3

Policy Planning, Guidelines and Reporting (Appendix A)

1.1 Planning, Guidelines, and Reporting

The Office of Sustainability, with the engagement of respective departments and campus community, will
maintain and update a University Sustainability Operations plans and respective sub-plans on issues of
waste, procurement, utilities (energy and water), food, green building, sustainable transportation, natural
environment, and climate change. Facilities Management, with the support of the Office of Sustainability, will
incorporate sustainability elements in building design guidelines that address issues such as energy and air
quality, water, building envelope, active transportation, climate change natural environment, and materials.
Sustainability reporting on key performance indicators will be published every three years, and in some
cases annually.

1.2 Sustainable Transportation

1.2.1 Green Fleet

a) The University will aim to support car share services for campus use where available. Consideration
should be made to have car share vehicles that are low-emitting and fuel efficient.

b) Purchasing University owned vehicles will consider:
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1.3.2 Dalhousie will set design guidelines for green building design and operations in renovation projects
of all sizes from retrofits of interior building spaces and houses to major buildings. Green building
programs for existing buildings will be regularly evaluated.

1.4 Energy, Water, Carbon

1.4.1 A comprehensive energy and water program lead by an energy committee including representatives
from the Office of Sustainability and Facilities Management will be maintained. Investments are
made to improve building energy and water efficiency that strive to meet high performance
standards and increase renewable energy on and off campus.
1.4.2 Best management practices and standards (e.g., IS0 50001 standard) in energy management will be
used as a guide for action.
1.4.3 Preventative maintenance and monitoring programs will be used to identify and fix water leaks and
excess energy use and when found effecting repairs will be undertaken in a timely manner.
1.4.4 Best practices in storm water and landscape management will be used to reduce and reuse water
and promote biodiversity with nature-based solutions.
1.4.5 Centralized procurement and management of university paper and electronics (multi-functional
devices and printers, phones, network equipment, laptops, computers, monitors, audiovisual
equipment) will enable consistent costing benefits, application of sustainability standards, and
security requirements. Purchasing requirements include ENERGY STAR and focus on EPEAT Gold for
electronics and appliances where applicable and 100% post-consumer, third-party certified paper.
1.4.6 A comprehensive climate action program is implemented including mitigation and adaptation
strategies.

1.5 Sustainable Procurement

1.5.1 Dalhousie University evaluates sustainability criteria in purchasing including environmental,
economic, social, and health considerations. In keeping with this intent, it is important to the
University that our sponsors, suppliers, contractors, consultants, vendors, and agents commit to the
following sustainability actions.
a) Comply with applicable municipal, provincial, and federal, national and international rules and
regulations to respect and safeguard workers’ rights.
b) Foster a climate that does not tolerate discrimination in employment,
c) Employees are treated with respect and dignity and not be subject to any physical, sexual,
psychological, or verbal harassment or abuse.
d) Recognize and respect the right of employees to freedom of association, collective bargaining,
political belief, affiliation, or activity.
e) Support no use of forced labour, including prison labour, indentured labour, bonded labour, or other
forms of forced labour.
f) Prohibit the use of forced and child labour. No person shall be employed under the age of 14 or
under the age for completion of compulsory education, whichever is higher.
g) Ensure that wages and working hours meet legally mandated minimums and industry standards.
h) Provide a safe and healthy workplace setting to prevent accidents and injury to health arising out of,
linked with, or occurring in the course of work or because of the operation of employers’ facilities.
i) Employers shall adopt responsible measures to mitigate negative impacts that the workplace has on
the environment.
j) Employers shall not require workers to work more than the regular and overtime hours allowed by
the law of the country where the workers are employed.
k) Employers shall pay at least the minimum wage or the appropriate prevailing wage, whichever is
higher, comply with all legal requirements on wages, and provide any fringe benefits required by law
or contract.
l) Work actively to improve the environment and respect human rights in the communities operated in.
m) Offer and promote equity, diversity, and inclusion programs.

5

n) Operate with sustainable business practices and commit to the responsible use of environmental
resources in the production, operation, and distribution of product(s).
o) Have a written environmental sustainability policy, plan, and program that addresses issues such as
energy, waste, pollutants including carbon dioxide emissions, water, local economic development,
and community building.
p) Reduce, reuse, and recycle product material where possible.
q) Minimize packaging waste.
r) Reduce water and energy use.
s) Obtain, meet, or exceed the most recent versions of sustainability certification standards as
applicable to operations and products such as ENERGY STAR, Green Guard, Blue Angel, Eco-Logo,
FSC, Fair Trade, Organic, Local, ISO, LEED, and BOMA BEST.

1.6 Pollution Prevention

1.6.1 Prevent pollution by reducing harmful emissions and discharges to air, water, and land including
strategies such as:
a) the reduction and proper management of chemicals in buildings, labs, and on grounds.
b) maintain and continuously improve green cleaning programs.
c) reducing energy use, switching to cleaner sources, and using strategies to filter and capture
pollutants.
d) Minimize and reduce impact of waste disposal.
e) Control pollutant run-off onto land and into water systems through built and green infrastructure
design and management principles.

1.7 Food and Beverage

1.7.1 Support the increase and promotion of plant forward, local, healthy, food options. Use third party-certification to advance sustainable food and beverage purchasing goals for example fair trade
products, organic, seafood and animal welfare certifications.
1.7.2 Reduce energy, waste, and water usage in food operations. Focus on the reduction of disposables
and plastic waste. Engage in food recovery and food waste reduction programs.
1.7.3 Promote and actively expand the use of tap water, to reduce bottle water consumption, through
provision and promotion of water fountains on campus and during events, drinking water testing,
and easy and economic offerings in catering (e.g., default jugs of water)

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diameter of new stock as measured at the root collar. Thus, the sum of all root-collar diameters of
replacement vegetation shall be no less than the sum of all breast-height diameters of removed
vegetation. The replacement biomass should be replaced onsite. If no space is available funding is
provided to the replacement vegetation account where trees and plants can be replaced on or
surrounding any of our four campuses.

1.9 Education and engagement: Increase learning opportunities and engagement of sustainable
development issues through student and class engagement, workshops, presentations, dialogue, and
initiatives on campus and in the community.