



Elise Hetu, Sustainability Engagement Coordinator

Physical Plant, Rm #100

Telephone: (403) 220-6810

Email: emhetu@ucalgary.ca

To: To Whom It May Concern

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Re: University of Calgary – “Battle of Alberta” Residence Move-Out

The University of Calgary was involved in coordinating and participating in the first annual inter-university competition in Alberta to reduce waste during residence student move-out.

Called the Battle of Alberta, it is a friendly competition to encourage increased waste diversion during the move-out period at Alberta post-secondary institutions that have on-campus housing. The competition is a partnership between the University of Calgary, the University of Alberta and Waste Management. It is believed that this is the first competition of its kind in North America.

At the University of Calgary, the Residence Students' Association, Residence Services and Facilities Management worked together with partners such as the Students' Union, the Campus Food Bank, Top Flight Assets and Goodwill Industries to plan and host the two week program in order to compete in the Battle of Alberta.

The results this year were excellent. The University of Calgary diverted 6319.12 kilograms of waste from the landfill, producing a diversion rate of 34%. This is a significant improvement from 2012, before the existence of the Battle of Alberta or a move out program at the University of Calgary, where 24,500 kilograms was sent to the landfill. The University of Alberta, won the Battle of Alberta with 20,494.18 kilograms diverted from the landfill, a diversion rate of 58%.

The initiative not only used competition as a driver, but encouraged collaboration and knowledge-sharing of best practices between institutions. The organizing parties are encouraging other institutions within the province of Alberta to join the Battle in 2014 and hope to see this initiative grow.

Along with the University of Alberta, the University of Calgary is leading a new and exciting initiative to increase waste diversion during resident move-out throughout Alberta.

Yours truly,

Elise Hetu

Sustainability Engagement Coordinator, Office of Sustainability