



THIS IS SUSTAINABILITY

[2015 ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT]

Message from the President



Promoting sustainability on campus and around the globe remains a core commitment for the York University community. The University continues to make significant progress in energy conservation, transportation, waste management, and curriculum, among other areas. Thanks to the hard work of sustainability champions across our two campuses, York continues to be one of Canada's leading universities on sustainability.

This past spring, we were named one of Canada's Greenest Employers for the third consecutive year, an award given to employers who lead the nation in creating a culture of environmental awareness. York University was also ranked second by *Corporate Knights* on its Future 40 Responsible Corporate Leaders list for 2015.



With the construction of two major projects on our Keele campus nearing completion, we are expanding the scope of our sustainable development projects. The Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension project will help to reduce our carbon footprint as a campus community by getting more people out of cars and onto public transit. The recently opened Bergeron Centre for Engineering Excellence, built to LEED Gold standards, adds more than 167,000 square feet of learning space for our civil, mechanical and electrical engineering programs, exemplifying our commitment to green buildings on campus.

Our commitment is not limited to our facilities, as our endeavors in the classroom attest. York offers close to 500 course offerings related to the environment and sustainability, through our Faculty of Environmental Studies and several other programs on campus. In addition, our Schulich School of Business was once again named top global MBA program on sustainability by *Corporate Knights*.

We have much to be proud of, but there is still a great deal to be done. I look forward to continuing to work together as a campus community and as one of Canada's leaders in sustainability, in a world that demands our united efforts.

Sincerely,

Mamdouh Shoukri
President and Vice-Chancellor

15 reasons why we're one of Canada's Greenest Employers

50% of Glendon campus is covered by forest



29% reduction in energy use intensity since 2007



Ranked in top 10th percentile of GreenMetric World University Ranking on sustainability from 2010-2014



More than 80% of the community commutes using alternative transportation



Over 25% of Food Services food purchases are local, sustainable or Fair Trade certified



Over 70 water refill stations and 200 drinking fountains



Maloca Community Garden on Keele campus since 1999



Weekly Farmers' Market



Close to 500 course offerings that focus on environment and sustainability



Ranked 2nd on the *Corporate Knights* Future 40 Responsible Corporate Leaders in Canada ranking for 2014 and 2015.



66% waste diversion rate



Team of committed sustainability ambassadors across campus



Phased out of the sale of bottled water in September 2015



More than 6,500 trees and shrubs planted on the Keele and Glendon campuses since 2005.



10 buildings constructed to green building standards, including one of the first on a university campus in Canada



Energy

The YorkWise Energy Management Program (EMP) continues to generate significant savings for the University and has achieved a **29% reduction in energy use intensity** since its implementation in 2007.

DID YOU KNOW?

York's reduction in energy usage can supply

3,400+

Ontario homes with electricity for a full year.



reduced CO₂ emissions by more than
18,000 tonnes



\$4,500,000
saved
on utilities
per year

32,574,346



kWh
saved in
annual electricity
consumption

\$4,537,679

in rebates for
reduced emissions



29%

reduction in
energy use intensity
since 2007



Grounds



The principle of sustainability in Grounds operations has been a driving force in the creation of all new landscape designs including:

- low maintenance shrubs
- drought-resistant and native plants
- mulch in planted areas for water retention and weed control
- automatic irrigation controls
- organic fertilizer
- porous hard surface materials such as interlock pavers (which are reusable, offer better durability than asphalt/concrete and improve water infiltration)



Tree Management of York's Urban Forest

The trees on our campuses provide a multitude of benefits by enhancing the landscape, reducing pollution, providing shade, and playing an essential role in the health and well-being of our community. The Tree Management program allows York University to proactively manage our trees on campus through a digitized tree inventory database. The program also includes the management of the Emerald Ash Borer, an invasive pest that attacks and kills all species of ash trees. Under this program, all ash trees on our campuses are being assessed and monitored for treatment and preservation. Infected trees that do not respond to treatment are removed and replaced.



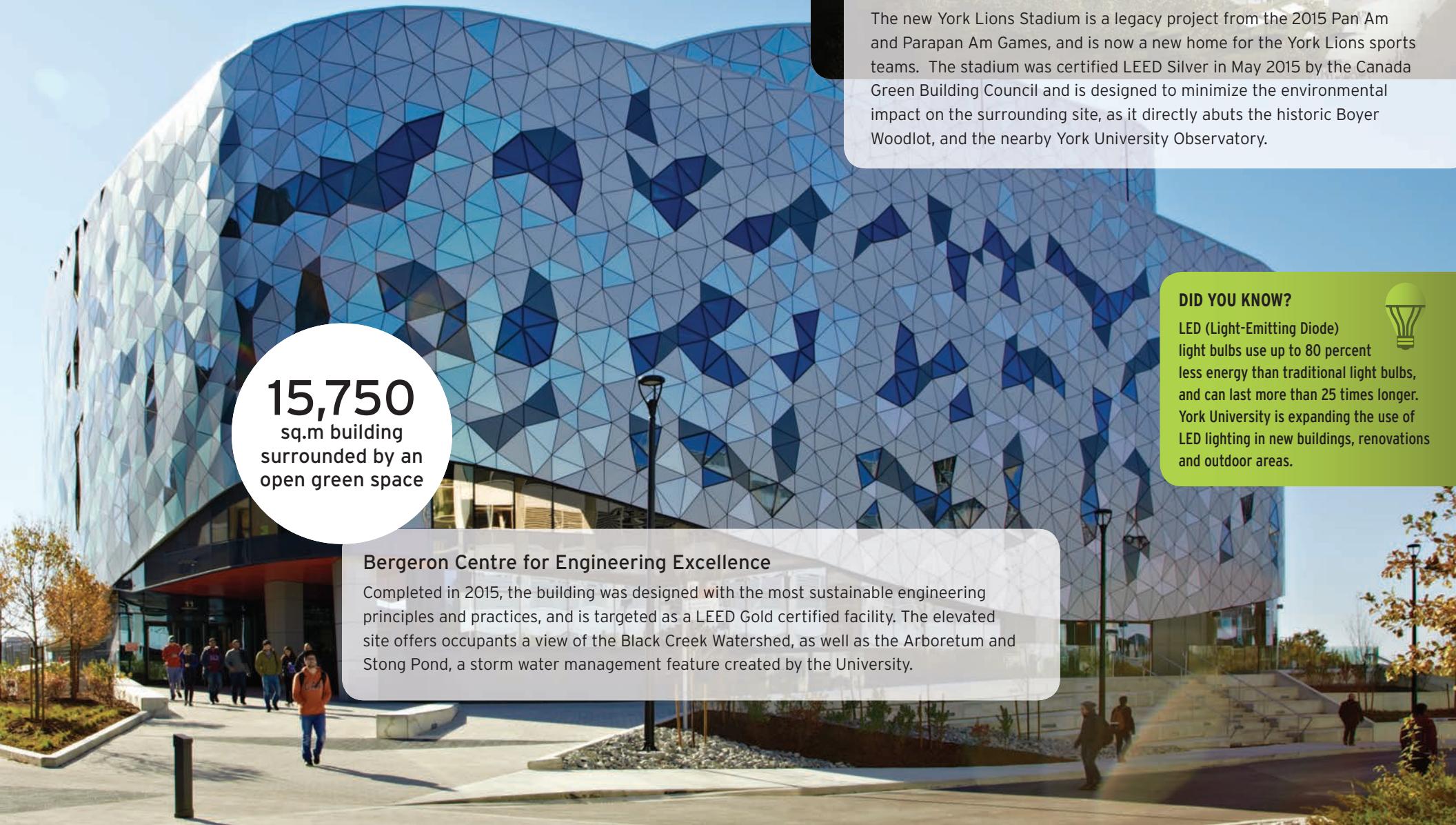
DID YOU KNOW?

50% of York's Glendon College campus is covered by forest.

Over **15** hectares in size, the forest is a significant part of the Don River Valley ravine network – a valuable forest ecosystem right in the middle of Canada's largest city.

Infrastructure, New Facilities and Renovations

York has adopted a sustainable building strategy that considers design efficiency, broader use of day lighting, water efficiency, energy conservation and performance, reduction in emissions, materials and resources, green construction practices, indoor environmental quality and site re-naturalization.



15,750
sq.m building
surrounded by an
open green space

Bergeron Centre for Engineering Excellence

Completed in 2015, the building was designed with the most sustainable engineering principles and practices, and is targeted as a LEED Gold certified facility. The elevated site offers occupants a view of the Black Creek Watershed, as well as the Arboretum and Stong Pond, a storm water management feature created by the University.



York Lions Stadium

The new York Lions Stadium is a legacy project from the 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Am Games, and is now a new home for the York Lions sports teams. The stadium was certified LEED Silver in May 2015 by the Canada Green Building Council and is designed to minimize the environmental impact on the surrounding site, as it directly abuts the historic Boyer Woodlot, and the nearby York University Observatory.

DID YOU KNOW?

 LED (Light-Emitting Diode) light bulbs use up to 80 percent less energy than traditional light bulbs, and can last more than 25 times longer. York University is expanding the use of LED lighting in new buildings, renovations and outdoor areas.

Food

Sustainable initiatives and practices have been implemented in **75%** of food services locations.



100%
of shell eggs are cage-free



26%
of produce is grown locally



Over **25%**
of Food Services purchases
are either local (Ontario),
Sustainable (Seafood) or Fair Trade
or Rainforest Alliance certified

42%
of coffee and tea
purchases are York's
own Las Nubes, Fair
Trade, or Rainforest
Alliance certified



DID YOU KNOW?

This past year York installed an Urban Cultivator. Helping to reduce the University's carbon footprint, fresh and local herbs and micro greens are grown in this kitchen greenhouse and used for campus food preparation.



Farmers'
Market

Local &
sustainable
food-themed
events

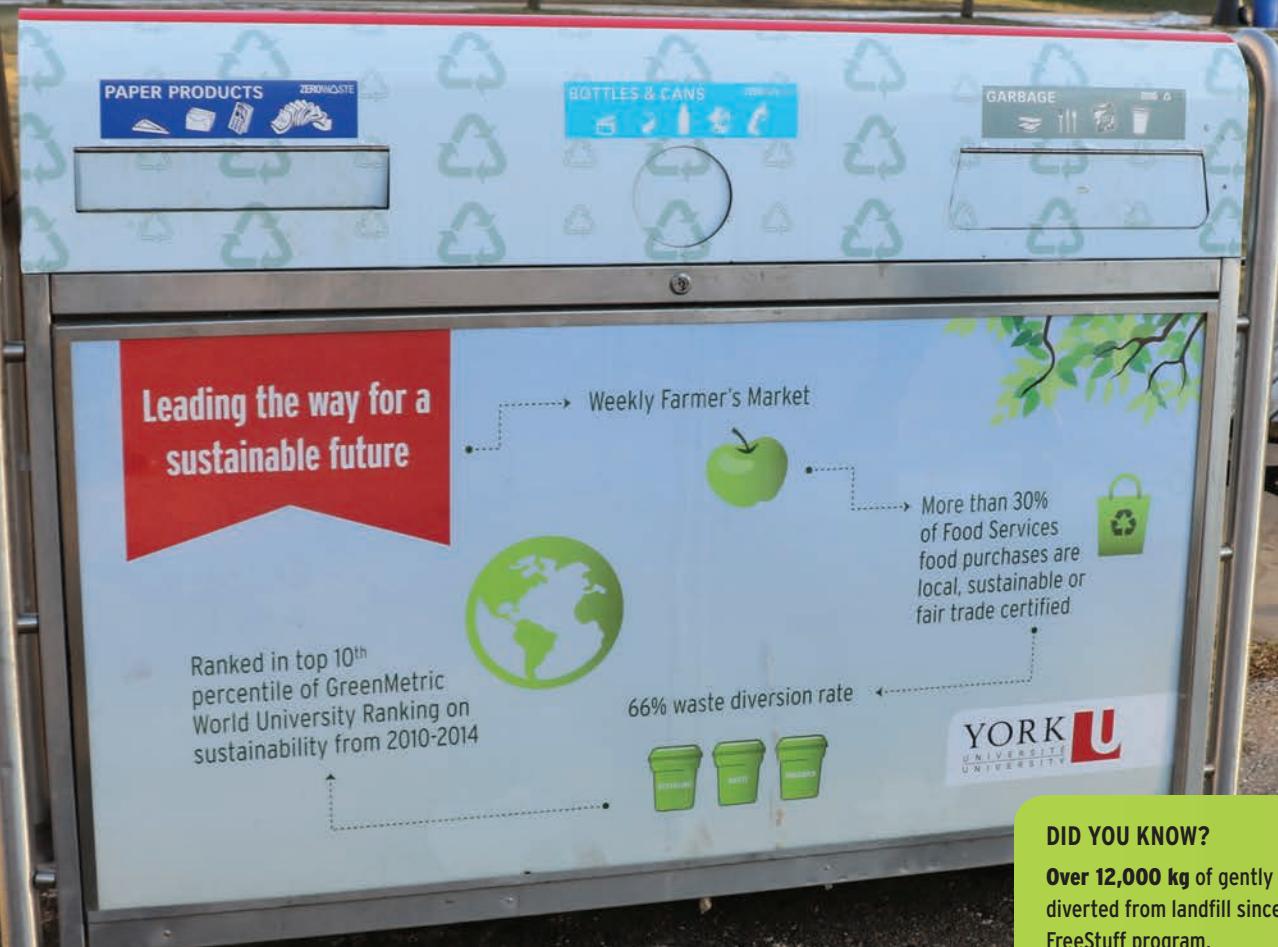
Vegan
Mondays

Lug a Mug
Program offers
25¢ discount
on coffee & tea
purchases

Local
Wednesdays

Eco-takeout
reusable
container
program

Waste



York's multi-faceted waste management and diversion program has helped to achieve a current waste diversion rate of **66%**.



DID YOU KNOW?

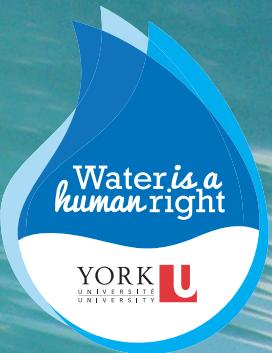
Over 12,000 kg of gently used items have been diverted from landfill since 2012 through the FreeStuff program.

The FreeStuff program encourages students to share unwanted items prior to moving out of residence for the summer. Any remaining items are donated to the Oasis Clothing Bank, while non-perishable foods are donated to the York Federation of Student's Food Bank.



Water

York University has implemented storm water management techniques such as vegetated roofs, rainwater harvesting for irrigation or toilet flushing, permeable pavement, grass swales, bio-swales, surface storage, underground storage in large diameter pipes or tanks, dry ponds, catch basins with sumps and traps, and oil/grit separator units.



DID YOU KNOW?

Drought-resistant and local plants used in campus landscaping reduces the demand for water.

10%
reduction in annual per capita water consumption since 2005

As of September
2015
York no longer sells bottled water on campus

Low-flow water fixtures used in
100% of new buildings and renovations

200 drinking fountains

72 accessible water bottle refill stations

Transportation

York University's commuter modal split has dramatically improved in the past 10 years away from the use of predominantly single-occupant vehicles towards alternative, more sustainable modes of travel.

450+

members in the York Bicycle User Group



100+

outdoor bike parking spaces

100+

secure bike parking spaces

34



carsharing vehicles on campus

(Zipcar, Student CarShare and AutoShare)

80%



of commuters travel to York by public transit, walking, cycling, or carpooling



2,600+

daily bus trips at the Keele campus (making it one of the busiest transit hubs in the country)



DID YOU KNOW?

As part of the Sustainable Energy Initiative in the Faculty of Environmental Studies, a new solar electric vehicle charging station opened on the Keele campus in December 2015.

"Van Go" mobility service for people with disabilities

Carpool ride-matching system and several reserved priority carpool parking spaces

Construction of 2 new subway stations is underway at York, with completion expected in late 2017

Free shuttle services to the York U GO Train station, between Keele and Glendon campuses, and the Village

Curriculum and Research

York University has a long history of incorporating sustainability and environmental issues into curriculum.

11


The number of years York has offered the Environmental Auditing course, where students work in groups to conduct environmental audits across campus. The information is used to improve and enhance sustainability programming on campus.

DID YOU KNOW?

The President's Sustainability Council has a Curriculum Working Group that is open to everyone in the York community. The working group focuses on issues of sustainability education at York, including enhancing opportunities for experiential education in sustainability through on-campus opportunities.

#1

The MBA program at York's Schulich School of Business has been rated the top program in the world in *Corporate Knights'* Better World MBA Ranking, 12 years running.



1968

York launched the Faculty of Environmental Studies (FES), the first of its kind in North America.

Close to
500



course offerings on environment and sustainability.



Research Task Force

The York University Task Force on Sustainability Research was created to evaluate current and emergent research strengths in the area of sustainability, and to recommend structures to support, integrate, cultivate and publicize York's sustainability research.

taskforce.info.yorku.ca

Community Engagement

York University strives to be a leading institution on sustainability in Canada, and this commitment requires a concerted, community-wide effort. There are many ways to get involved, from committees to student clubs to events on campus.

We are always looking for good people and good ideas. If you would like to get involved, or if you have an idea you'd like to share, please send us an email or contact us on social media.



yorku.ca/sustainability

yorku.ca/csbo



sustainability@yorku.ca



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DID YOU KNOW?

There are more than 30 groups and clubs at York that focus on various aspects of sustainability.

York University hosts a variety of events on sustainability throughout the year, including a Sustainability Fair, Transportation Fair and Bike to York Day

The annual President's Sustainability Leadership Awards recognize sustainability champions at York U

York organizes an annual Fair Trade Fair to celebrate Fair Trade on campus and beyond

The President's Sustainability Council is made up of students, faculty and staff, who advise the President and administration on advancing sustainability at York. The PSC has a student subcommittee and 4 working groups that are open to all members of the York community

York organizes an annual campus clean-up day in recognition of Earth Day





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