

Sustainability at Brock Year-in-Review 2022

Partnership Overview

The Brock University Project Charter is a formal agreement between the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre (ESRC) and Facilities Management. Over the past five years, this important initiative has bridged the gap between the operating and academic constituents concerned with Sustainability at Brock. The Project 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 focused on several important initiative, including the following highlights:

- Brock's first ever submission to the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, which assess universities against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- The launch of the Brock University Seed Library through Go Wild Funding (\$2,500) provided by World Wildlife Fund-Canada (WWF-Canada) in April 2022
- Successful recipient of Canada Summer Jobs funding (over \$9,500) to employee Master of Sustainability (co-op) student Alexandra Cotrufo in Summer 2022
- Collaboration with the Brock University Students Union (BUSU) to assist in the creation and approval of BUSU's first ever Environmental Sustainability Plan, which was approved in Fall 2022
- Once again providing in-person tours of the Central Utility Building and Brock tunnel system to graduate students

Knowledge Mobilization Activities

Seed Library Launch

In April, The Brock University Seed Library officially launched in the James A. Gibson Library. Brock Master of Sustainability candidates Alexandra Cotrufo and Madison Lepp secured a WWF-Canada Go Wild School Grant which helped bring this project to life. The Brock University Seed Library, in partnership with the James A. Gibson Library, offers free seeds to staff, students, and community members to "borrow" and plant in their home gardens. The cycle functions like a library where participants can borrow and return seeds free of cost. The goal of this Seed Library is to protect genetic diversity in our food system and promote public access to seeds.



Submission to THE Impact Rankings

Brock ranked 201-300th in its first ever submission to the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings! The overall rankings included 1,406 universities from 106 countries and regions. The rankings are the only global performance tables that assess universities against the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). 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. In mid-November of this year, Brock University submitted data for the second time, this time including six SDGs in the submission (two more than last year). Results for this 5th edition will be announced in April 2023.

Brock University
RANKED 201-300



Check out over 15 Brock News stories and blog posts
that were published this year!

For more information visit: brocku.ca/esrc/project-charter

Sustainability Challenges

Earth Hour Challenge

The week of March 21 to 25, Brock hosted a Sustainability Challenge to encourage engagement in Earth Hour. The Earth Hour Challenge, which was hosted in partnership with Blackstone Energy Services, encouraged students to log their sustainable actions over a one-week period on the Blackstone Energy app. The rules were simple: log all sustainable actions you made throughout the day on the app to accumulate points. The three students who accumulated the most points by the end of the competition won a Group hug window solar charger, a Cyboris solar-powered Bluetooth speaker, and a Hydro Flask from the Campus Store plus two Stasher reusable silicone bags.



Welcome Back Sustainability Challenge

Brock hosted its second Welcome Back Sustainability Challenge for one week 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 students can easily integrate sustainable solutions into everyday life. Overall, 249 students participated in the challenge, and they logged nearly 12,800 sustainable actions combined! The app estimated 15,600 kg of CO2 and 1,000L of water was saved through the actions of the students in the contest. There were 10 amazing prizes to be won and the top challenge winner of the Apple iPad is pictured to the right.



ADST 5P70 Sustainability Challenge

For the first time, a class, led by Dr. Kendra Thompsom, competed in a sustainability challenge through the Blackstone energy app. Those taking ADST 5P70: Applied Behaviour Analysis Measurement, Research and Evaluation competed throughout the Fall semester. Thomson has built the use of the app, as a self-monitoring task within the course, to have students report on their sustainable behaviours between classes for bonus points.

Staff Holiday Sustainability Challenge

For a second year in a row a staff holiday sustainability challenge will be held from December 12 to 16 with nine teams taking part this year. Teams mostly consist of staff that report directly into the Associate Vice-President Administration and include teams from Facilities Management, Ancillary Services, Finance and Human Resources.

WWF-Canada Living Planet @ Campus Parter

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. Students enrolled in ENSU 3P91: Internship in Environmental Sustainability in Winter 2022, Chyna-Rose Bennett and Allegra Caballero, completed the certification and wrote about decreasing single-use plastic and buying gently used clothing through two different blog posts.



Seed Packing and Community Gardens

Sustainability at Brock hosted two events which allowed for volunteers to accumulate hours toward the Living Planet Leader self-guided certification. The first event was a seed packing day where volunteers helped pack seeds for the seed library. The second event was a planting day in the Community Gardens at Brock. The seeds used in the planting event were from the seed library.

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