



OFFICIAL COLLEGE POLICY

VANIER COLLEGE SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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Responsibility: Director General

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VANIER COLLEGE SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

PURPOSE

Vanier College, in accordance with its strategic plan, aspires to achieve a high standard of sustainability in its teaching and learning environment, on its campus, and through its operations and its governance. It is our goal to “optimize our sustainability practices to ensure social, economic and environmental responsibility” (Vanier College Strategic Plan, 2015-2020).

As the commitment to planetary-health shifts from trying to reduce impacts on the environment to actively contributing to the sustainability of our planet, Vanier College must ensure that its decisions reflect this development. This policy affirms the College’s respect for the environment and reflects its commitment to the improvement of sustainable practices and to the application of principles of sustainability.

Sustainability, and in particular sustainability education, is a collective effort. While the College must lead by example through its decision-making processes, every member of the Vanier community has an important role to play in shaping the values of our students. Furthermore, by utilizing its position as an educational institution, the College intends to contribute to the individual growth of all community members in order to encourage engaged citizenship; particularly with regards to improving our society, our economic structures and our physical environment.

POLICY STATEMENT

This policy applies to all members of the Vanier Community, including (Board members, all employees, students, volunteers, consultants and contractors engaged by Vanier to provide services).

This policy aims to:

1. Promote awareness and understanding of sustainability through dialogue and education.
2. Improve the quality of the College’s social, economic and physical environments.
3. Continue to develop sustainable management practices.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCEDURES

Vanier College will complete an environmental assessment every five years. This environmental assessment must be inextricably linked to the present policy in order to identify key performance indicators that will allow the College to monitor and improve its practices over time.

Additionally, the data and conclusions rendered from the environmental assessment will be used to prepare a five-year sustainability action plan that will set forth objectives and goals for the continuous improvement of sustainable practices at the College.

The action plan is prepared and reviewed on an annual basis by the Vanier College Advisory Committee on the Environment (VCACE).

RESPONSIBILITIES

This Policy is under the Director General’s responsibility.

The Academic Dean along with the academic administration will highlight the presence of sustainability projects in the curriculum of programs.

Student Services will provide co-curricular programming focused on sustainability, particularly with regards to the environment;

Administrative Services will:

- Consider the ecological impact of the products, services and energy sources to be acquired or used by the College before selecting an option over another;
- Strive to operate buildings and offer services in ways that maximize resource-use efficiency and generally minimize the adverse impacts they may have on the College's social and physical environment;
- Share information about energy consumption, waste management, and other resource consumption metrics with the Sustainability Committee;
- Assess its priorities and set objectives and targets to continuously improve its performance;

The Vanier College Advisory Committee on the Environment (VCACE) is responsible for monitoring the progress of sustainable practices at the College.

Specifically, the VCACE will:

- Contribute to the ongoing development and implementation of the sustainability policy;
- Submit an annual report of activities and recommendations;
- Offer advice and assistance, as required, regarding the development of sustainability-related training activities for the different groups of personnel;
- Ensure that the VCACE is composed of the following persons, or their delegates, namely:
 - i. The Academic Dean
 - ii. The Director of Administrative Services and Finance
 - iii. The Director of Student Services
 - iv. Two (2) representatives from Vanier College Student Association (VCSA) and/or the Environmental Student Committee
 - v. One (1) Support Staff representative
 - vi. One (1) Professional representative
 - vii. One teacher per Faculty
 - viii. One (1) Sports Complex representative
 - ix. One (1) Continuing Education representative

The Committee will be free to invite additional individuals on an Ad Hoc basis

This policy will be revised every three years.

This policy replaces all previous versions of the *Vanier College Environmental Policy*.

This policy is effective as of August 1, 2016.