

York University

**President's Sustainability Council
(PSC)**

Annual Report

2018 – 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
2. Message from the President	2
3. Message from the PSC Chair	3
4. Reports from the PSC Working Groups	6
5. PSC Membership: 2018-2019	8
6. Acknowledgements	10
Appendices:	
Appendix A: Working Draft & Status of the Sustainability Strategy Implementation Plan	11
Appendix B: Draft update to YorkU's Sustainability Policy	16

1. Introduction

Comprised of students, faculty and staff, the President's Sustainability Council (the Council) was formed in 2008 with a mandate to provide input and recommendations on how to advance sustainability at York University. Since that time, the Council has put forth over 100 recommendations, all of which have been accepted by the University administration.

The Council met four times during the 2018 – 2019 academic year, and this report covers progress over the past year, updates on the progress of previous recommendations and strategic goals, and plans for the upcoming academic year.

The Council has three working groups that meet regularly throughout the academic year. The working groups cover the areas of People, Place, and Knowledge – which align with the three major areas of York University's Sustainability Strategy. The Strategy was adopted by the University in 2017 and is now an important guiding document for advancing sustainability for the Council. As such, there are no new recommendations from the Council this year since the goals listed in the Strategy serve as on-going targets for the Council.

Following last year's recommendation and the subsequent approval of the *Sustainability Innovation Fund* by President Rhonda Lenton, the major activities of the Council for 2018 – 2019 centred on creating a delivery plan for the Sustainability Innovation Fund. The objective of the Fund is to help achieve the 17 sustainability goals listed in the Strategy.

The Sustainability Strategy and the newly approved Sustainability Innovation Fund will help ensure that the University is in a better position to continue to lead in sustainability.

2. Message from the President

This year marks York's sixtieth anniversary, and over the past six decades our vision has been to provide a broad demographic of students access to a high-quality, research-intensive university committed to the public good. The notion of "public good" has meant different things at different times, but in the current context, a huge component of this commitment is our institution-wide focus on sustainability.

At York, we understand that sustainability has a role in everything we do as a university. We offer innovative academic programming that prepares globally educated citizens to build more sustainable communities here in the GTA and around the world. We support researchers to conduct innovative work that tackles a variety of sustainability-related questions and challenges. We also understand that as a university we are uniquely positioned to facilitate multi-sector partnerships and pioneer new educational approaches that will help meet some of the world's most urgent demands – like climate change and the needs of a post-carbon economy.

York was recently ranked 26th in the world and fifth in Canada by Times Higher Education on their inaugural University Impact Rankings, which measure the contribution of universities towards the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). On the Climate Action SDG, York did even better – 4th in Canada and 14th globally. The University was also ranked among Canada's Greenest Employers for the seventh straight year for our institutional leadership in sustainability, which have resulted in reducing annual electrical consumption by nearly 35 million kilowatt hours and the recycling of almost 4 million kilograms of waste.

These accomplishments are the result of our community's collective dedication to building a more socially, economically and environmentally sustainable world. But there is much more work to do: As part of our 2019-20 key objectives, I have asked Vice President of Finance and Administration Carol McAulay to the develop carbon reduction targets for the University, through a consultative and collaborative process with the entire community.

Whether you are a member of the President's Sustainability Council, a student, a staff or faculty member, an alumnus or a supporter, I want to thank you for your contributions to creating a more sustainable York and a more sustainable planet. I look forward to continuing this vital work together.

Rhonda L. Lenton, PhD
President & Vice-Chancellor

3. Message from the PSC Chair

The President's Sustainability Council was established as an advisory body to the President of York University in 2008. Its members include faculty, staff, and students from across the University. Since 2009, the Council has made 106 recommendations in pursuit of a more sustainable University. Over two-thirds of these have been implemented, or have seen significant progress towards implementation (see Appendix A for more details). This, and the work of many members of the York University community in pursuit of sustainability, has helped York University to be recognized, for the seventh consecutive year, as one of Canada's Greenest Employers. In addition to this, York University was ranked 26th globally (and 5th in Canada) in the Time Higher Education Impact Rankings. The THE Impact Ranking are based on the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals, and highlight how the education sector is contributing to international efforts to build a more socially, economically, and environmentally sustainable world.

Following last year's recommendation, I am pleased to update that President Rhonda Lenton has agreed to establish a Sustainability Innovation Fund (SIF). This Fund will ensure that the University continues to lead and is well positioned to have an even greater impact on sustainability at York. The SIF will provide financial support to students, staff, and faculty to advance sustainability on our campuses. The projects funded through this grant will have to demonstrate impact, innovation, scalability, and connection to the York community and the University's Sustainability Strategy. The Council used these principles to create the SIF eligibility and evaluation criteria, which will be shared with the community when the first call for the SIF is released in Fall 2019.

This past academic year, the Council launched the inaugural Sustainability Seminar Series. The objective of this series was to highlight and promote the breadth of sustainability related research and activities at York and speakers included faculty members from the Faculty of Science (Profs Sapna Sharma and Dawn Bazely), the Lassonde School of Engineering (Profs Ahmed ElDyasti and Mark Gordon), and the Schulich School of Business (Prof Charles Cho). These speakers spoke on a diverse array of topics including resource recovery, climate change, air pollution, sustainability in business operations, and food security. The Series highlight the breadth of leading edge research in sustainability at York and align with several goals listed in the University's Sustainability Strategy. This Series will continue in the up-coming academic year and speakers will be sought from diverse backgrounds from the York community.

The 2018 President's Sustainability Leadership Awards were postponed last year and were held in January 2019. Three winners were celebrated at a ceremony which was held at the et al faculty and graduate student café. The winners included Adam Lake (a York University student), Prof Darryl Reed (LAPS), and the Campus Services and Business Operations Energy Management Team. Following this, the 2019 President's Sustainability Leadership Awards were held in June 2019 at the Sandra Faire & Ivan Fecan Theatre: four winners were announced at the event: Michelle Chin-Dawe (YUM! Farmers' Market), the Institute of Transportation Engineers – York University Student Chapter, the York University Performance Facilities technical team, and Prof Ian Garrett (AMPD). The awardees for both competitions were selected by a committee consisting of students, faculty, and staff, and nominees were adjudicated on the depth and breadth of their contribution to sustainability and the degree of innovation.

Additionally, the Council established an ad hoc committee on climate change action. The committee focused on a particular goal from the Sustainability Strategy (PL5: "York University has a long-term energy strategy and action plan with the goal of minimizing carbon emissions on our campuses. This will be achieved by pursuing integrated strategies in key areas such as energy, transportation, buildings, and operations."). The objective of the committee was to analyse operational and research strengths related to energy consumption and renewable energy at York University in order to better position the University in transitioning to renewable energy sources to meet its energy needs.

The Council continued to work towards creating a comprehensive Implementation Plan for the Sustainability Strategy (included in Appendix A) based on the work done by the three Working Groups. Each Working Group was tasked on identifying at least one goal in the Strategy to work towards this year. Similarly, updates on previous recommendations from the Council are also included in Appendix A which identify the current status of each recommendation and their alignment with the goals of the Sustainability Strategy. The Council has also provided a draft update to the University's Sustainability Policy (which was originally approved in 2011) to include more recent progress and goals related to sustainability at York (in particular, the Sustainability Strategy). The Council will continue to discuss changes to the Policy in the up-coming year before presenting it to the Board of Governors for approval. Lastly, the Council developed a partnership with the World Wildlife Fund to implement the Living Planet Leadership Program. The Program aims to enhance a culture of sustainability and promote the protection of nature by engaging post-secondary students and staff/faculty in meaningful actions.

The last three years have seen significant progress with respect to Sustainability at York University. With the development of the Sustainability Strategy, the establishment of the Office of Sustainability, and now the creation of the Sustainability Innovation Fund, we are well-positioned to have an even greater impact on sustainability at York.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'U. Khan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Usman T Khan, PhD, PEng
Assistant Professor & Graduate Program Director, Civil Engineering
Chair, President's Sustainability Council

4. Reports from the PSC Working Groups

The following are reports from each of the three working groups of the PSC.

A. Working Group - People

Co-Chairs:

Michael Charles, Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion (Sept - Jan)

Lorna Swartzentruber, Associate Director, Access Programs and Community Engagement (Jan – May)

Nicole Arsenault, Program Director, Sustainability, VPFA

The working group began the year focusing on advancing the Strategic Goal PE2:

“York University’s holistic approach to sustainability includes social sustainability. York is an inclusive and welcoming community that draws strength from inclusivity and diversity and a commitment to equity and social justice.”

Led by Michael Charles, the first part of the academic year consisted of the Inclusion Video Project, building on the developing an inclusive campus. Following this, the Centre for Human Rights Equity and Inclusion hosted Inclusion Day 2019 theme Innovation Through Inclusion, the event was a quartet of compelling presentations from four global leaders on the creative potential of belonging.

Michael Charles left the University taking a new position at another institution; after his departure Lorna Swartzentruber kindly took on the co-chair position. The second half of the academic year, the working group focussed on how to build a community engagement process on social sustainability to provide a better understanding of the vision and goals of the PSC Strategic Plan, including an alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals, developed by the United Nations.

Progress on Strategic Goal PE3:

“Each of York University’s campuses is an anchor intuition with their surrounding communities. They pro-actively engage to promote sustainable, economic, cultural, social and environmental opportunities and innovation.”

A Social Procurement Working Group has drafted a Social Procurement Policy (which includes setting up Vendor of Records to include local vendors on diversity and inclusion).

An Employment Working Group has been established and is developing a strategy on how to engage local community with on campus employment opportunities. Additionally, developing a strategy on how to engage the York U community to volunteer and foster a campus of stewardship.

B. Working Group - Knowledge

Co-Chairs

Martin Bunch, Associate Dean Research & Professor, Faculty of Environmental Studies
Nicole Arsenault, Program Director, Sustainability, VPFA

The focus of the working group in the current fiscal year will be to advance goal “KN2:

“York University utilizes its campus operations, grounds and buildings as ‘living labs’ that provide experiential education opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students.”

In a cross collaboration with the Experiential Education Committee from Teaching & Learning; the Working Group is working on doing an inventory of experiential learning within sustainability already happening on campus and looking for other opportunity for internships, on campus co-op and other opportunities to embed sustainability within curriculum and experiential learning to foster the “Campus as a Living Lab’.

Several courses were identified as examples of experiential learning in curriculum focusing on sustainability this academic year:

- i. Professor Peter Mulvihill’s fourth year course “Environmental Impact Assessment” focusing on the Global Footprint Network and as an experiential exercise the class was divided into groups examining the campus’s existing environmental footprint as it related to waste, energy, food, transportation, water and land use and making recommendations for improvements.
- ii. Professor Ana Maria Martinez’s “GIS Applications in Environmental Science” where students explored technical GIS applications as a tool to understand how sustainability is done at York, as well as to depict a historical portrayal of York’s Sustainable initiatives and create story maps.
- iii. Professor Phil Stoesser’s course “Environmental Auditing” also provided an opportunity for students to get hands on experiential learning using the campus for their class audits.
- iv. Professor Maggie Toplak from the Faculty of Health also incorporated experiential education in her course “The Psychology of Reasoning, Judgement and Decision-Making” where the ‘nudge’ (or environmental interventions by Thaler & Sunstein, 2008) was applied to real-world sustainability issues they identified on campus.

The Working Group is working on a plan on how to pave the path forward to further integrate sustainability within experiential learning opportunities on campus.

C. Working Group - Place

Co-Chairs:

Richard Francki, AVP, Campus Services & Business Operations (Sept-Jan);

Helen Psathas, Director, Campus Planning, CSBO (Jan-May)

Nicole Arsenault, Program Director, Sustainability, VPFA

The Working Group focused at a high level with an overview of with goals and targets forward thinking to 2050 on how we reduce our GHG emissions; to establish a baseline for the University's climate change strategy.

This included discussion and action planning around the following items:

- The Ontario Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan awarded York University with \$14 Million dollars for retrofit projects to reduce GHG emissions.
- Development and Implementation of RET Screen at York U (software to understand energy consumption patterns from 2010 – onwards) which provides a robust foundation to provide energy analysis and modelling.
- Richard Francki presented a high level excel sheet to provide an overview of the funding required to make significant reductions in Greenhouse Gas Emissions.
- Provincial Government cancellation of Ontario's Cap & Trade Program
- Federal Carbon Tax (backstop) = \$10/tonne of CO2 emissions, will continue increase in the future posing significant financial risk to the institution.
- Identifying opportunities to collaborate with Faculty members for research and experiential learning.

In January 2019, Richard Francki retired after which Helen Psathas joined as co-chaired the working group. The working group decided to create a sub-working group specific toward energy and transitioning to low-carbon and have the main working group focus on other goals next year.

5. PSC Membership: 2018-2019

Usman Khan	Chair
Nicole Arsenault	Program Director, Sustainability
Darryl Reed	Faculty member, LA&PS
Cristina Delgado Vintimilla	Faculty member, Faculty of Education
Deborah McGregor	Faculty member, Osgoode Hall Law School
Ian Garrett	Faculty member, AMPD
Roberto Quinlan	Faculty member, Faculty of Science
Charles Cho	Faculty Member, SSB
Hany Farag	Faculty member, LSE
Laura Taylor	Faculty member, FES
Magdalena Krol	Faculty member at Large
Nancy Sangiuliano	Faculty member, Health
Pablo Idahosa	Faculty Member, Faculty of Graduate Studies
TBD*	Tier 1 Canada Research Chair or York Research Chair or similarly distinguished researcher
TBD*	Tier 2 Canada Research Chair or York Research Chair or other high profile emerging researcher
Celia Haig-Brown	Associate Vice-President Research
Chris Wong	Director, Transportation & Master Planning, YUDC
Alice Hovorka	Dean, Faculty of Environmental Studies
Alice Pitt	Vice-Provost Academic
Anthony Barbisan	Executive Director, Ancillary Services
Byron Gray	Manager, TD Community Engagement Centre
Carol McAulay	Vice-President, Finance & Administration
Donald Ippercial	Chief Information Officer
Fiona Kay	Staff Representative from Glendon College
Helen Psathas	Director, Campus Planning & Development
Lorna Schwartzentruber	Associate Director, Access Programs & Community Engagement from the Division of the Provost
Lucy Fromowitz	Vice-Provost Students
Martin Bunch	Associate Dean, Research
Michael Charles	Executive Director, Centre for Human Rights
Neville McGuire	Chief of Staff, Office of the President
Richard Francki	Assistant Vice-President - Campus Services and Business Operations
Richard Silva	SEO - on behalf of Vice-President Finance and Administration
Mario Verrilli (on behalf of VPS)	Executive Director, Resources & Strategic Planning, VPS - on behalf of Vice-Provost Students
Matt Nevins	Student Representative
Paruksheen Dhunjisha	YUGSA Student Representative
Sebastian Lalonde	YFS Student Representative
Bryan Yau	Student Representative
* No representatives for the 2018/2019 Council	

6. Acknowledgements

Guest Speakers

Frances Edmonds, HP & Sarah Winterton Wildlife Fund – Living Planet Leader

Taylor Wiggins & Tanushree Bose – Upstream Greens

Wesley Moir – Faculty of Graduate Studies

Seminar Series Speakers

Professor Ahmed ElDyasti, Lassonde School of Engineering




Professor Sapna Sharma, Department of Biology Faculty of Science













Professor Mark Gordon, Lassonde School of Engineering









Professor Charles Cho, Schulich School of Business”












Prof Dawn Bazely, University Professor, Department of Biology, Faculty of Science

Appendix A: Working Draft & Status of the Sustainability Strategy Implementation Plan

Strategic Goal	Action	Measurable/Metrics	SDG - Alignment	Responsibility	Plan Status	Alignment to Previous PSC Recommendations 2009-2017 (Archived)
People						
<p>PE1: The York University community demonstrates a culture of sustainability through individual behaviour and institutional practices, such as dedicating staff and academic positions to pursue sustainability, embedding sustainability in all job descriptions, and changing behaviour and practices through focused training and continuing education for new and incoming staff, faculty and students.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify dedicated staff & academic positions 2) Meet with AVP HR to embed sustainability in all job descriptions 3) Develop on-boarding educational program 3) Meet with AVP HR develop on-boarding program for all new staff /faculty re sustainability 4) Workplans that include specific metrics that support targets. 5) Meet with VP Students /SCLD /YU Launch re onboarding new students 6) Develop training & refresh programs (ie. Green office; Sustainability Champions; Residence Life) 7) Sustainability Leadership 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) # positions dedicated to sustainability 2) baseline & number of job descriptions with sustainability in JD 3) complete onboarding program 4) # of staff /faculty members who have participated in the on-boarding program 5) # students who have participated in the on-boarding program 6) Awards 		VPFA Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Office of Sustainability created in VPFA (2018) 2) 1 FTE created as Program Director, Sustainability (2018) 3) HR Confirmed will embed sustainability in job description as a value statement in the new (ATS system). 4) Sustainability included in Service Transformation (standardized job and competency skills) 5) Basic information provided at HR employee on-boarding; currently expanding the programming. 6) Collaborating with VPS staff to incorporate sustainability within first year orientation for Sept 2019. 7) Collaborating with VPS staff and Housing to create programming for new incoming students for Sept 2019. 8) Event Planners Checklist Development 9) In development - updating the Sustainability Ambassador/Champion Program 10) In development - updating the Green Office Program 11) Development of Lunch & Learn events to engage community members 	<p>2013-2: Develop a pilot initiative on signage on a specific sustainability initiative, in conjunction with relevant staff persons, in order to study the potential effectiveness of signage and social marketing in changing behaviour and enhancing campus sustainability.</p> <p>2013-5: Invite committees, ad-hoc working groups, and other stakeholder groups to present to the committee once per year to ensure collaboration and consideration of social justice and human rights values (e.g. Access York, Community Safety, YUUC, etc.).</p> <p>2013-9: In the Res Race to Zero program should be expanded to commence in September, engaging students in a broader program of sustainability, including water, waste, stewardship, and community involvement.</p> <p>2010-6: Cultivate intellectual interest in sustainability among students and faculty through symposia and/or key events.</p>
<p>PE2: York University's holistic approach to sustainability includes social sustainability. York is an inclusive and welcoming community that draws strength from inclusivity and diversity and a commitment to equity and social justice.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CHREI 2) VPS 3) VPFA - HR 4) VPA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Metrics on Diversity & Inclusion 		CHREI VPA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inclusion Day January 2019 2) CHEI Training Sessions; REDI Workshop Series 3) Inclusion Video Projects 4) The Indigenous Framework for York University: A Guide to Action 5) Indigenous Council Community Engagement Session 	<p>2012-5: Strengthen York U's messaging to showcase diversity and equity as a key York U commitment. Specifically, the messaging should be highlighted in student, faculty and staff recruitment materials and York U's external webpage.</p> <p>2012-6: Create further opportunities for campus wide discussion, especially with students, to solicit input about SJ&HR issues in a sustainability context.</p> <p>2012-9: Monitor, and where possible, strengthen the social justice and human rights considerations in the implementation of the York University Secondary Plan.</p>
<p>PE3: Each of York University's campuses is an anchor institution with their surrounding communities. They proactively engage to promote sustainable economic, cultural, social, and environmental opportunities and innovation.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Anchor Institution & Community Benefits Framework 2) Develop Policy on Social Procurement 3) Identify pilot projects 4) Approval of Social Procurement Policy by the BOG 5) Participate in AnchorTO 6) Create Employment Working Group-identify workforce development opportunities for residents and surrounding area -support local hiring (ie. CUPE and YUTA; Vendors) -partnership with educational institutions for high school apprenticeships 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> # of RFP #VOR #people hired from local community #apprenticeship programing 		VPFA VPA Sustainability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Anchor Institution & Community Benefits Framework is complete 2) Social Procurement Working Group 3) Social Procurement Policy Developed (going to BOG for approval Spring 2019) 4) Employment Working Group created 5) Employment Working Subcommittee created to explore volunteerism and employee engagement. 6) Hosted second York U Anchor Roundtable Stakeholder meeting 7) Costa Rica Campus 	<p>2016-3: That York University review and consider the "Framework for York as an Anchor Institution" developed by the sub-group on Community Benefits, and direct the creation of an implementation plan by end of 2016-2017.</p> <p>2015-2: That a sub-working group of the SJ&HR working group be formed to develop an action plan to advance a proposal for how Community Benefits Agreements could be used by York University as it moves forward on the development of Lands for Learning under the Secondary Plan, as well as for major upgrades and updates to existing buildings and infrastructure taking into account the needs of the neighbouring communities as well as existing contractual agreements and development plans.</p> <p>2012-7: York U communicates regularly with the neighbouring communities using plain language and various accessible means to promote opportunities to connect with the campus (for example, events, facilities, etc.)</p> <p>2012-8: Continue to explore viable mechanisms to promote and expand opportunities for community use of space on campus.</p> <p>2010-10: Develop the York University-TD Community Engagement Centre (CEC) as a hub for York's various academic and non-academic outreach and engagement activities, by: a. expanding employment and enrollment recruitment sessions at CEC and with CEC partners.</p> <p>2010-15: Explore a program for workplace training opportunities, for example, through internships, skilled trade apprenticeships and other employment training in collaboration</p>

Strategic Goal	Action	Measurable/Metrics	SDG - Alignment	Responsibility	Plan Status	Alignment to Previous PSC Recommendations 2009-2017 (Archived)
Knowledge						
KN1: York University's international reputation in sustainability education and research draws students from across Canada and around the world to study here.	1) FES 2) SSB 3) Engineering 4) Osgoode 5) Faculty of Ed 6) LAPS	1) #sustainability related courses 2) Faculty involved in sustainability research 3) #sustainability related programs 4) # students enroled in programs	 	Sustainability VPA Recruitment York International CPA	1) Submitted THE Times Higher Education and was ranked #26 in World and #5 in Canada in SDG's	2012-3: The Office of the Vice-Provost Academic will facilitate enhancement of sustainability in curricular contexts through existing academic planning mechanisms (e.g. quality assurance, development of learning outcomes) and aligned university committees (Community Safety Committee). 2012-4: The Vice-Provost Academic will undertake to discuss with the new Vice-Provost Students the creation of a Working Group, involving students, faculty and staff, with a mandate to explore and foster co-curricular intellectual interests in issues of sustainability. 2009-11: Develop a greater focus on sustainability in the York
KN2: York University utilizes its campus operations, grounds and buildings as 'living labs' that provide experiential education opportunities to both undergraduate and graduate students.	1) Collaborate with T&L 2) VPA 3) VPS 4) CSBO (ie. Energy, Transport, Waste etc)	1) # students / staff / faculty involved 2) # projects 3) # Courses 4) # Research	 	Sustainability T&L EE Coordinators Experiential Learning Hub	1) Working Group established 2) Metrics Identified to track 3) Courses/projects identified currently taking place 4) Innovation York	2015-3: The PSC Operations & Development Working Group recommends that York University promote and support future experiential learning initiatives and sustainability projects using the campus as a living lab, upon submission of detailed research proposals and work plans. Experiential Learning initiatives can be targeted to meet operations & development objectives. 2009-38: Integrate relevant research and studies into grounds management and other areas of campus operations by establishing formal opportunities with straightforward processes for the engagement of students (for example, through course-related research projects, internships, paid work, or volunteer opportunities).
KN3: Undergraduate learning outcomes and graduate attributes of York University students include, wherever appropriate, the ability to identify and articulate sustainability challenges facing our world, and to assess, critique, explain and take action to address these problems.	1) VPA	1) # students 2) Higher Education Sustainable Development - Literacy Test? Survey?	 	VPA	1) Faculty of Environmental Studies interested in a pilot	2010-7: Bring forward discussion of sustainability to the Teaching & Learning Working Group on Technology enhanced Learning in order to identify strategies to embed sustainable practices in course design and teaching practices across the University (for example, use of electronic assignment drop-box).
KN4: York University is recognized as a world leader in applied sustainability research.	1) meet with VPRI 2) VPRI Strategic Plan	1) # of researchers 2) # of students 3) # research projects 4) Local & International Impacts	 	VPRI VPA OIPA	1) THE Times Higher Education and was ranked #26 in World and #5 in Canada in SDG's	
KN5: York University researchers and staff work together to develop, conduct and apply leading edge research and technology in sustainability initiatives.	1) meet with VPRI	1) # of researchers 2) # of students 3) # research projects 4) Local & International Impacts	 	VPRI		2010-8: Explore the opportunity, perhaps in collaboration with relevant faculty members, to: a. undertake research to identify how other post-secondary institutions nationally and internationally support sustainability in the curriculum; and b. conduct key informant discussions internally and externally to identify opportunities for new or enhanced academic offerings related to sustainability that meet emergent workforce needs
KN6: York University will establish a Network of Centres of Excellence (NCE) in Sustainability that attracts world class researchers in sustainability and enables York to partner with other institutions and stakeholders around the world in sustainability research and knowledge mobilization.	1) VPRI 2) VPA 3) Application Process http://www.nce-rce.gc.ca/Competitions-Competitions/Index_eng.asp		 	VPRI / VPA		

Strategic Goal	Action	Measurable/Metrics	SDG - Alignment	Responsibility	Plan Status	Alignment to Previous PSC Recommendations 2009-2017 (Archived)
Place						
<p>PL1: York University integrates sustainability into both long-term institutional strategic planning and day-to-day decision-making.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop engagement framework 2) Embed in Service Transformation 3) Embed in SHARP 4) Align to UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) 5) Update AASHE Stars Submissions 6) Review and update the Sustainability Policy 		 	VPFA		<p>2016-1: That York University undertake a strategic planning process, including broad community engagement, with the goal of developing an integrated sustainability plan for the University by the end of May 2017.</p> <p>2015-1: Investigate best practices of sustainability strategic plans and planning processes from other institutions of higher learning, with a view to analyzing the potential value for successful application at York.</p> <p>2014-9: That CSBO collaborate with pertinent stakeholders, including the Vice President of Student Services, and Corporate Communications, to develop a program aimed at deterring further graffiti on campus.</p> <p>2013-1: Register for and participate in the STARS program, and provide the additional administrative and financial resources necessary for participation.</p> <p>2012-2: We recommend that the University consider adding new policies, modifying existing policies, or develop guidelines for the community to reflect best practices in the following areas of sustainability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑️ Procurement ☑️ Food ☑️ Paper ☑️ Water - A water policy is part of the approved motion to phase out the sale of bottled water completed September 2015. <p>2010-19: The University should give preference to suppliers who can meet or exceed predetermined "green" specifications. Procurement Services could include in their Request for</p>
<p>PL2: As an established institutional value, York University makes sustainability visible and tangible on our campuses through intentional design that improves ecological and human well-being, supports experiential education, fosters innovation and demonstrates best practices.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) CSBO 2) YUDC 3) capital design / reno-landscaping 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) # green buildings 2) # landscape areas ie. zeroscape 3) community gardens 	  	<p>CSBO YUDC VPFA</p>		<p>2015-4: The PSC Operations & Development Working Group recommends development of a communication and educational plan to showcase York University's achievement in sustainability (example: LEED certificated buildings, Xeriscape Gardens, Zerowaste, and no use of Pesticides etc).</p> <p>2014-3: That York University apply in 2014-2015 to be designated as a "Fair Trade Campus."</p> <p>2014-7: That tobacco waste control efforts focus on collaboration with interested building occupants to target key areas of non-compliance, including loading docks and under building awnings, with a view to improving health and safety in those areas.</p> <p>2014-8: That a protocol be developed which allows community members to advertise in a manner that does not cause the destruction of property or otherwise adversely impact the university environment, and that the Office of the Vice President of Administration and Finance, through Campus Services and Business Operations (CSBO), bring together a working group for poster with the objective of creating the new protocol.</p> <p>2014-2: That, in addition to the Annual Sustainability Report, the PSC develops a shorter, reader-friendly sustainability report that captures annual highlights for wider circulation and communications purposes.</p> <p>2014-10: That CSBO, Food Services, develop an operating framework and mandate for an ongoing Farmers' market during summer 2014 to ensure that it is integrated and operated</p>
<p>PL3: York University integrates sustainability into its overall financial plan, integrated resource plans and procurement, and is a responsible investor with respect to sustainability.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop engagement framework 2) OIPA 3) Responsible Investing 		 	VPFA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Social Procurement Policy 2) Responsible Investment - ESG 3) Procurement Bulletin re: Promotional Materials 	<p>2010-3: Encourage University divisions and departments to integrate sustainability into their Integrated Resource Plans.</p>
<p>PL4: York University has an ongoing sustainability innovation fund to support sustainability projects on its campuses.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Investigate methods for implementation 2) Seeking funding opportunities 3) Create a framework & process for applications and allocations 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) successfully implement program 2) \$\$ 3) # applications 4) # selected / awarded 		VPFA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sustainability Innovation Fund Project Framework Completed 2) Sustainability Innovation Fund Application Process and Rubric Completed 3) Seed funding provided by the Office of the President \$50K 4) SIF launching Summer/Fall 2019 	<p>2016-2: That York University investigate best practices in 'green funds' in the postsecondary sector, including the exploration of funding sources such as levies, fees or donations, with a view to establishing a fund at York University to support sustainability projects on campus.</p>

Strategic Goal	Action	Measurable/ Metrics	SDG - Alignment	Responsibility	Plan Status	Alignment to Previous PSC Recommendations 2009-2017 (Archived)
Place (cont'd)						
<p>PL5: York University has a long-term energy strategy and action plan with the goal of minimizing carbon emissions on our campuses. This will be achieved by pursuing integrated strategies in key areas such as energy, transportation, buildings, and operations.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) GGRP Sustainability Plan (CSBO) 2) Energy Management Plan 3) Green building standards 4) Green fleet standard / guideline 5) Develop a community engagement plan 6) Improve utility building information (ie. Dashboard) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Emissions reductions 2) Fuel consumption 3) electricity metrics 4) kW per Sq space 5) Green buildings 6) vehicle transportation (EV/ fuel consumption) 	  	CSBO YUDC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Climate Action Group Created (academic & non-academic); will be a sub-working group in PSC 2) Security replacing 3 vehicles with hybrid 3) GGRP Energy Reduction Projects 	<p>2014-4: That York publishes, on an annual basis, its Energy Conservation and Demand Management Plan.</p> <p>2014-5: That York consider the installation of electric vehicle recharging stations and prepare for their use by assembling best practices regarding the operation of the new facilities, for communication to the public as part of this initiative.</p> <p>2013-7: Work should focus on better aligning heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems with programmed space use within buildings (e.g. classroom use), and on opportunities for further reductions through other community engagement initiatives, behavior modification and process changes.</p> <p>2013-8: Efforts should also aim at monitoring the renewable energy market for cost effective technologies that are compatible with York's physical footprint and energy grid.</p> <p>2009-39: Continue to position the University to manage its carbon footprint more effectively through the implementation of the energy management program and other initiatives; and expand efforts to engage the community in prudent energy conservation practices in order to sustain, and possibly improve, the targeted reduction in energy consumption and emissions.</p>
<p>PL6: York University's campuses are ecologically healthy, and provide accessible and inviting spaces to learn, live, work and play. Valuing and prioritizing open and green spaces allows York University to manage our campuses to generate "co-benefits" that improve ecosystem health as well as human health and well-being.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Campus Planning & Development 2) YUDC 3) Master Planning & Development 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) # trees on campus 2) % green space on campus 3) % of campus woodlot 4) gardens (including Butterfly/bee pollinators) 5) biodiversity on campus 	 	CSBO YUDC		<p>2014-13: That the tree inventories recently completed be uploaded into York's asset management tool so that it may be used in the tracking of all tree activity and changes; it is also recommended that a website be created to make the tree inventory information available to the public.</p> <p>2013-10: Conclusive evidence of the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer at Keele campus was established in the spring of 2012. A program of assessing all Ash trees was completed in summer of 2012. The inventory included a rating of all the trees, and those that could be saved were earmarked for a multi-year treatment program aimed at reversing the devastation posed by the insect infestation. The treatment program should be continued over the summer of 2013.</p> <p>2013-12: The York University Master Plan for the academic lands includes policies for the protection of all major opens spaces, including the four woodlots. Background technical studies have been completed assessing conditions and making recommendations for woodlot management. An assessment of the recommendations of these technical reports should be conducted in 2013-2014, including community consultation and identification of resource requirements for implementation.</p> <p>2013-14: Tobacco waste is a growing concern, mainly due to toxicity of the cigarette butts, leaching toxins into the soil and ground water. It's a human and environmental health issue, and it detracts from the quality of the University's public areas. A University strategy is required for more effective management of cigarette butts which are presently being</p>
<p>PL7: Buildings on York campuses and lands held by York University are models of sustainable design and operation in multiple dimensions. Not only do they achieve energy, water and human health sustainability benefits, but they also serve as living labs that support experiential education and research in sustainability.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop standards/framework 2) Facilities Services 3) YUDC 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) # utilities 2) # Experiential Learning 3) # spaces / sq 	   	CSBO YUDC Curriculum Teaching & Learning Research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Opening of the New Student Centre (LEED Gold) 2) Opening of the Rob & Cheryl McEwan Building (LEED Gold) 	<p>2014-6: That the Faculty of Environmental Studies researchers be provided with a high-profile location for the accommodation of a pilot project examining the use of solar power in the use of electric vehicle recharging stations.</p> <p>2014-12: That York consider a requirement that all new buildings demonstrate the structural and electrical capability to accommodate renewable energy, so that at minimum, new buildings are "solar ready" and can be considered in a future initiative when it becomes more viable to pursue solar power.</p>
<p>PL8: All new development, and where possible renovations, on York University campuses are constructed to the highest green building standards, and aspire to net positive contributions with respect to energy and utility consumption and other dimensions of sustainability.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Develop standards/framework 2) CSBO 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) # projects 2) reduction in utilities 3) 	 	CSBO YUDC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Opening of the New Student Centre (LEED Gold) 2) Opening of the Rob & Cheryl McEwan Building (Targeted LEED Gold) 	<p>2009-24: Develop a York-specific green standard for the development and construction of all new buildings and building renovations</p>