

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN

2020-2024

Orientation 1: Operate Bishop's University in an increasingly ecological and responsible manner:

1.1 Reduce the quantity of waste going to the landfill:

- ✓ Develop and implement a methodology for measuring waste production on campus inventory regularly
- ✓ Improve waste management on campus by implementing a color-coded system to identify the appropriate bin and reduce cross-contamination
- ✓ Conduct a campus-wide communication campaign to increase awareness, promote the La Tasse project, reduce cross-contamination and reduce the quantity of waste generated on campus
- ✓ Implement and promote a green event checklist
- ✓ Develop green guidelines for construction projects

1.2 Reduce the number of cars on campus:

- ✓ Evaluate needs in sustainable transportation and review options to reduce the number of cars on campus, including carpooling, access to bicycles and improvement of the walkways
- ✓ Collaborate with Société de transport de Sherbrooke to improve public transportation on campus
- ✓ Review purchasing criteria to encourage units to buy hybrid or electric vehicles
- ✓ Add electric charging stations on campus

1.3 Become carbon neutral by 2050 at the very latest:

- ✓ Inventory greenhouse gas emissions and assess energy consumption yearly
- ✓ Develop a reduction and compensation program, including planting new trees on campus and partnerships with recognized compensation organizations
- ✓ Continue to develop our geothermal system to reduce natural gas consumption and analyze other opportunities such as solar panels on south facing facades
- ✓ Develop an outdoor air quality policy

1.4 Use our financial power in a responsible manner:

- ✓ Improve responsible procurement practices
- ✓ Adopt a strategy to gradually adopt responsible investment

1.5 Find ways to innovate:

- ✓ Conduct feasibility studies for projects involving our natural environment, including the two rivers
- ✓ Obtain the *Communauté Bleue* designation
- ✓ Identify energy reducing possibilities and develop energy efficiency projects
- ✓ Obtain the *Bee City* certification
- ✓ Obtain the *Smart on Salt* certification
- ✓ Obtain the *Fairtrade Campus* designation

Orientation 2: Engage the Bishop's Community in improving our sustainable performance

2.1 Create awareness to incite action:

- ✓ Create a sustainable development interactive online hub to communicate and engage the community to participate in SD initiatives
- ✓ Provide support to the Environmental Club to make *Ecoweek* the awareness event of the year for sustainable development and to broaden the reach of the event to the whole community

2.2 Support grassroots projects:

- ✓ Provide more support to the sustainable development groups (ex: SDAG, environmental club, Bishop's Bees, SAFS Club, etc)
- ✓ Promote the Green Levy Fund
- ✓ Increase support to community led projects (ex: increasing green levy funding, offering coaching in planning the project, etc.)
- ✓ Organize used good exchange events

Orientation 3: Engage the Bishop's Community in improving our sustainable performance

3.1 Make visible what is invisible:

- ✓ Adopt a methodology to inventory sustainability-related courses offering and inventory yearly
- ✓ Develop an identifier to allow students to choose courses with SD content in their programs or electives

3.2 Increase sustainability literacy:

- ✓ Measure sustainability literacy during orientation week and before graduation with the Sulitest on a voluntary basis
- ✓ Offer support to faculty members to help them integrate SD in their contents if applicable
- ✓ Increase the use of campus as a living laboratory for multidisciplinary student experiential learning (ex: student assessment of biodiversity, community garden, etc.)

3.3 Increase sustainable development in research:

- ✓ Adopt a methodology to inventory sustainability-related research and inventory yearly
- ✓ Value sustainability in research
- ✓ Promote open access to research results

Orientation 4: Promote the wellbeing of our community through sustainable development initiatives

4.1 Increase food security:

- ✓ Inventory our food sources and develop a plan for food security promoting local food systems (ex: using Bishop's Bees honey at Dewhurst, etc.)
- ✓ Install a community garden in order to provide food for dining venues and promote sustainable agriculture
- ✓ Conduct awareness campaigns on different food related issues (veganism, meatless days, slowfood, etc.)

4.2 Support diversity, equity and affordability:

- ✓ Obtain the *Fairtrade campus* designation
- ✓ Constitute a committee to manage diversity and equity issues
- ✓ Ensure our recruitment and hiring practices promote diversity and equity
- ✓ Develop an affordability policy and organize a job fair to communicate local student employment opportunities