degrees at the university split between 3 colleges and 8 different programs, the Undergraduate Environmental Programs Governance Committee needed a way to connect and create synergies between these programs. An Undergraduate Program Co-ordinator was hired to bring these degrees under a single program, providing better awareness, recruitment, and interdisciplinary opportunities to students interested in pursuing an environmental degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

In 2017, the Undergraduate Environmental Programs Office earned a Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Recognition

Undergraduate Environmental Degree Programs at the U of S

- [Environment & Society](#)
- [Environmental Biology](#)
- [Environmental Earth Sciences](#)
- [Environmental Engineering](#)
- [Environmental Science](#)
- [Renewable Resource Management: Resource Economics and Policy](#)
- [Renewable Resource Management: Resource Science](#)
- [Toxicology](#)

Other Sustainability-Related Programs at the U of S

- [Indigenous Studies](#)
- [Northern Studies](#)
- [Aboriginal and Northern Education](#)
- [Critical Environmental Education Cohort](#)
- [Land-Based Indigenous Education](#)

Graduate Sustainability Degree Programs at the U of S

- [Master of Sustainable Environmental Management](#)
- [Master of Environment & Sustainability](#)
- [Ph.D in Environment & Sustainability](#)
- [Master of Environmental Engineering](#)
- [Master of Water Security](#)

Award for their efforts. Some cited initiatives include connecting students through several of their popular EnviroConnect events, extending outreach efforts to hundreds of high school students across the province, and co-hosting [Our Common Future](#) with the Office of Sustainability.

SEPN International Policy Forum and Research Symposium

In September 2017, the [Sustainability Education Policy Network](#) (SEPN) hosted an International Policy Forum in Vancouver in advance of the World Environmental Education Congress. The two-day meeting brought together a range of policy-makers, organizations, and researchers to explore progress in monitoring, evaluation, and research of climate change and sustainability education policy across national and international settings

In addition to the Forum, SEPN hosted a day-long Research Symposium at the World Environmental Education Congress. The Symposium featured keynote speakers Drs. Stephen Sterling, Lucie Sauvé, Aaron Benavot, and Nicole Ardoin, who spoke on trajectories and priorities for environmental education alongside participatory dialogues probing the state and future of environmental education.

One Health

[One Health](#), a worldwide strategy for expanding interdisciplinary collaborations in all aspects of health care for humans, animals, and the environment, was identified in 2010 as an area where the U of S has potential to develop eminence nationally and internationally. As the only university in Canada with a full range of health science colleges and schools on one campus, the university is well-positioned to make tremendous strides forward in its research, training capacity, and reputation related to One Health.

Successes to date have included the One Health Research Development Program, the One Health Leadership Experience for students, a fund for One Health student projects, and a [Graduate Certificate in One Health](#).



Community Engagement

All members of the campus community intentionally choose and initiate sustainable behaviour in all areas of campus life.

Campus Sustainability Plan Goals for Community Engagement

While technological innovations generally garner the most attention, they are really only one part of the long-term solutions to overcoming our sustainability challenges. At its core, sustainability also depends on creating good lifestyles with behaviour, values, and ethics. Any technical solution is limited by the extent to which people interact with it.

Social psychology research indicates that initiatives to promote behaviour change are often most effective when they are carried out at the community level and involve direct contact with people. Through community engagement, we can create a culture of sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan that enables sustainability initiatives to take hold and perform at their most effective levels.

Annual Sustainability Events

In 2018 the Office of Sustainability collaborated on sustainability events around campus including:

- Welcome Week, which features sustainable practices and offers students opportunities

to learn about and engage with campus sustainability;

- [Hike, Bike, and Roll](#), a celebration of active transportation on campus jointly co-ordinated with many campus and local cycling groups;
- [Campus Sustainability Week](#), an annual celebration of the university's sustainability successes;
- [Energy Conservation Month](#), a month-long celebration of energy conservation successes and opportunities for behavior change at the university;
- [MOMENTUM](#), an annual planning conference planned by the Regional and Urban Planning Students Society (RUP); and
- [Our Common Future](#), which displays and presents the accomplishments of the year's Sustainability Living Lab student projects.

Community Gardens

The University of Saskatchewan is currently home to three [community gardens](#): the McEown Community Garden, the University Services Building Staff Garden, and the Horticulture Club Community Garden.

These gardens allow students and staff opportunities to participate in community gardening, increasing access to healthy and nutritious food while tackling issues in food security at the university. The [McEown Community Garden](#) is the largest and longest-standing community garden on campus. Currently serving ~100 gardeners living in the residences at McEown Park, College Quarter, and Grad House, the garden operates as an allotment garden where parcels are allocated to individuals who are responsible for cultivating them. A Community Garden Co-ordinator — a student intern position shared by Consumer Services and the Office of Sustainability — supports operational logistics and helps to plan events or workshops throughout the season.

Prairie Habitat Garden

The [Prairie Habitat Garden](#) transforms the land surrounding the western side of the Education Building into a thriving environmentally-based teaching resource which incorporates native prairie plant species and First Nations perspectives into its design. In 2017, landscaping was redesigned to support expanded educational opportunities.

Student Employment Opportunities

Opportunities for student employment help provide income and hands-on training to students trying to integrate their academic studies into the working world. The Office of Sustainability provides internships and co-op placements for students to help advance sustainability initiatives on campus and train them for future careers. Past students have helped to establish our staff and student engagement programs, build our course and research inventories, and integrate energy efficiency across campus.

Sustainability-Related Student Groups at the University of Saskatchewan

- Environmental Studies Students Association (ESSA)
- Environmental and Bioresources Students Association (EBSA)
- School of Environment and Sustainability Students Association (SENSA)
- Regional and Urban Planning Students Society (RUP)
- Green Legal
- Engineers Without Borders
- University of Saskatchewan Innovative Energy Team (USIET)
- Enactus U of S
- Western College of Veterinary Medicine Students Association (WCVSA)
- Just Youth
- Eco-Health Interest Group
- Biology Student Association
- Horticulture Club

Newsletters and Online Communications

The [Work Green](#) monthly newsletter provides updates and access to resources for our Work Green Sustainability Champions around campus, while the [Green Pack](#) newsletter keeps students, staff, and faculty up-to-date on general campus sustainability initiatives, volunteer opportunities, and community events. Signup opportunities for both can be found at the Office's website.

The Office of Sustainability also maintains a [regularly updated website](#) to provide information on all of its programs and initiatives. People looking for more avenues to sustainability information can follow the Office's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#) accounts for other updates and events.

Sustainability Tours

The Office of Sustainability offers a [Campus Sustainability Tour](#) that explores hidden aspects of sustainability around campus. The tour highlights green buildings, the results of student projects and retrofits, green landscaping features, and much more. In 2017, Campus Sustainability Tours were delivered to many staff groups and primary and secondary school groups looking to expand their knowledge of local sustainability efforts.

Energy Conservation Month

During Energy Conservation Month in March we celebrate our successes in energy conservation and highlight initiatives and behaviours that help save energy and associated GHG emissions. 2017's Energy Conservation Month continued the adoption of our Work Green energy conservation pledge while putting out a full host of news articles on many of the previous year's key operational accomplishments.

Campus Sustainability Week

Campus Sustainability Week — our annual October celebration of sustainability — continued its growing history of bringing a wide range of sustainability-related workshops, lectures, social events, and installations to the campus community. 2017's offerings included the return of ART*Cycled, workshops about winter biking and DIY bike maintenance, a native vegetation tour through the Meewasin River Valley, and the familiar U of S Campus Market.

The centrepiece of CSW 2017 was a hugely successful UN Sustainable Development Goals Youth Leadership Training Seminar, which helped participants channel their visions for local change into action plans guided by the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The seminar featured an inspiring talk by Julie Marshall, Communications Officer with the UN World Food Programme, discussing the importance of tackling global food insecurity issues at the community level.



ART*Cycled

ART*Cycled has become an annual fixture of Campus Sustainability Week, featuring a collaboration between the Office of Sustainability and senior art and sculpture students to produce an upcycled public art installation.

ART*Cycled 2017's theme featured discarded bicycle parts collected from the University Services Building's bike compound. Frames, wheels, gears, and so much more were transformed into kinetic works of art that helped to highlight both the versatility of bike components and the apparent ubiquity of discarded bikes on campus.

USSU Sustainability Committee

For years the Office of Sustainability provided U of S student groups with grants to help student-led sustainability events and initiatives. In 2016 the USSU Sustainability Committee was restructured to become primarily a student granting entity. With funding from both the Office of Sustainability and the USSU, the new Committee now oversees a larger pot of funding that is able to issue sustainability grants to students with greater impact and oversight.

In its first full operating year, the USSU Sustainability Committee funded a full \$5,000 worth of student projects. Projects ranged from community garden/greenhouse installations in Northern Saskatchewan to the development of an efficient balsa wood plane design to be demonstrated amongst international competition. With its full funding exhausted, the USSU Sustainability Committee received the support of the President's Office at the end of the 2016/2017 school year, doubling its total funds to \$10,000 for 2017/2018.

Work Green

Work Green, the university's workplace sustainability champions program, continued to grow in 2017 to 68 member workplaces across campus. Some 2017 highlights of Work Green include:

- The creation of a staff taskforce focused on reducing disposable coffee cup waste on campus. Led by Zehra Rizvi, Work Green Champion from University Relations, the group began data collection in late 2017 to begin developing strategies for improvement in early 2018.
- Many offices that have been with the program since its inception reached certification status, which recognizes their sustainability efforts and provides goals to improve their footprint.
- During Energy Conservation Month, Work Green participated in a campus-wide energy reduction pledge. Participating workplaces made their energy reduction pledges public, with prizes

68

Work Green workplaces at the end of 2017



The USSU Sustainability Committee has funded nearly \$15,000 worth of student projects to date.

going to the office with the most participation.

- Signups for our Campus Sustainability Tours hit a high, with new Work Green workplaces signing up entire offices to take the tour.

In 2018, Work Green champions can look forward to expanded workshop and involvement opportunities.

2017 Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Awards for U of S Programs

The University of Saskatchewan has been ecognized by the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development (RCE) in the past. At their 2017 event, three U of S initiatives were highlighted: the Undergraduate Environmental Programs Office, the College of Agriculture and Bioresources Rooftop Garden, and the USSU Sustainability Committee. It is a great honor to continue to be celebrated among other leaders in sustainability throughout the province and we hope to continue sharing our successes with this great organization.

Library Leadership Development Program

The Library Leadership Development Program is a long-running program developed to build leadership at all layers and levels at the University Library. The program incorporates in-class learning, trios, and an action challenge. In support of the university plan, this year's action challenge focused on sustainability.

Groups led research to ask how the library can embrace and embody sustainability while implementing practices or processes to address sustainability challenges. Findings were presented to university leaders and fellow library employees, and the program has sparked interest, awareness, and discussion on keeping up the momentum, collaboration, and accountability when it comes to sustainability.

Community-Based Courses

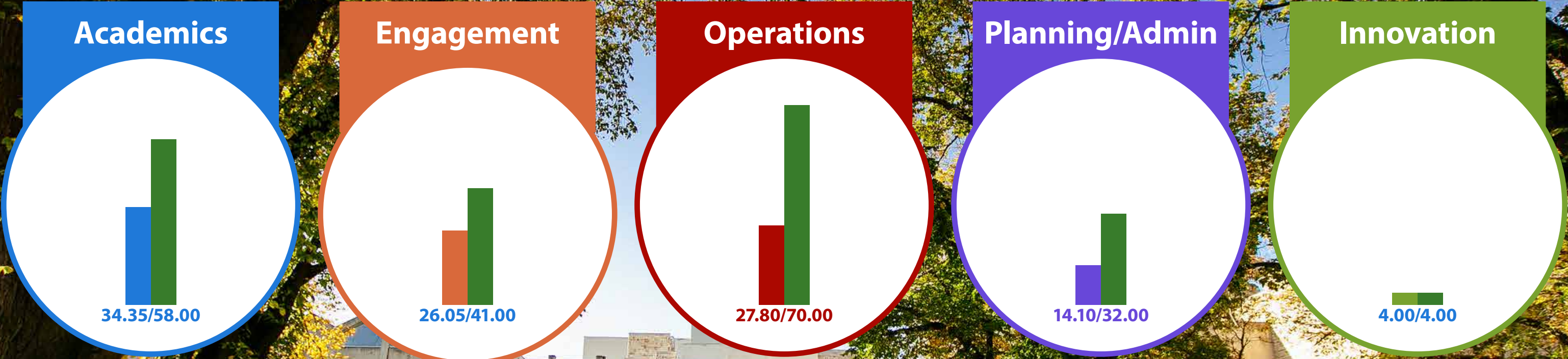
The U of S offers a wide variety of community-based courses and co-curricular programs that touch squarely on the social, economic, and community aspects of sustainability. From the many diverse outcomes arising from the ENVS 201 and 401 student projects to the growing number of opportunities for community-based learning through the Edwards School of Business, Agriculture, Arts and Science, Medicine, and others, students are finding opportunities to support communities and community-based organizations through their studies. The Office of Sustainability will be adding an inventory of these courses and programs to its website in the coming months.

SECC CareerMeetUps

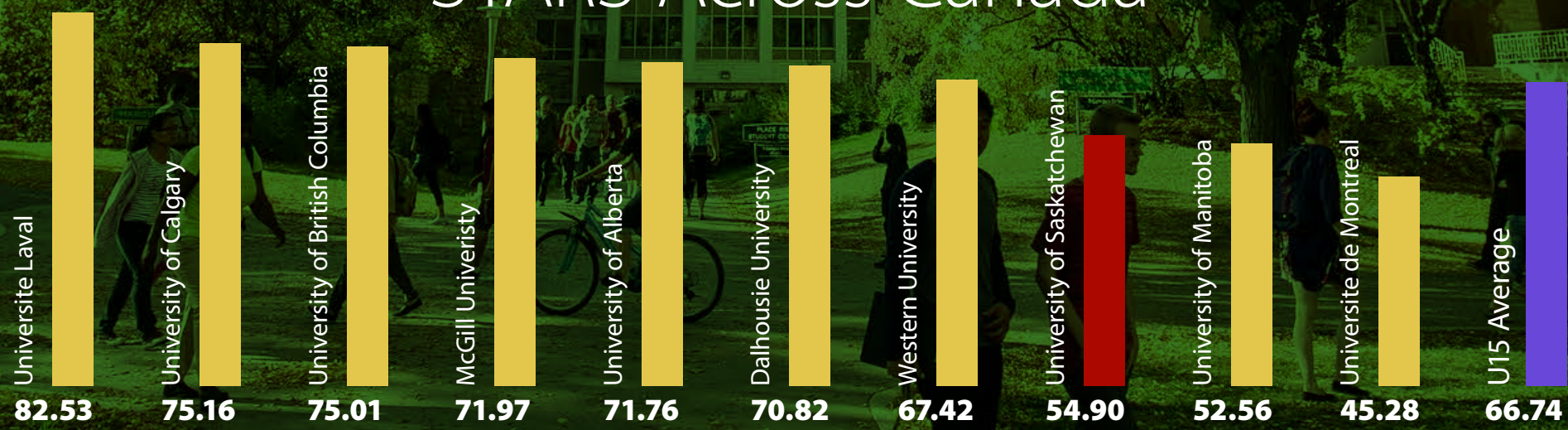
The Student Employment and Career Centre's (SECC) CareerMeetUps provide opportunities for multiple communities across campus to connect in a series of collaborative networking events. The initiative received

Shooting for the STARS

The Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS) is a transparent, self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. Here's how the University of Saskatchewan measures up.



STARS Across Canada



funding in 2017 from the [Sustainability Revolving Fund](#) to integrate the UN's Sustainable Development Goals into its learning and event materials.

Community Partnerships

Delta Dialogue Network

The [Delta Dialogue Network \(DDN\)](#) is a SSHRC-funded partnership between the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Manitoba, and three inland northern river delta communities: the [Saskatchewan River and Delta](#), the [Peace-Athabasca Delta](#), and the [Slave River Delta](#).

The partnership works within and across communities to improve knowledge mobilization around issues of sustainability within northern inland deltas. By focusing on knowledge mobilization, the DDN hopes to build upon the best ways to share and create knowledge so it is useful for communities, decision-makers, and academics.

In 2017, the DDN toured its Delta Days mobile traveling exhibit around Western Canada, spreading the word about the importance of river deltas to communities across the country. The exhibit combines community-produced art, collaborative research results, and storytelling to showcase the successes and importance of the Saskatchewan River Delta.

Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve MOU

In April 2012, the School of Environment and Sustainability and the Redberry Lake Biosphere Reserve signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) which allows SENS and the biosphere reserve to expand the scope of research and education projects relating to the environment and sustainability. SENS students and faculty have been conducting research at the reserve for the past few years, and one course (ENVS 801) holds a field trip there annually.

Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation SENS Research Partnership

The School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) is [undertaking research with community members at Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation](#) that can help the community address a range of issues related to environment and sustainability, including source water protection, clean drinking water, climate change planning, the role of traditional knowledge and values in land and resource decisions, among others.

Mr. Conrad Alfred Gamble from Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation is the program's Indigenous Mentor. Mr. Gamble has been working with faculty and students at SENS since 2015, sharing his knowledge of environment and sustainability issues and ensuring research that will benefit his community.

SERI Digital Media Mobile Lab

The [Sustainability Education Research Institute's Digital Media Mobile Laboratory](#) consists of 25 waterproof cameras and a workshop curriculum available to educators, non-profits, and community organizations interested in encouraging youth to use digital media to explore place and sustainability issues that are important to them. Since 2013, the cameras have been used by multiple projects including Voices in Vision, the Northern Indigenous Media Art Project, and the Ecoquest Media Camp.

Diversity and Equity Co-ordination

The University of Saskatchewan is home to one of the highest proportions of Indigenous community members across all of Canada's universities and has put considerable effort into ensuring equity and diversity in its academic offerings. 2017 marked the hiring of Dr. Jacqueline Ottman as VP Indigenous Engagement. Jacqueline is driven to create schools and communities that foster a deeper sense of belonging and appreciation for Indigenous peoples—their histories, stories, and ways of knowing and being.

Staff Diversity Workshops

In support of our vision of diversity and inclusion, our foundational diversity workshop titled, "A Self-Reflection on Diversity" began in June 2015. To date, over 1000 staff and faculty have attend the 3.5-hour workshop. Additional workshops have been developed based on the "Emotional Intelligence and Diversity" (EID) model which fosters inclusion, understanding, engagement, and awareness of self and others in a diverse workplace. Close to 400 people have participated in sessions since June 2017. The campus community continues to embrace this work and the demand is growing.

Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness Indigenous Voices Program

The Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness supports a variety of faculty and curriculum development initiatives related to decolonizing and Indigenizing education. The [Indigenous Voices program](#) aims to raise awareness of Aboriginal history, culture, contemporary issues, and decolonization. The program includes Ceremony, learning opportunities through wākamisiwin seminars (Plains Cree for "the



Dr. Jacqueline Ottman is the first VP Indigenous Engagement in U of S history.

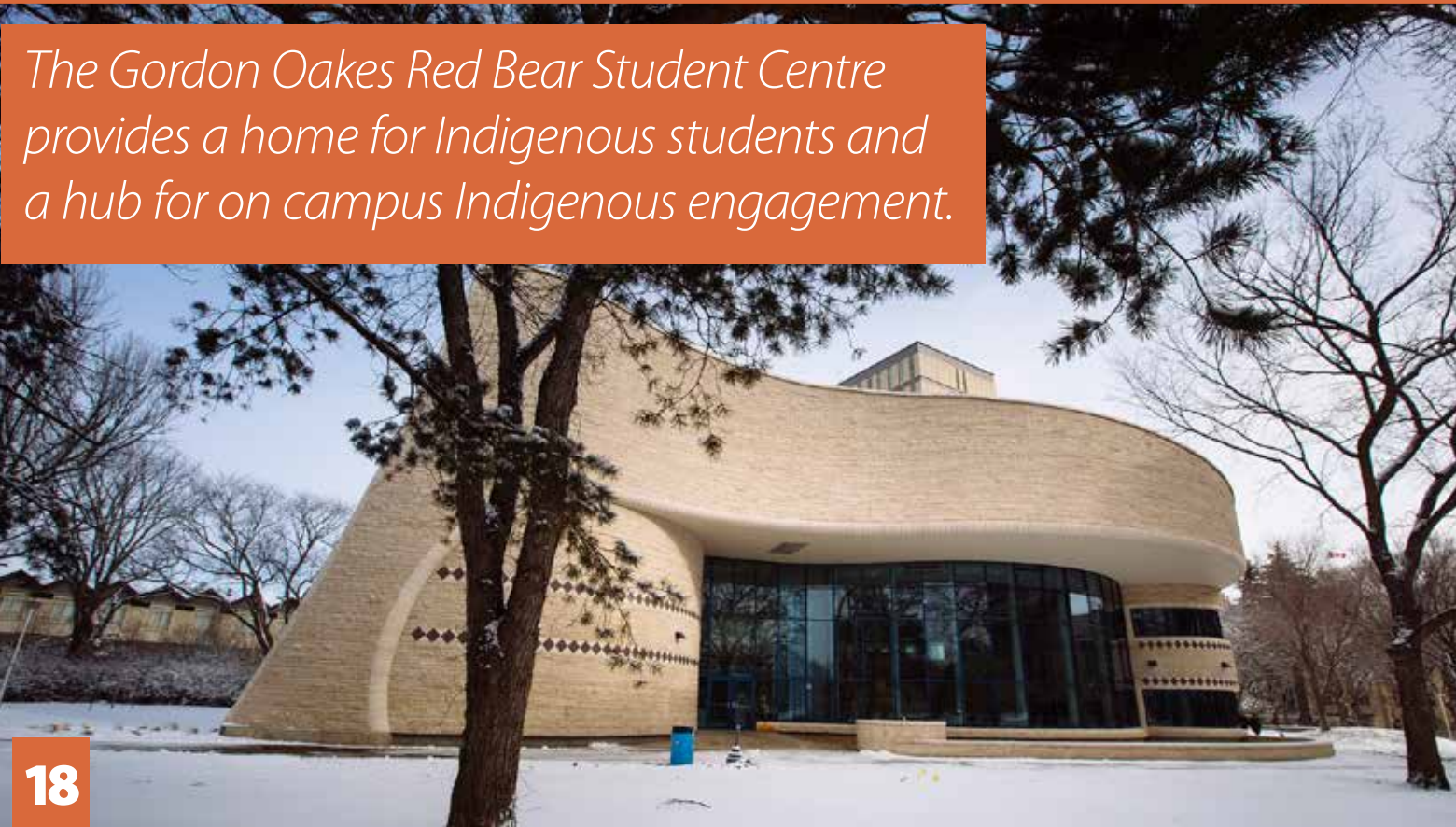
act of becoming more aware"), public talks, a conference, and support to decolonize and Indigenize curricula.

Aboriginal Achievement Week

Each year in March, the University of Saskatchewan hosts [Aboriginal Achievement Week](#) to celebrate Aboriginal accomplishments, reflect on traditions and ceremonies, and connect with the community. Aboriginal Achievement Week 2017 featured a variety of cultural and artistic events, speakers and academic talks, the presentation of annual student awards, and the event's flagship round dance.

College of Education Aboriginal Awareness Initiative

The College of Education [has developed an initiative](#) to provide professional development to everyone in the college — faculty, researchers and staff — to build their awareness of Aboriginal culture and knowledge. This will inform teaching, learning, research and engagement for First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.



The Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre provides a home for Indigenous students and a hub for on campus Indigenous engagement.

Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy

The university is committed to creating and maintaining a positive environment for working and learning that is free of discrimination based on any of the following grounds: religion, creed, marital status, family status, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, colour, ancestry, nationality, place of origin, race or perceived race and receipt of public assistance.

Youth From Care Initiative

The U of S provides one of the most comprehensive university-sponsored funds in Canada to students leaving the child welfare system. The [Saskatchewan Youth From Care Bursary](#) pays for up to five years' of tuition, student fees, required books, accommodation, meal plans, and a stipend for personal costs, as well as a laptop and software to help recipients complete their first undergraduate degree. The university has allocated \$100,000 annually from its operating budget to support up to five students per year.

Aboriginal Career Start Program

The University of Saskatchewan, in partnership with Dumont Technical Institute (DTI), Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology (SIIT), and the Saskatoon Tribal Council, launched an [Aboriginal Career Start program](#) to provide practical experience and training to Aboriginal students. Eighteen graduates from DTI and SIIT receive paid, on-the-job training in a variety of university departments, such as financial services and human resources. The initiative is designed to increase the number of Aboriginal staff members that work on campus and to help ensure communities have well-trained Aboriginal people working in them. The program was launched in

April 2016 and 31 participants have secured full-time positions in various colleges or administrative units on campus. Others are attending further classes in the Edwards School of Business.

Wellbeing and Compensation

All regular employees at the University of Saskatchewan earn a living wage, based on Saskatchewan metrics. In addition, all employees are offered wellness programs that include access to counselling, referral, and wellbeing services. The [Employee and Family Assistance Program](#) provides employees with aid in obtaining these services.

A Year in Sustainability Engagement

January

Residence Energy Info Nights

The Office of Sustainability set up shop in the McEown Park residences in January to answer student questions about energy use and conservation.

Sustainable Food Summit

A group of Living Lab students hosted a summit at the end of January on sustainable food systems.

February

Work Green Quarterly Meeting

Work Green Champions meet once every 3-4 months to discuss campus-wide initiatives, funding opportunities, and professional development.

STARS Submission

The Office of Sustainability's STARS submissions take place in February. 2017's submission resulted in a STARS Silver certification 3 years ahead of schedule.

March

Energy Conservation Month

March is Energy Conservation Month at the University of Saskatchewan, during which the Office of Sustainability shares stats, educational materials, and success stories regarding energy conservation.

Our Common Future

The Our Common Future Symposium, a symposium that showcases Living Lab and other student sustainability and environment projects from around the university, was held at the end of March.

April

Residence Sustainability Tours

In April 2017 the Office of Sustainability led a series of sustainability tours for those living in campus residences.

SENS@10

The School of Environment and Sustainability celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2017 with a grand gala.

Intern Hiring

The Office of Sustainability hires its summer interns in April, providing job experience to students from all across campus.

May

RCE Awards

The Office of Sustainability, the USSU, and SENS were each recognized at the annual RCE Awards in 2017.

Bike to Work Day

The U of S celebrates Bike to Work Day with the rest of the City of Saskatoon in May, encouraging active transportation.

U of S Graduation Powwow

The Graduation Powwow occurs each year in May to celebrate the accomplishments of the university's Indigenous students.

June

Campus Master Plan Engagement

The Campus Master Plan team held its first engagement session in June, gathering the community's visions for the future.

BCBC Donations

The Office of Sustainability donates surplus bikes to community groups. In June, a load was delivered to the Bridge City Bike Co-op, a community group focused on making cycling available to everyone.

July

Open Door Society Tours

The Office of Sustainability worked with the Saskatoon Open Door Society in July to provide Campus Sustainability Tours to international families new to the city.

Library Sustainability Planning

The University Library's Leadership Development Program encouraged a large group of staff to work with the Office of Sustainability in July to brainstorm and plan projects to improve social sustainability initiatives on campus.

August

RA Training Fair

Each August the Office of Sustainability meets with new Residence RAs to provide information, support, and funding for residence sustainability initiatives.

Work Green Coffee Team

A group of engaged Work Green members began a taskforce in August to reduce disposable coffee cup waste.

September

Orientation/Welcome Week

Each September, thousands of new students flock to campus. The Office of Sustainability takes this opportunity to introduce them to sustainability initiatives and programs with which they can engage.

Hike, Bike, and Roll

The university's annual celebration of active transportation takes place in September under the beautiful fall trees of the Bowl.

October

Campus Sustainability Week

October brings Campus Sustainability Week, a massive celebration of sustainability on campus featuring workshops, art installations, guest talks, and social events.

UN SDG Youth Training

Campus Sustainability Week 2017 marked the first UN Sustainable Development Goals Youth Training Seminar at the U of S, featuring powerful speakers and workshops focused on community change.

November

UTransfer Rollout

In November UTransfer began to roll out access to various staff groups, allowing them to easily transfer assets between departments, keeping them out of the landfill.

John Mitchell Solar Panels

A solar installation planned by an ENVS 401 student project was installed next to the John Mitchell Building, allowing students to use them for experiential learning opportunities.

December

School Tours & Workshops

A collection of elementary and high school groups joined the Office in December, exploring campus sustainability features and taking workshops to produce change in their schools.

SECC CareerMeetUps

The Office of Sustainability began collaborating with the SECC's CareerMeetUps events in December, providing support and networking opportunities to student attendees.



Operations

Sustainability is a guiding principle in all operations at the University of Saskatchewan

Operational changes can significantly impact utility expenditures. Even moderate reductions can prove significant. Proactive operational changes can also act as a buffer against future regulatory changes and rising costs. Visible commitments to sustainability through operational changes positively support the university's reputation, specifically in terms of fundraising, attracting personnel and recruiting students.

Energy and Water Energy Management Program

The University of Saskatchewan maintains an Energy Management Program (EMP) to guide its energy use and development. The program includes important policies such as the [Energy and Water Conservation Policy](#), which instructs all of campus on acceptable use of energy and water resources.

Energy Action Plan

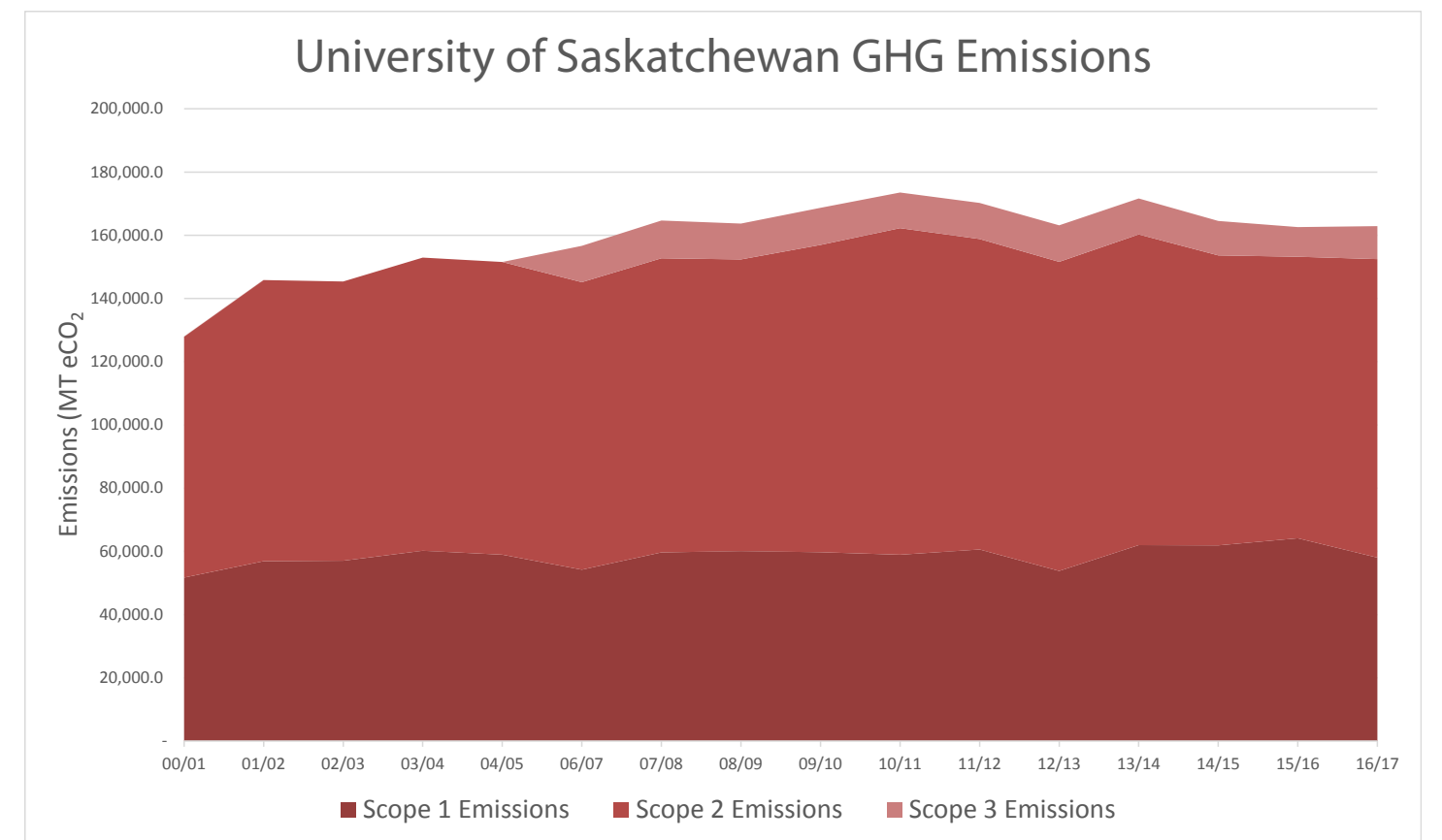
Beginning in 2015, the Office of Sustainability launched the Energy Action Plan (EAP) to address energy usage and conservation issues at the University of Saskatchewan. The EAP was developed in

Campus Sustainability Plan Goals for Operations

partnership with SaskPower and is composed of 3 parts: LED upgrades and retrofits, recommissioning for selected older buildings, and the development of an Energy Management Information System (EMIS) pilot project to assess the potential impact on energy management.

As of 2017, the EAP completed LED retrofits in the following campus spaces:

- University Services Building
- Animal Science Building
- Education and PAC Pools
- Museum of Antiquities
- Education Building
- Thorvaldson Building
- Dental Clinic
- Diefenbaker Canada Centre
- Administration Building
- Williams Building
- John Mitchell Building
- Engineering Building
- Law Building
- Edwards School of Business
- Kirk Hall



- Physics Building
- Murray Building
- Toxicology Building
- VIDO/Intervac
- McLean Hall
- Arts Building

The Education and Geology buildings have been reviewed by external consultants and based on their recommendations, modifications will be made to the operations and equipment to improve energy efficiency.

GHG Inventory

A [Greenhouse Gas \(GHG\) Inventory](#) is completed each year to help track the university's carbon footprint. In general, very little has changed in the university's GHG emissions profile over the past few years. While our new buildings are more efficient in their lighting, water, and heating systems, increased floor space, equipment, electricity usage, and research

intensity has offset any decrease in GHG emissions. In short, building new green buildings is not enough to outweigh the emissions created by growing electricity use. Our current GHG reduction target is 20% below 2006 levels by 2020.

GHG Emissions Scopes

Scope 1

Direct GHG emissions from sources owned or controlled by the university.

Scope 2

Indirect GHG emissions from the generation of electricity consumed by the university.

Scope 3

All other indirect emissions from sources not owned by or controlled by the university. Reporting is optional.

Green Buildings LEED Buildings

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, or LEED, is a green building rating system that serves to recognize and rate achievements in green building. The University of Saskatchewan is home to [many LEED certified buildings](#), including:

LEED Gold

- Health Science E-Wing is notable for its prairie stormwater pond and hot water solar collectors. The building is also designed for excellent access to natural lights which is evident in the main atrium.

- **College of Law Addition** is notable for its living roof. The living roof provides insulation for the building, extends the lifespan of the roof, and absorbs rainwater to filter the water and reduce the rate of stormwater runoff.
- **Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre** (which is targeting LEED Gold) includes many cultural sustainability elements such as culturally significant architectural additions and advanced ventilation systems to allow for smudge ceremonies.

LEED Silver

- Place Riel Student Centre Expansion achieved innovation credits for exemplary performance in water use reduction, recycled content of materials used and sourcing local/regional materials.

LEED Certified

- Health Science D-Wing incorporated a high degree of daylight and views which is in contrast to other older laboratory buildings on campus.
- Murray Building University Learning Commons renovation extensively used existing building features to reduce the need for new inputs, expand opportunities for usable space, and eliminate much of the construction waste.

Other Certifications

The new Collaborative Sciences Research Building (slated to open in Fall 2018) will be pursuing [Green Globes](#) certification upon completion.

A new dual-branded hotel development began construction in 2017 on College Dr. adjacent to the Stadium Parkade. Upon completion, this project will be pursuing Green Key certification.

Sustainability Revolving Fund

The [Sustainability Revolving Fund \(SRF\)](#) was established in 2014 to help finance sustainability initiatives at the University of Saskatchewan. Projects that result in utility savings (either directly or indirectly through behaviour change) are financed; operational savings plus 50% are invested back into the fund to help it grow over time.

Projects funded by the SRF currently include:

- Geology Building Plumbing Upgrades
- Agriculture Parkade LED Lighting Retrofit

- Ultra-Low Temperature Freezer Rebate Program
- Flow Cytometer Replacement Rebate Program
- Steam Trap Insulation Jackets
- Health Science E-Wing Solar Thermal Upgrades
- John Mitchell Building Solar Panel Installation
- SECC Sustainable Career MeetUps
- Thorvaldson Water-Cooled A/C Replacements
- Demonstration Solar Panel Installation at John Mitchell Building

\$1 million

in funding has been committed to campus sustainability projects through the Sustainability Revolving Fund. These projects will offer

\$350,000/year in projected savings

Simple payback within 3-5 years

35% return on investment

Low-Flow Water Retrofits

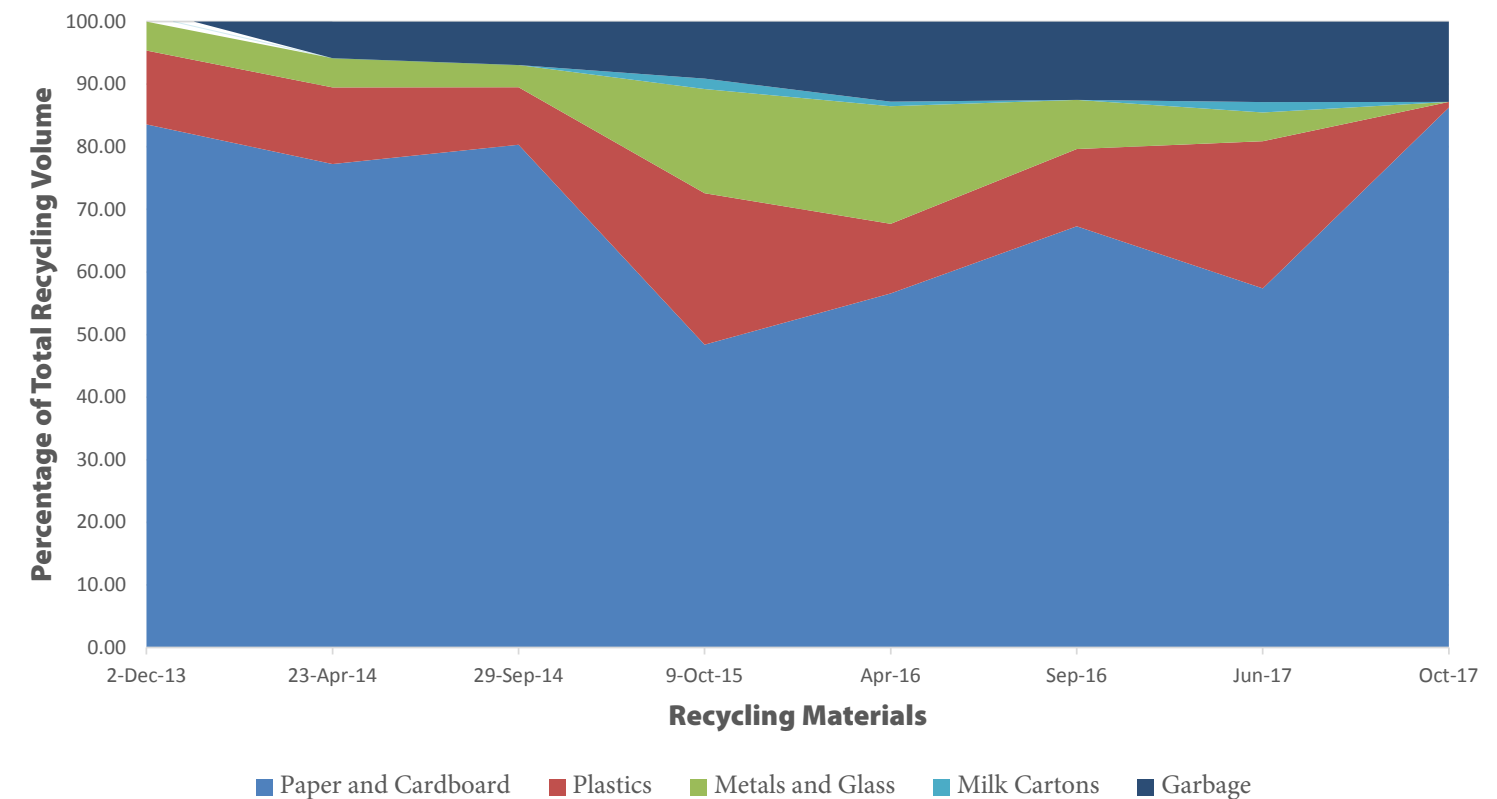
After an Education Building pilot project which reduced water use by 48%, a low-flow plumbing retrofit program was funded by the Sustainability Revolving Fund in 2016. Retrofits began in the Arts Building in 2017 and will continue into other buildings.

Ultra-Low Temperature Freezer Rebate Program

Another successful initiative of the Sustainability Revolving Fund, the Ultra-Low Temperature (ULT) Freezer Rebate Program helps provide funding for researchers at the U of S to upgrade their older ULT freezers to newer, more energy efficient models. Researchers who replace an older freezer are given \$5,000 towards a newer model. Newer ULT freezers use 1/4 of the electricity of their older counterparts and save up to half of the GHG emissions.

Based on the success of the program throughout 2017, the ULT Freezer Rebate Program has been extended and will soon begin to offer rebates for regular refrigerators and freezers in university labs.

University of Saskatchewan Recycling Characterization



The University of Saskatchewan's recycling characterization provides data on the makeup of the university's recycling, allowing us to address specific waste issues over time.

Waste

Recycling Program Changes

A full overhaul of the messaging and communications surrounding the university's single-stream recycling program was launched in late 2016. A Community-Based Social Marketing framework was used to address this issue and began with literature review, observational analysis, focus group testing, and a larger recycling survey that was distributed to all of campus. With nearly 2,700 responses, the survey provided a fantastic level of detail around the behaviours and attitude of campus in regards to recycling.

New signage was designed to simplify the recycling program while addressing common issues and questions. The updated signage was implemented in December to positive reception and was followed in 2017 with accompanying informational and educational signage to help address confusion areas.

The U of S uses a single-stream recycling program contracted through [Loraas Recycling](#). Plastic, paper,

cardboard, metal, and glass are all accepted into recycling bins across the university and sent to Loraas' Materials Recovery Facility for sorting and marketing. In 2016 beverage containers were amalgamated into the single-stream system.

UTransfer Surplus Assets Transfer Portal

After a successful pilot in 2017, [UTransfer](#) became accessible to all U of S staff in February 2018, allowing campus departments to trade their unused or unwanted assets using an easy-to-use SharePoint portal. The Office hopes that the program will help to reduce unnecessary waste at the university by keeping usable items out of the landfill.

Many thanks go out to Work Green, the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, the College of Arts and Science, and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources for helping to test the portal during development.

Special Materials Diversion

The University of Saskatchewan diverts other types of specialty waste from the landfill. Some of these measures include:

- Collecting waste paint and taking it to the Saskatchewan Paint Recycling Program;
- Partnering with the Bridge City Bicycle Co-op to return abandoned bicycles on campus to neighborhood co-operatives;
- Piloting the first laboratory glove recycling program in Canada;
- Diverting 82% of the construction waste generated by large building projects from the landfill;
- Returning toner and ink cartridges for recycling through Supreme Basics;
- Collecting and recycling scrap metals and concrete from construction and demolition;
- Composting landscaping materials including tree trimmings and grass clippings;
- Diverting usable electronics to SARCAN for proper disposal and recycling; and
- Recycling batteries through Call 2 Recycle.

Programming, Transportation, and Consumer Services
Open Textbooks

Consumer Services began pushing for [expanded open textbook and educational resources](#) in 2016 to help reduce student costs. Through 2017, this program continued to expand and provide benefits to U of S students.

In the past year, 3,500 students across six colleges and schools at the U of S are using open textbooks instead of commercial textbooks, saving them approximately \$350,000. Students have saved more than \$750,000 since the U of S launched the open textbook initiative during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Transportation Modal Split Survey

Commuting at the U of S is slowly moving closer towards our sustainability goals. According to our [2016 transportation modal split survey](#), students and employees commute to campus using sustainable options at a rate of 78% and 50%, respectively. These methods include walking, biking, bussing, or carpooling.

Support for Alternative Transportation

The University of Saskatchewan offers a broad array of support for alternative transportation to, from, and around campus. These include:

- Maintaining adequate access to bike racks across campus by actively monitoring and adjusting for use;
- Providing higher security bike parking options through the Health Science parkade cage (75 spots), the Agriculture parkade secure rack (10 spots), underground storage for residences, and [19 personal bike lockers](#);
- Maintaining an extensive and well-connected network of multi-use pathways through campus to encourage active transportation;
- Subsidizing bus pass programs for students ([U-Pass](#)) and staff ([Eco-Pass](#)); and
- Maintaining the [UCommute](#) ride share application for campus use.

Food and Gardens
College of Agriculture and Bioresources
Rooftop Garden

With the help of Plant Sciences professor Grant Wood and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, the university’s first rooftop garden was implemented in 2016. Situated on a lower roof of the Agriculture Building and visible through the skywalk between it and the W.P. Thompson Building, the [Rooftop Garden](#) is also the center of the university’s first closed-loop food system. Compost from the Grounds Compost Centre is used to fertilize the food grown at the Rooftop Garden, which is in turn sold to Consumer Services for use at Marquis Culinary Centre. Any resulting scraps or food waste are dehydrated at the Marquis Culinary Centre Food Dehydrator and are returned to the Compost Centre to be turned into compost for a new round of compost to feed the vegetables. The Rooftop Garden also has an academic

component, in that Plant Sciences and Soil Science students are able to use the garden for class purposes during the spring and fall months.

In 2017, the garden expanded onto the north side of the walkway, where because of the difference in light it became the site of their more shade-tolerant vegetable species.

Marquis Culinary Centre
Sustainable Food Options

[Marquis Culinary Centre](#), the main dining hall on campus and the center of Culinary Services’ operations, has made it their mission for many years to increase the sustainability of their operations and extend additional options to campus in terms of sustainable dining. Some of these initiatives include:

- Trayless dining to reduce the amount of water required for dishwashing and the amount of food waste per diner;
- Kitchen techniques such as batch cooking and controlled kitchen production to reduce food waste associated with food preparation;
- The implementation of a self-serve buffet model designed to reduce food waste.
- Using food from local vendors and student operations such as the Horticulture Club and the College of Agriculture and Bioresources Rooftop Garden;
- Highlighting sustainable and culturally-significant food offerings through events such as Local Food Month, the annual Sustainable Gourmet meal, and International Street Food Week;
- Advertising sustainable food offerings through signage and plasma screens in the dining hall;
- Offering a broad variety of vegan and vegetarian options to diners;
- Using reusable service ware in their dining hall;
- Packaging their catering offerings with biodegradable cutlery, plates, and platters;
- Offering reusable mug discounts at all Consumer Services outlets alongside Tim Hortons, Starbucks, and Subway locations on campus; and
- Catering trays made of biodegradable, petrochemical-free trays made from low-grade post-consumer and renewable pulped fibers.

Did You Know:

All Consumer Services coffee locations offer a discount for customers who bring a reusable mug!

The Marquis Culinary Centre Food Waste Dehydrator has diverted nearly 11,000kg of food waste from the landfill in the past year.





The U of S Campus Farmer's Market has continued to offer fresh and local food and handcrafts to campus.

Marquis Culinary Centre Food Waste Dehydrator

Food and organic waste makes up more than half of the university's overall waste composition. Without effective composting or organic waste collection programs on campus, it will be difficult to achieve the university's goal of 90% waste reduction.

Enter the Marquis Culinary Centre Food Waste Dehydrator. This device takes food waste and removes the liquid, producing a dry compostable product and a nutrient-rich liquid compost that can be used in landscaping operations around the university.

The Dehydrator was installed in Fall of 2017 and has allowed us to successfully divert the food waste coming out of Marquis Hall into the Grounds Compost Centre.

Localize Local Food Inventory

A local food assessment was conducted in 2016 by Localize, which acts as a connector between food businesses, retailers, and consumers. The resulting report identified that 13.1% of the food provided by Marquis Culinary Centre is verified local and community-based or has achieved a third-party sustainable or ethical certification. This is achieved through purchasing food from local growers and vendors or by using food grown right here at the university; the Horticulture Club and the College of

Agriculture and Bioresources' Rooftop Garden are two sources of local produce that sell their goods directly to Consumer Services.

Landscape Management

Through its dedication to sustainable landscaping practices, the University of Saskatchewan is able to lay claim to an incredible sustainably-maintained campus. Some initiatives include:

- An Integrated Pest Management Plan which manages weed and insect pests through methods which avoid chemical inputs when possible;
- Planting native prairie plant species and edible plant species in new beds and landscaped areas;
- Irrigating some campus beds with rainwater collected from the roof of the University Services Building;
- Selectively paving parking lanes to reduce the amount of stormwater runoff generated;
- Composting a high percentage of the waste generated by campus landscaping operations;
- Utilizing large, old-growth trees and shading to enhance energy efficiency on campus; and
- Using granular, rather than chemical, de-icers.

U of S Campus Farmer's Market

The [U of S Campus Market](#) (a result of the [Sustainability Living Lab program](#)) came into full implementation in 2016/2017, with a monthly farmer's market being held in Place Riel. The market featured a revolving cast of local vendors offering fresh produce, baked goods, various treats, readymade meals, and handcrafted goods all at campus' doorstep. With approval of the market high among its vendors and the campus community, the U of S Campus Market hopes to continue to improve and bring local goods to campus in 2018.



Louis' Sustainability Initiatives

For over 10 years Louis' has been integrating sustainability into its operations as a beloved campus gathering place. These initiatives include:

- Using recycled-content/compostable containers for day-to-day take-out for over 10 years;
- LED retrofits which have reduced average electricity use by 23%;
- Featuring exclusively locally-made draught beer offerings across 20 taps;
- Purchasing fresh produce from the [College of Agriculture and Bioresources Rooftop Garden](#) during the summer months;
- Exclusively serving locally-sourced or certified Fair-Trade/Organic coffee at both Louis' and Louis' Loft; and
- Elimination of straws from bar service, with compostable straws available upon request.

Purchasing Electronics Purchasing

97% of all electronics purchased by the university are Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) certified, with 87% of these purchases ranked as EPEAT Gold certified. EPEAT certified products meet strict environmental criteria that address the full product lifecycle, from energy conservation and toxic materials to product longevity and end-of-life management, offering a reduced environmental impact.

Sustainable Purchasing Guidelines

In 2017, the Office of Sustainability published a [Sustainable Purchasing webpage](#) to aid university units trying to reconcile unit purchasing with sustainability.

Green Cleaning Purchases and Practices

In 2016, 91.7% of cleaning products and janitorial paper products purchased by the university were third party certified sustainable; these include EcoLogo certified products that are non-toxic, low-VOC, or made from recycled post-consumer content.



Future Plans

As we leave 2017 having established important partnerships, started ambitious multi-year commitments, and seeing greater public commitment to sustainable actions, the future of sustainability at the University of Saskatchewan looks bright. Keep your eyes open for some of our exciting projects slated for implementation in the coming years.

Green Labs Program

Laboratories are some of the most energy intensive spaces present on a university campus; lab equipment, ultra-low temperature freezers, fume hoods, and other equipment found in lab spaces contribute to a massive energy load that finds itself distributed widely across campus.

Building on the work of a SENS Master of Sustainable Environmental Management student the Office of Sustainability is developing a Green Lab program. This program would focus on occupant engagement measures such as offering grants and rebates to upgrade inefficient lab equipment, providing training on proper fume hood use, identifying ways to reduce, reuse, or recycle lab waste materials, and other initiatives. With effective research, resources, and

co-operation among campus units, we hope to see this program see implementation in 2018, just in time to make its way into the brand new Collaborative Sciences Research Building.

Recycled Content Paper Campaign

The Office of Sustainability will be embarking on a campaign in 2018 to shift office copy paper around campus to 90% recycled content copy paper. This will reduce the environmental impact of our paper use and help us reach our goal of STARS Gold by 2020.

Bus Rapid Transit Implementation

With the City of Saskatoon's plans to move forward with a Bus Rapid Transit system, the University of Saskatchewan will be taking steps in 2018 to identify how to best integrate expanded transit services into the development of campus.

Sustainability: Your University, Your World

Learn More at
sustainability.usask.ca



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
Office of Sustainability
STRATEGIC PROGRAMS OFFICE
[SUSTAINABILITY.USASK.CA](https://sustainability.usask.ca)