October 5, 2018

Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education
2401 Walnut Street, Suite 102
Philadelphia, PA 19103
USA

Dear STARS Steering Committee members,

Re: Simon Fraser University 2018 STARS Report Submission

It is my pleasure to provide this support letter for Simon Fraser University’s submission to Sustainability Tracking, Assessment & Rating System (STARS). This report was prepared with support from all five of SFU’s Vice-President portfolios and their direct reports and is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Since opening our doors in 1965, Simon Fraser University (SFU) has become Canada’s leading comprehensive university with three vibrant campuses in British Columbia’s three largest municipalities: Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver. SFU’s sustainability journey began as a grassroots movement in the 1980s ignited by a group of engaged and passionate students, staff and faculty. Today, SFU is an award-winning leader in sustainability and each of our three campuses are places where innovative education, cutting-edge research and community engagement intersect. Fueled by a dedicated and forward-thinking administrative staff and academic faculty, and students actively engaged in sustainability, SFU is empowering the next generation of sustainability leaders. Having embedded sustainability as an underlying principle of our Strategic Vision, we are committed to developing and modelling best practices through our day-to-day operations.

At SFU, sustainability is the responsibility of the entire community and we are proud of our accomplishments to date. A few highlights that stand out since our previous STARS reporting include:

- Engaging over 4,000 community members in developing the university’s 20-Year Sustainability Vision and Goals;
- Being designated British Columbia’s first Ashoka U Changemaker Campus, and one of less than 60 worldwide;

Second page …
• Committing to reduce the carbon footprint of our investment portfolio by 30% by 2030;
• Creating a new Sustainable Energy Engineering program to be housed in a new state-of-the-art
  LEED Gold building at the Surrey Campus;
• Breaking ground on a new Student Union Building – also targeted as LEED Gold; and
• Beginning construction on a biomass plant, which is estimated to cut operational greenhouse
gas emissions at SFU’s Burnaby Campus by two-thirds.

Since its last submission, SFU saw an increase in its STARS score by 11%. This is a testament to our
institutional commitment, as an engaged university, to collaborate with our communities in the pursuit
of ecological, social and economic sustainability. Thank you for taking the time to review our
submission.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Petter
President and Vice-Chancellor

AP:eo

g:\18\5.5\stars-sustainability.docx