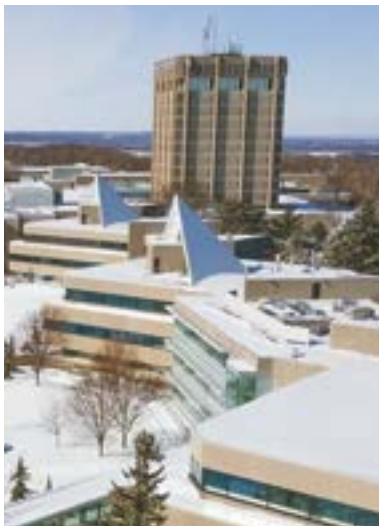
Brock University

Sustainable Development Goals Report

2026











Advancing the SDGs at Brock

Brock University is committed to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through teaching, research, campus operations and community partnerships. This report higlights examples of our progress during the 2025-26 reporting period and demonstartes how sustainability is integrated across the University.

This report provides a snapshot of Brock's contributions to the SDGs, highlighting selected initiatives, achievements and outcomes rather than an exhaustive account of the University's efforts. Many additional programs, research projects and partnerships contribute to these goals. For a more comprehensive view of Brock's sustainability efforts, visit our Sustainability website, where additional initiatives, resources and updates are shared throughout the year.

Reporting on the SDGs is a continuous process. As our work advances, we will keep sharing updates, expanding on the information presented here and highlighting new initiatives and outcomes.



LEARN MORE

Explore additional information, resources and ongoing updates at:

- Sustainability at Brock
- Environmental Sustainability Research Centre
- Sustainable Development Goals at Brock
- Community Relations and Engagement

1 NO POVERTY

Through student support programs, financial assistance and community partnerships, Brock works to reduce barriers to education, address food and financial insecurity, and create opportunities for individuals to thrive.



Key target

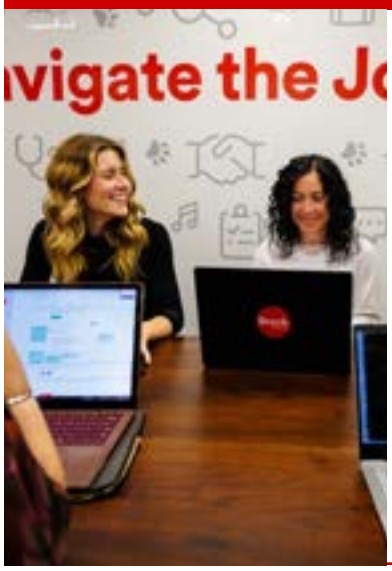
1.4 Ensure that all men and women have equal rights to economic resources as well as access to basic services.

STUDENT FINANCIAL SUPPORTS

900+
bursaries, scholarships and awards provided

$21M
total financial support provided to students

EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE



Brock creates meaningful employment and co-op opportunities that build skills, experiences and pathways to future careers.

7127
students on work placements



2025 HIGHLIGHT

Food Security Week

Nov. 10 to 14, 2025

Brock's Food Security Week brought together campus partners for programming focused on increasing access to food and raising awareness of student food insecurity.

5
events held

630+
student attendances

2 ZERO HUNGER

Through food security initiatives, sustainable food practices and community partnerships, Brock works to improve access to nutritious food, promote responsible food systems and support the well-being of our campus and broader community.



Key targets

2.1 Ensure access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round.

2.4 Ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices.

FOOD SECURITY INITIATIVES

Brock Food4U

A campus-wide food security initiative that connects students with affordable, healthy food through produce markets, food pantries, free meals and community partnerships. Brock Food4U helps ensure food remains accessible to all students.

Food First

Through emergency grocery gift cards, free breakfasts, meal programs and community resource connections, Food First supports students experiencing food insecurity and promotes healthy eating on campus.

Community Cook-Alongs

Interactive cooking events where students learn practical culinary skills, prepare nutritious meals together and take home extra portions. The program builds food literacy, community connections and confidence in affordable meal preparation.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

A shared growing space that promotes local food production and community engagement.



SEED LIBRARY

Provides free seeds and gardening resources to support food growing, biodiversity, and sustainable living

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CHOICES

- ASC- and MSC-certified seafood
- Fair Trade-certified coffee and chocolate
- Coolfood Meals with lower carbon footprints
- Diverse vegan and vegetarian meal options
- Ethical sourcing and responsible procurement practices

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Brock is committed to supporting the health and well-being of our campus community. Through accessible services, healthy environments, education and research, we promote physical, mental and social well-being for students, staff and faculty.



Key targets

3.4 Reduce premature mortality through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.

3.d Strengthen capacity for early warning, risk reduction and management of national and global heath risks.

SUPPORTING A HEALTHY CAMPUS

4,591 students in health-related programs

118 vaccinations provided

1,108 graduates from health-related programs



In June 2026, Brock hosted its 24th annual Employee Wellness Day, bringing employees together for activities and workshops promoting physical, mental and social well-being.

CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

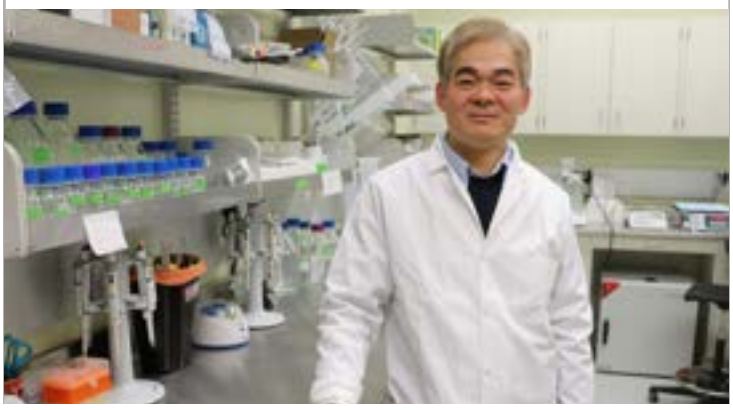


Brock promotes active living through intramural sports, group fitness classes, outdoor adventure programs and campus nature walks, providing opportunities for physical activity and social connection among students, staff, faculty and the broader community.

RESEARCH IN ACTION

$2.3M In federal health research funding

Brock researchers received three Canadian Institutes of Health Research grants supporting studies on lung disease, elder care and mental health, including Professor Newman Sze's development of an antibody treatment for age-related lung disease.



Through accessible learning, community engagement and student support, Brock promotes quality education and lifelong learning, helping individuals develop the knowledge and skills needed to succeed.



Key targets

4.3 Ensure equal access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education.

4.4 Increase the number of people with relevant skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

Brock partners with schools, community organizations and regional stakeholders to deliver educational programming and expand access to learning opportunities throughout Niagara.

Brock offered **78** Undergraduate and **61** Graduate programs across **6** faculties in 2025-26

for 139 unique programs

EDUCATION INITIATIVES

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre continued to provide academic support, skills development and student success programming throughout 2025-26, helping Brock students build the knowledge and skills needed for academic and career success.

Sustainability education

Brock integrates sustainability into teaching, research and campus engagement initiatives, helping students develop the perspectives and competencies needed to advance the SDGs and create a more just and resilient future.

Reducing barriers

Through scholarships, bursaries and financial assistance programs, Brock helps make post-secondary education more accessible and supports students facing financial barriers.

Public events

Through lectures, workshops, conferences and outreach programming, Brock engages both the campus and Niagara communities in learning opportunities that foster dialogue, knowledge sharing and sustainable development.

Vocational training events

Career preparation, professional development, and skills-based training opportunities help learners build practical competencies for future employment and community leadership.



5 GENDER EQUALITY

Brock advances gender equality by fostering an inclusive community, supporting women and equity-deserving groups and promoting opportunities for all to succeed in learning, research and leadership.



Key target

5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making.



Brock researcher Sheila O'Keefe-McCarthy is addressing gender gaps in cardiovascular care through research focused on women's heart disease symptoms, health literacy and improving recognition of often-overlooked warning signs.

ADVANCING SAFETY AND AWARNESS



In February 2026, Brock displayed red dresses across its campuses and hosted a series of gatherings featuring workshops, discussions and cultural activities to raise awareness of missing and murdered Indigenous women, girls and Two-Spirit people.

RECOGNIZING WOMEN IN STEM

In March 2026, Brock recognized three graduate students — Chinyere Saka, Sangmitra Madhusudan and Areeba Iqbal — with the Women in STEM Graduate Leadership Award, celebrating their achievements in research, mentorship and advancing opportunities for women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.



WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Brock's Deborah Rosati Women in Leadership Mentorship Program launched its fourth cohort in 2026, connecting women in Niagara with mentors to strengthen leadership skills and professional networks.



58% of senior administration positions at Brock are held by women

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

Water conservation and responsible resource management are important components of Brock's sustainability efforts. Campus initiatives to improve water efficiency, alongside research and community partnerships, contribute to protecting freshwater resources and building long-term water resilience.



Key targets

6.4	Increase water-use efficiency and address water scarcity.
6.4	Protect and restore water-related ecosystems.
6.b	Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water management.

WATER CONSERVATION ON CAMPUS

44

water refill stations

across campus supporting reduced single-use plastic and access to clean, potable water

Greywater systems

Plaza Building
37,854 L cistern

International Centre
75,708 L cistern

Reusing greywater for toilets, urinals and irrigation

Efficient infrastructure

- Low-flow and dual-flush fixtures throughout campus
- Automated irrigation scheduling with sensors

WORLD WATER DAY

Brock's third annual World Water Day celebration (March 23, 2026), hosted by the Environmental Sustainability Research Centre, brought together researchers, students and community organizations to showcase water research, education and community action.





WATER RESILIENCE & PARTNERSHIPS

Water Resilience Lab

Led by Julia Baird, Canada Research Chair in Human Dimensions of Water Resources and Water Resilience, the lab explores water equity, governance and sustainability.

Partnership for freshwater resilience

Brock's Environmental Sustainability Research Centre and World Wildlife Fund Canada collaborate to advance freshwater resilience and stewardship, co-create knowledge and connect research with practice.



RESEARCH IN ACTION

Understanding wetland restoration

In 2025, Brock hydrologist Kelly Biagi received funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada to study how restored wetlands store and transport water and nutrients. Her research aims to improve how wetland restoration success is measured, supporting water quality, flood protection and ecosystem resilience.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Energy efficiency and innovation are central to Brock's efforts to reduce energy consumption and modernize campus infrastructure. Investments in building systems, energy management technologies and conservation initiatives support a more sustainable energy future.



Key targets

7.3 Improve the rate of energy efficiency.

7.a Enhance co-operation to facilitate access to clean energy research and technology.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN ACTION

Recent projects across campus are improving building performance and reducing energy demand.

- **VFD Installations**
- **LED Lighting**
- **Heat Recovery**

SAVINGS THROUGH EFFICIENCY

From projects that earned incentives in 2025

55,185 m³
natural gas per year

293,874 kWh
electricity per year

$106,000
in incentives secured



ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND BUILDING CONTROLS

Brock uses a centralized Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system to monitor and manage campus energy systems and building performance. Over the past year, upgrades have supported the transition to a new system and enhanced building controls, improving operational efficiency, real-time monitoring and the ability to identify opportunities for energy savings.

RESEARCH IN ACTION

Earlier this year, Assistant Professor of Physics and Engineering Jasneet Kaur and her Brock research team developed new materials designed to improve the efficiency and safety of batteries and hybrid energy-storage devices. Their work uses advanced solid polymer electrolytes and 2D materials, with potential applications in longer-lasting, more efficient clean-energy storage.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Through fair employment practices, employee development and research that addresses current and future labour challenges, Brock supports decent work and inclusive economic growth for our campus and broader community.



Key targets

8.5 Achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men.

8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers.

EMPLOYER RECOGNITION

8 consecutive recognitions

Brock has been named one of Hamilton-Niagara's Top Employers for eight consecutive years, recognizing our commitment to providing a supportive, inclusive and rewarding work environment.

PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT

3815

employees with access to professional development opportunities

385

employees participated in training and development last year

SAFE AND INCLUSIVE WORKPLACES

Health and safety

Ongoing health and safety training and iniatives to support a healthy workplace for all employees.

Equity, diversity and inclusion

Policies, programs and resources that support an inclusive workplace culture.

Policy updates

Our revised Discrimination and Harassment Policy (2025) strengthens accountability and pathways for addressing concerns.

PARENTAL LEAVE SUPPORT

Brock provides enhanced parental leave support through top-up payments for eligible employees, in addition to federal and provincial employment insurance benefits. This helps ensure a more equitable and supportive transition for employees welcoming a new child.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Brock is building and modernizing infrastructure and fostering innovation and industry partnerships to support a more sustainable, resilient and prosperous future.



Key target

9.4 Upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable.

ALIGNING WITH THE UNIVERSITY ACTION PLAN

Facility Condition Index

0.23 (Baseline) → **0.25** (2030 target)

MODERNIZING CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE

In the past year, Brock has undertaken capital renewal, accessibility, building, utilitity and energy projects to improve the condition, efficiency and functionality of campus infrastructure. These investments support the UAP's targets to improve our Facility Condition Index and help create safe, inclusive and resilient spaces for the campus community.

$9.7M
2025-26 capital and related projects budget

24
projects completed last year

$230K
2025-26 AODA project funding

SPARK & Canada Infrastructure Bank

Brock received financing from the Canadian Infrastructure Bank to support energy-efficient infrastructure renewal through SPARK, complementing broader capital investments.





EXPANDING ENGINEERING SPACE

Brock is developing new laboratory space at 3401 Schmon Pkwy. to support the growing needs of the Engineering Department. This investment enhances hands-on learning, research and innovation, providing students and faculty with modern facilities to develop solutions for real-world challenges.

INDUSTRY AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS

Brock LINC (Learn, Innovate, Network, Collaborate) supports researchers, entrepreneurs and industry partners in developing and commercializing innovative solutions that create economic, social and environmental value.

336 entrepreneurs supported

140 industry engagements

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Through inclusive policies, accessibility initiatives and community partnerships, Brock works to reduce inequalities, remove barriers to participation and create equitable opportunities for students, employees and the broader community.



Key targets

10.2 Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all.

10.3 Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome.

COMMUNITY VOICES



In 2026, Brock hosted a series of consultation sessions with students, staff and faculty to inform the development of a new campus Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Decolonization (EDID) Action Plan. These consultations helped identify priorities and opportunities to create a more equitable and inclusive campus.

MEASURING EQUITY

5,193
respondents to the Equity Census

763
number of EDI learning sessions, events and programming offered

Brock's annual Equity Census (November 2025) helps us understand the experiences, needs and prioroties of students, staff and faculty, and informs actions to advance equity, diversity, inclusion and deolonization across the university.



In May 2026, Brock celebrated National AccessAbility Week with events and workshops promoting disability awareness, accessibility and inclusion.

SUPPORTING INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY

Accessibility Consultant Microcredential
Online training to identify accessibility barriers and apply inclusive practices

Black Student Success Centre
Ongoing support, programs and resources for Black students

Hadiya'dagénhahs FNMI Student Centre
Ongoing support, programs and resources for Indigenous students

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Through accessible infrastructure, sustainable transportation, green spaces and community partnerships, Brock supports a more connected, inclusive and resilient campus while contributing to sustainable development across the Niagara region.



Key targets

11.2 Provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems.

11.7 Provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces.

CAMPUS ACCESSIBILITY

Last year, Brock completed accessibility improvements to five lecture halls in Thistle Complex, including a new engineered ramp, automatic doors, improved lighting and accessible signage.



ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING



22

Electric vehicle chargers across campus

Brock provides Level 2 and Level 3 electric vehicle charging stations across campus, supporting students, employees and visitors in making the transition to lower-emission transportation.

CONNECTING CAMPUS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

- Multiple Niagara Region Transit routes service Brock, with a dedicated transit hub on campus.
- Connected to local bike lanes and cycling routes for active travel.
- Access to multi-use trails including the Bruce Trail, linking campus to the Niagara Escarpment.



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

Brock is committed to reducing waste, using resources responsibly and promoting more sustainable consumption and production across campus. Through waste diversion, sustainable procurement, food systems and education, we work toward a more circular and resource-efficient campus.



Key targets

12.2	Achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.
12.5	Substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
12.7	Promote public procurement practices that are sustainable.

WASTE DIVERSION

Brock works to reduce waste generation and increase diversion through source separation, education and partnerships. The annual campus-wide waste audit helps identify opportunities to improve and track progress over time.

43.1%
waste diversion rate in 2025

298 Metric Tonnes
materials recycled

255 Metric Tonnes
materials composted/ digested



More than 50 coffee cup collection bins are located across campus. Cups are collected by Davidson Environmental and sent to Escarpment Renewables for anaerobic digestion, diverting waste from landfills and producing renewable energy and nutrient-rich fertilizer.

ECOSTATIONS



Brock's 2 EcoStations provide centralized waste collection in takeout dining areas, encouraging proper sorting of recycling, organics and landfill waste to improve diversion and reduce contamination.

RESPONSIBLE FOOD CHOICES



Dining Services supports responsible consumption through sustainable sourcing, including Fairtrade coffee and chocolate, Cool Food Meals, and Marine Stewardship Council and Aquaculture Stewardship Council- certified seafood. Food waste is reduced through portioning, menu planning and organics diversion.

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

Brock's Procurement Policy and Supplier Code of Conduct integrate environmental and social considerations in purchasing decisions. This includes a focus on total cost of ownership, and recycled and low-impact products.

13 CLIMATE ACTION

Brock advances climate action through greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions, cleaner energy systems and campus-wide initiatives that support a more resilient, low-carbon future.



Key targets

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

13.2 Integrate climate change measures into policies, strategies and planning.

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

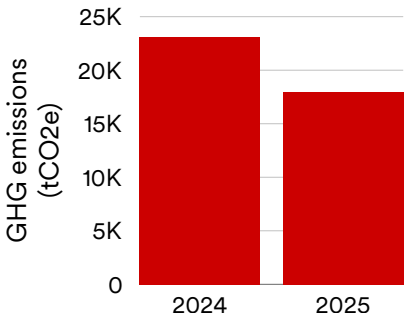
EMISSION REDUCTION GOALS

2013 Baseline — 24,660 tCO2e

2030 75% reduction

2050 Net-zero

PROGRESS TO DATE



22%

Reduction in GHG emissions from 2024 to 2025

2025 HIGHLIGHTS



Completed electrification

Completed in 2025, Brock's District Energy System electrification project replaced natural gas-powered equipment with electric alternatives, significantly reducing campus greenhouse gas emissions.



SPARK initiative

A more than $100M investment advancing deep energy retrofits, deferred capital renewal and an 83% projected GHG reduction by 2028.



Engagement and education

Expanding opportunities to learn about sustainability through district energy system tours, educational resources and communications about campus initiatives.

REESTABLISHED THE ENERGY COMMITTEE

Representatives from across campus came to support energy management, develop the Energy Guideline and brainstorm potential energy efficiency opportunities.

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

Brock contributes to aquatic ecosystem protection through research, water quality studies and partnerships that support the health and reilience of the Great Lakes and beyond.



Key targets

14.1 Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds.

14.a Increase scientific knowledge, develop research capacity and transfer marine technology.

ADVANCING OCEAN EQUITY

In January 2026, Brock researcher Jessica Blythe and an international team, the Blue Justice Working Group, launched the Ocean Equity Index (OEI), a free tool designed to assess fairness in ocean governance and support more equitable outcomes for coastal communities.

12
assessment criteria

The Ocean Equity Index includes 12 assessment criteria to help governments, organizations and communities evaluate fairness in ocean-related decisions.



RESEARCH IN ACTION

Research related to marine conservation, aquatic ecosystems and the health of the Great Lakes and beyond is conducted across multiple departments, including:

- Chemistry
- Geography and Tourism Studies
- Biological Sciences
- Earth Sciences

HOPA PORTS PARTNERSHIP

Brock's ongoing Memorandum of Understanding with HOPA Ports supports research collaboration, experiential learning and connections between Brock students and the marine industry. Last year, the partnership expanded through facility tours and discussions on sustainability initiatives.



15 LIFE ON LAND

Through biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, research and community partnerships, Brock supports the protection and restoration of terrestrial ecosystems on campus and throughout the Niagara region.



Key targets

15.5 Enhance global partnership for sustainable development.

15.9 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships.

SUSTAINABLE CAMPUS LANDSCAPES



Brock's grounds are managed using sustainable practices that protect natural habitats and support biodiversity across campus.

Native planting
Use of native species to support local ecosystems.

Xeriscaping
Drought-tolerant landscaping to reduce water use.

Sustainable trail maintenance
Maintaining natural areas for recreation and habitat protection.

Pollinator garden planting event

In September 2025, Brock community members came together to establish a new pollinator garden featuring native plants that provide food and habitat for local pollinators. The initiative supported Brock's pollinator conservation efforts and contributed to the University achieving Bee Campus designation in June 2026.



RESEARCH EXCELLENCE



Understanding human impacts of wildlife

Assistant Professor Kiyoko Gotanda received Brock's 2026 Early Career Research and Creative Activity Award for research exploring how wildlife responds and adapts to human-driven environmental change.

BIODIVERSITY BEYOND CAMPUS

Brock collaborates with local, regional and national partners to integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into planning and conservation efforts.

Niagara Climate Change Action Network

IUCN

NEBN Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Brock promotes transparent governance, inclusive decision-making and equitable policies to strengthen accountability, advance social justice and foster a safe, inclusive and engaged campus community.



Key target

16.6 Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

OPEN AND TRANSPARENT GOVERNANCE

Brock University's two main governing bodies include reprsentation from students, staff, faculty and community members, and key information is publicly available.

Board of Trustees

Meeting materials available to the public.

26 trustees

Senate

Meetings are open to the public.

72 members



In April 2026, Brock hosted a community information session to share updates on its financial sustainability strategy and promote transparency and open dialogue.



2000+ consultations were conducted during the development of Brock's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, involving students, faculty, staff, alumni, Board/Senate members and community partners.

INCLUSIVE PARTICIPATION

Surveys and feedback opportunities

26 surveys,
17,947 responses

BUSU election

1659
student voter turnout

EDID consultation

270+
community participants

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

Collaboration is central to Brock's sustainability efforts, with local, national and international partnerships advancing shared goals through research, education and community engagement.



Key target

17.16 Enhance global partnership for sustainable development.

17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS



90+ international institutions

35+ countries



SECTOR AND KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

OAPPA

Through the Ontario Association of Physical Plant Administrators, Brock works alongside 21 Ontario universities to share best practices in facilities, operations and sustainability.

OCUSP

Through Ontario College and University Sustainability Professionals, Brock works with sustainability professionals across the province to share resources, initiatives and best practices.

SDSN

As part of Sustainable Development Solutions Network Canada, Brock reports on its SDG activities and hosts SDG-focused programming, including its annual SDG Month.

LOCAL AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

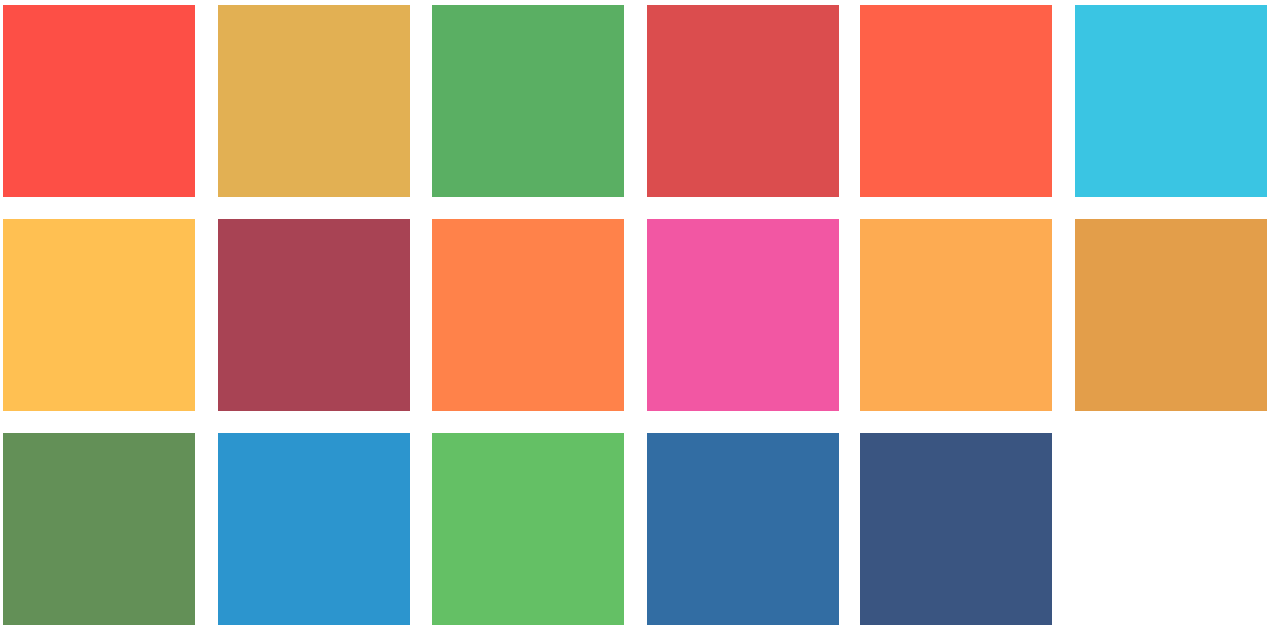
Brock collaborates with local and regional partners, including the Niagara Climate Change Action Network (NCCAN), Niagara Escarpment Biosphere Network (NEBN), Niagara Parks and community organizations, to advance sustainability, climate action and environmental stewardship across Niagara.



SUSTAINABILITY LITERACY AND CULTURE ASSESSMENT

The inaugural Sustainability Literacy and Culture Assessment gathered perspectives from students to understand sustainability knowledge, values and campus culture. Each question is connected to the SDGs, helping identify opportunities to strengthen education and engagement.

552 student responses in 2025



Advancing sustainable development at Brock

Brock University continues to embed sustainability across teaching, research, campus operations and community engagement. The initiatives highlighted throughout this report demonstrate the many ways students, faculty, staff and partners contribute to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and creating positive impacts within the Niagara region and beyond.

This report also supports Brock's participation in external sustainability benchmarking and reporting frameworks, including the Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, which recognize universities for their contributions to the SDGs. By tracking progress, sharing outcomes, and identifying opportunities for improvement, Brock strengthens its commitment to transparency, accountability and continuous advancement of sustainability across the institution.

As sustainability challenges continue to evolve, Brock remains committed to expanding its impact through collaboration, innovation and evidence-based action that supports a more equitable, prosperous and sustainable future. For more information visit SDGs at Brock.