



**Carleton**  
UNIVERSITY

Canada's Capital University

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
3432 Mackenzie  
1125 Colonel By Drive  
Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6  
Tel: (613) 520-5784  
Fax: (613) 520-3951

RE: Carleton Applications for Sustainability Tracking assessment Rating system (STARS)

January 15, 2017

To Whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to write in support of the innovation project in relation to a living laboratory within the university setting. I can confirm that this project has seen the Canal Building, one of Carleton University's newest academic buildings, to being actively used as a living laboratory for which controls and operational strategies are being continually developed and tested. The impact that this has provided in offering valuable hands-on training opportunity for students and a powerful facility for testing novel control algorithms is immense. Since 2011, about 10 graduate students and 10 undergraduate students have used the building in their research. Upon graduation, this hands-on experience with building controls and other fundamental topics has made them highly competitive in the job market. The projects have also led to about 30 academic peer-reviewed papers and partnership with approximately ten companies and government. With the tremendous success of this pilot study, we plan to extend this initiative and lessons learned to other Carleton buildings and even off-campus.

Sincerely,

Liam O'Brien, Ph.D. P.Eng.  
Associate Professor  
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Carleton University  
(613) 520-2600 ext. 8037  
Liam.obrien@carleton.ca