

**POLICY GROUP: NC100 – General Administrative**

**POLICY TITLE: Sustainability**

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### **A. Background and Definitions**

As a leading postsecondary institution with a reputation for innovative environmental programs and applied research, Niagara College is dedicated to taking a leadership role in environmental sustainability. We know that our employers expect this knowledge in our graduates, and believe that it is critical to their future success.

### **B. Purpose**

Niagara College will continue to develop a culture of sustainability and integrate our knowledge within the college community. The Niagara College Policy Statement will be a driving force and support the growth of sustainable development for Niagara College.

### **C. Policy Statements**

1. Niagara College will actively contribute to the restoration of the environment and the conservation of natural resources by implementing and promoting sustainability-based principles such as reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery in its operations. Niagara College's corporate sustainability practices will be guided by/incorporate the following:
  - a) Apply consistently to all geographic locations
  - b) Become an integral part of current College operations through organizational structure, resource allocation and training
  - c) Ensure that the acquisition and disposition of materials for Niagara College will conform to environmentally friendly guidelines
  - d) Apply reduction strategies relating to energy and material usage in College operations
  - e) Apply reuse, recycle, recovery strategies for materials, commodities, and capital items
  - f) Promote environmental consciousness to students, staff and clients
  - g) Recognition of students and staff for their sustainability efforts
2. Input and collaboration from all areas within the Niagara College community will drive the sustainability objectives and targets.
3. Niagara College will continue to develop educational curriculum that infuses sustainability awareness, where relevant, in all of our programs.

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4. Niagara College will provide students, staff and faculty an opportunity to provide feedback on operational standards and policies and procedures to ensure we adhere to the highest standards.
5. Niagara College will foster partnerships with organizations that share similar sustainability ideals. External contracts will be evaluated to include sustainability as an important selection criterion.
6. It is the intention of Niagara College to cultivate positive collaboration with the Niagara Region and higher academic communities to foster applied research and sustainability initiatives within the college and the community and ensure best practice sharing. We hope to both learn from and share with our community as we work toward sustainability.
7. Niagara College will manage all aspects of our operations in an environmentally conscious manner and commits to preventing pollution.
8. Niagara College will ensure that all regulatory requirements and recognized standards are met or exceeded.
9. Niagara College will assess our priorities and set objectives and targets to continuously improve our performance.
10. Niagara College will monitor and measure our progress, and report regularly on our key performance indicators.
11. Niagara College is committed to remaining current about environmental concerns and issues and is well positioned to manage all environmental opportunities and risks.

**D. Related Documents**