The Vision 2020 Sustainability Strategy for McGill University lays out a framework for achieving the highest possible standards of sustainability on our campuses. 1,500 McGill community members helped draft the strategy, which consists of 1 vision, 23 goals, and 14 priority actions across five categories: Research, Education, Connectivity, and Governance & Administration. Each of the 14 priority actions is associated with specific deliverables (56 in total).

We are happy to share that, at the end of the 2014-2016 reporting period, the priority actions have largely been implemented as planned. In fact, the implementation of many of these actions helped McGill reach a Gold sustainability rating by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. This report illustrates how these actions and deliverables have been implemented.

The average of all the Vision 2020 deliverables indicates that the degree of completion is currently 89%: 21 are ongoing, 30 are complete, 2 are in progress, and 3 are not started. The only action on which McGill did not make significant progress is Waste Management. It will be included, along with a new suite of priority actions, in the 2017-2020 Climate and Sustainability Action Plan.

**Progress by Category**

- **Research**: 78%
- **Education**: 100%
- **Connectivity**: 100%
- **Operations**: 90%
- **Governance & Administration**: 90%

**Overall Progress: 89%**

**Methodology**

- **Not started (0%)**: There has been a decision to move forward with this deliverable but no activity has been initiated.
- **Between 10% and 40%**: Some activities have been initiated in order to achieve the deliverable. A few of those produced the anticipated outcomes.
- **50%**: The activities related to the deliverable are about half way through.
- **Between 60% and 90%**: All the activities have been initiated in order to achieve the deliverable. Most of them produced the anticipated outcomes.
- **Completed (100%)**: The anticipated outcomes have been met.
- **Ongoing**: No % can be associated. Activities related to the deliverable are constantly maintained by the unit responsible for it.
Research

Priority Actions for 2014-2016

Deliverables status:  
- Completed: 7  
- In Progress: 0  
- Ongoing: 5  
- Not Started: 2

Deliverables average degree of completion: 78%

Action 1: Defining Sustainability Research

Description
Through a consultative process, develop a working definition of "sustainability research" and map the presence of such research at McGill.

Key Facts
Subcommittee of Research Advisory Council created, literature review completed, definition developed and used in the context of the Sustainability Science & Technology Initiative (SSTI).

Lead Unit
Office of the Vice-Principal Research and International Relations

Deliverables
- Completed: 3
- In Progress: 0
- Ongoing: 0
- Not Started: 2

Action 2: Collaborative Sustainability Research

Description
Develop a networking platform to facilitate collaborative sustainability research.

Key Facts
Collaboration among key partners has increased. SSTI provides a forum for exchange amongst researchers.

Lead Unit
Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management, McGill School of Environment, Trottier Institute for Sustainability in Engineering and Design, Office of the Vice-Principal Research and International Relations, McGill Office of Sustainability

Deliverables
- Completed: 2
- In Progress: 0
- Ongoing: 3
- Not Started: 0

Action 3: Sustainable Labs

Description
Develop and implement a Sustainable Labs program aiming to foster sustainability in labs.

Key Facts
Multi-stakeholder working group meeting regularly, best practices research completed. A sustainable labs guide has been published.

Lead Unit
Environmental Health & Safety

Deliverables
- Completed: 2
- In Progress: 0
- Not Started: 0
- Ongoing: 2

Research Highlight

Action 3 (Sustainable Labs): The Sustainable Labs Guide for Researchers was developed and distributed by the Sustainable Labs Working Group to help improve the sustainability of laboratory environments, including everything from resource efficiency to green chemistry.
**Action 4: Applied Student Research**

**Description**
Identify and facilitate opportunities for applied student research that advances sustainability.

**Progress**
Resources (guide, video, PowerPoint, database) have been developed. Outreach activities (to professors and students) are ongoing. An ASR grant has been established by the Office of Sustainability.

**Lead Unit**
McGill Office of Sustainability

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 2
- Ongoing: 4
- Not Started: 0

**Action 5: Collaborative Sustainability Research**

**Description**
Develop a networking platform to facilitate collaborative sustainability research.

**Progress**
Sustainability Faculty Fellows (learning communities) project was funded by Sustainability Projects Fund and piloted with Faculty of Agriculture & Environmental Sciences and Department of Integrated Studies in Education.

**Lead Unit**
Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management, McGill School of Environment, Trottier Institute for Sustainability in Engineering and Design, Office of the Vice-Principal Research and International Relations, McGill Office of Sustainability

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 4
- Ongoing: 0
- Not Started: 0

**Education Highlight**

**Action 4 (Applied Student Research):** The Sustainability Applied Student Research (ASR) Toolkit was created to provide a practical resource for students interested in conducting an ASR project on a sustainability challenge at McGill. It includes step-by-step information from finding stakeholders to deciding on research methodology.
Connectivity

Priority Actions for 2014-2016

Deliverables status:

- Completed - 3
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 4
- Not Started - 0

Deliverables average degree of completion: 100%

Action 6: Campus Hubs

Description
Renovate underused indoor and outdoor spaces on campus to transform them into community gathering spaces.

Progress
Prioritized list of spaces to renovate created. Improvements to spaces across campus are ongoing (e.g. Roddick and McTavish gates). Improvement to food service locations are ongoing. A Landscape Master Plan is under review.

Lead Unit
Campus & Space Planning, McGill Spaces Project, Student Housing & Hospitality Services

Deliverables
- Completed - 3
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 2
- Not Started - 0

Action 7: Sustainable McTavish

Description
Collaborate with the City of Montreal and other partners to redevelop McTavish Street into a pedestrian-friendly corridor that showcases best practices in sustainable urban planning and serves as a center of community activity.

Progress
Active, ongoing participation by McGill staff in City of Montreal planning process to ensure McGill priorities are reflected.

Lead Unit
Campus and Space Planning

Deliverables
- Completed - 0
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 2
- Not Started - 0

Connectivity Highlight

Action 7 (Sustainable McTavish): McTavish Street now plays an important role in the Promenade Fleuve-Montagne, a pedestrian pathway that connects the St. Lawrence River with Mount Royal. The project was developed as part of the 375th anniversary of Montreal.
**Operations**

Priority Actions for 2014-2016

**Deliverables status:**
- Completed: 5
- In Progress: 2
- Ongoing: 8
- Not Started: 0

**Deliverables average degree of completion:** 90%

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### Action 8: Green Building

**Description**
Adopt McGill green building standards that incorporate the LEED credit system and aim to achieve at least LEED Silver for all major construction and renovation projects.

**Progress**
Green building standards completed and approved. Funding secured from Sustainability Projects Fund for implementation. 30 staff members trained.

**Lead Unit**
Design Services

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 1
- In Progress: 0
- Ongoing: 1
- Not Started: 0

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### Action 9: Sustainable Procurement

**Description**
Implement the Sustainable Procurement Strategic Action Plan.

**Progress**
Procurement staff, buyers, and administrators trained in sustainability and life-cycle thinking. Supplier code of conduct incorporating sustainability criteria adopted, sustainability criteria incorporated into calls for tender. Regulation and procedures governing end-of-life IT equipment developed.

**Lead Unit**
Procurement Services

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 2
- In Progress: 0
- Ongoing: 3
- Not Started: 0

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### Action 10: Waste Management

**Description**
Conduct a campus waste assessment and develop a waste action plan.

**Progress**
A multistakeholder Waste Reduction and Diversion Taskforce was struck to prepare the new Call for Tender for the management of waste and recyclables, in addition to development of a waste reduction and diversion strategy.

**Lead Unit**
Buildings and Grounds

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 0
- In Progress: 1
- Ongoing: 1
- Not Started: 0

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### Action 11: Energy & Climate

**Description**
Develop and implement a Sustainable Labs program aiming to foster sustainability in labs.

**Progress**
Tracking & reporting of GHG emissions is ongoing, along with energy conservation measures. The new Energy Action Plan is complete. Projects are being implemented.

**Lead Unit**
Buildings and Grounds

**Deliverables**
- Completed: 2
- In Progress: 1
- Ongoing: 3
- Not Started: 0

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**Operations Highlight**

**Action 9 (Sustainable Procurement):** Under the new IT Asset Management Regulation, all new IT equipment purchased by McGill contain fewer toxic components, contain greater recycled content, and consume less energy. All IT flows are subject to reuse within the University, or are refurbished for reuse outside the University when possible.
**Governance & Administration**

**Priority Actions for 2014-2016**

**Action 12: Monitoring & Reporting**

**Description**
Develop a framework for monitoring & reporting on sustainability performance across the five categories of Vision 2020.

**Progress**

**Lead Unit**
McGill Office of Sustainability

**Deliverables**
- Completed - 4
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 0
- Not Started - 0

**Action 13: Socially Responsible Investment**

**Description**
Convene a public consultation on the revision of the terms of reference of the Committee to Advise on Matters of Social Responsibility.

**Progress**
CAMSR held public consultations on mandate and revised Terms of Reference. Definition of "social injury" broadened to include impact on natural environment. A review of the best practices in the field of socially responsible investment was completed in the context of the CAMSR Report on Divestment.

**Lead Unit**
McGill's Secretariat, McGill Office of Sustainability

**Deliverables**
- Completed - 2
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 0
- Not Started - 0

**Action 14: Advisory Council on Sustainability**

**Description**
Establish an Advisory Council on Sustainability and name a Senior Advisor on Sustainability.

**Progress**
The terms of reference have been approved. The Advisory Council’s first meeting was November 7, 2016. It is co-chaired by the VP Admin & Finance and the Provost.

**Lead Unit**
McGill Office of Sustainability

**Deliverables**
- Completed - 3
- In Progress - 0
- Ongoing - 0
- Not Started - 1

**Governance & Administration Highlight**

**Action 14 (Advisory Council on Sustainability)**
The Advisory Council, created in 2016, is mandated to make recommendations to position the University as a leading institution in North America on sustainability by contributing to McGill’s Sustainability Strategy and related plans, policies, and performance indicators. This action solidifies McGill’s sustainability governance and elevates sustainability as a core part of our identity.

**Website**[www.mcgill.ca/sustainability](http://www.mcgill.ca/sustainability)  **Email** sustainability@mcgill.ca  **Social**@SustainMcGill