

December 19, 2014

Re: STARS Innovation Credit – Tree House

It is my pleasure to write a letter to confirm the green building innovation at Dalhousie's Agricultural Campus. Dr. Kenny Corscadden and his students have worked to transform a 1970s bungalow into a green research and graduate student workspace over a number of years and the process continues.

The dedication to testing and research of the products makes this house unique. Different walls are insulated with a variety of insulation products. Monitoring of the energy efficacy of each wall system is modelled. A number of products are being tested for their durability and performance including roofing product made from rubber tires. LED tube lighting has been recently installed along with solar PV (1 kw system). The PV system is mounted to enable students to see the back panel and monitored through an on-line web service to track actual production.

Basement insulation and air sealing have taken place along with rain water collection. Further work includes installation of an air-source heat pump system. The Tree House is a key spot on sustainability and campus tours.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Owen  
Director - Office of Sustainability