

Sustainability at Brock Year-in-Review 2021

Partnership Overview

The [Brock University Project Charter](#) is a formal agreement between the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) and Facilities Management. This important initiative bridges the operating and academic constituents concerned with Sustainability at Brock. The Charter provides benefits to the Brock University community by leveraging the resources, capacities, and talents of both internal units to address environmental sustainability on campus.

This year, the partnership's main focus was highlighting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on campus, the installation of several EV chargers, and developing virtual initiatives to engage the Brock community. With two rankings submission recently submitted, the project steering committee was elated to see the approval of the updated Sustainability Policy this past fall. In 2022, the partnership will continue to engage with the campus community and will strive to provide in-person opportunities for students to engage in sustainability, while also focusing on waste diversion and communication.



Knowledge Mobilization Activities

Brock Receives STARS Silver Rating

In February, Brock University earned a Silver rating from its inaugural submission to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). With over 900 participants in 40 countries, the STARS program is the most widely recognized framework in the world for publicly reporting comprehensive information related to college and university sustainability performance. Brock's STARS rating was achieved through the hard work of the Brock University Project Charter team. Click [here](#) to learn more about Brock's report. In early 2021, two Focus on Learning sessions were held for staff and faculty to provide them with an Introduction to Sustainability at Brock and the STARS Assessment.



Submission to THE Impact Rankings

In mid-November, Brock University submitted data for the first time to the [Times Higher Education \(THE\) Impact Rankings](#). These rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Results for this 4th edition will be announced in April 2022. In previous years, the overall rankings included 1,118 universities from 94 countries and regions. Participation in the overall rankings requires universities to submit data to at least four SDGs, one of which must be SDG 17 - Partnership for the Goals.



Check over 20 blogs that were posted through the partnership in 2021!

Welcome Back Sustainability Challenge

Brock hosted its first-ever [Sustainability Challenge](#) for two weeks in the month of September, in partnership with Blackstone Energy Services. The goal of the challenge was to engage the student community and highlight ways that they can easily integrate sustainable solutions into everyday life. Overall, 281 students participated in the challenge, and they logged nearly 14,000 sustainable actions combined! The app estimated 13 tons of CO2 and 24,000 gallons of water was saved through the actions of students in the contest. There were 5 amazing prizes to be won and the top 3 challenge winners are pictured to the right.



Experiential Education for Brock Students

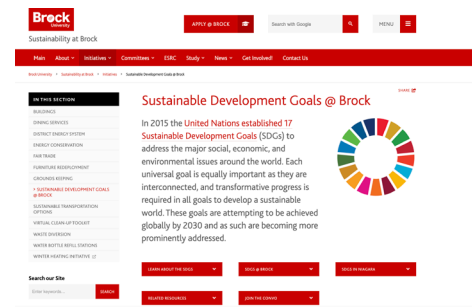
Earth Day Virtual Clean Up

Sustainability at Brock co-hosted their second virtual clean-up with Niagara College. Students participants ranged from St. Catharines, ON to New Delhi, India! A [blog post](#) was written to highlight student experiences during their respective clean-ups. Sustainability at Brock research assistants, Shannon Ruzgys and Mikellena Nettos also developed an [online toolkit](#) for students, individuals, and organizations to host their own virtual clean-ups in the future.



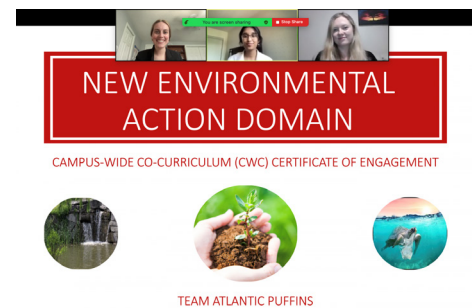
SDGs at Brock Webpage

Students who were enrolled in ENSU 3P91 (Internship in Environmental Sustainability) in Winter 2021, instructed by Amanda Smits, created a [SDGs toolbox](#), which is included as part of the Sustainability at Brock website. The toolbox is a webpage where the Brock community can access information about all 17 United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals and how they are being tackled internationally, at Brock and how individuals can take action.



World Wildlife Fund - Canada Conference

A team of three Brock students attended the [Designing Change for a Living Planet](#) conference joining more than 100 post-secondary learners from across Canada to pitch their ideas to inspire action and create a more sustainable future. Kassie Burns, a third-year Biological Sciences student with a minor in Environmental Sustainability, Jercin Elsa Koshy, a first-year Public Health student, and Jordan Sheridan, a second-year Biological Sciences and Med Plus student with a minor in Classics, made it to the final round of the competition, hosted by WWF-Canada.



WWF Living Planet Leader

As a Living Planet @ Campus partner, Brock provides students with the opportunity to work towards WWF-Canada's nationally recognized [Living Planet Leader self-guided certification](#). This certification is a great way to make a difference on campus and in your community. Master of Sustainability alumnus and former Sustainability at Brock research assistant Erica Harper completed the certification in August 2021, and wrote about the experience in a [blog post](#).



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