SDG Accord Case Study

The SDG Accord

The University and College Sector's Collective Response to the Global Goals

nscc

Integration of SDGs in

☐ Institutional governance/strategic level
☐ SDGs in research
☒ SDGs in campus operations
☐ SDGs in curriculum development
☐ SDGs in student engagement activities
☒ SDGs into community activities
☐ SDGs at a whole-institution level

Focus on

☐ Goal 1 - No poverty
☐ Goal 2 - Zero hunger
☐ Goal 3 - Good health and wellbeing
☒ Goal 4 - Quality education
☐ Goal 5 - Gender equality
☐ Goal 6 - Clean water and sanitation
☐ Goal 7 - Affordable and clean energy
☐ Goal 8 - Decent work and economic growth
☒ Goal 9 - Industry, innovation and infrastructure
☐ Goal 10 - Reduced inequalities
☒ Goal 11 - Sustainable cities and communities
☐ Goal 12 - Responsible consumption and production
☒ Goal 13 - Climate action
☐ Goal 14 - Life below water
☐ Goal 15 - Life on land
☐ Goal 16 - Peace, justice and strong institutions
☐ Goal 17 - Partnerships for the goals

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Summary:

Nova Scotia Community College Builds Sustainable Community Revitalization

At Nova Scotia Community College, we know that college campuses aren't only places of education, they are places of community. This is why, when we began the process of building our newest college campus we ensured that this campus would not only be part of a network of educational institutions across the Province, but also a part of community revitalization in Sydney Nova Scotia. At the time of planning the initial concept for the project, the development team was challenged to embed the principles of the UN Sustainable Development goals into all aspects of the concept. This led to an inclusive and collaborative design process which created space for conversations, consultations and partnerships with a wide array of community groups. As a result, the NSCC Sydney Waterfront Campus will be a transformational space that embeds and advances social, environmental, economic and cultural objectives in line with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Highlights from the Sydney Waterfront Campus include:

- The remediation of the site, which was composed of 7 former industrial contaminated plots of land to current environmental standards.
- Climate Change resilience planning, which resulted in raising the shoreline 1.25 metres to address sea level rise and storm surge projections for 2100.
- Creating opportunities for individuals often underrepresented in skilled trades; a minimum of 10% of the workforce on site was designated to women and equity-seeking groups.
- The completed buildings will be Rick Hansen Accessibility Certified and are aiming for LEED Gold certification.
- Buildings will be heated and cooled entirely by Geothermal technology.

Read more about this project here. [https://www.nscc.ca/about/news/media/2022/name-of-new-nscc-campus-announced.asp]

Outline the 3 key benefits of integrating this theme:

1. Community engagement in the project

2. Creation of a collaborative, accessible building space

3. Innovative energy solutions- 100% geothermally heated and cooled

Outline the barriers or challenges encountered in integrating this theme and how you overcame these:

1. Contaminated industrial lands resulted in the remediation of waterfront brown land space

2. Projected sea-level surge projections were addressed by raising the shoreline 1.25 meters

Please outline your conclusions and recommendations to others (Max 200 words):

Post-Secondary institutions are well position to have a positive impact on the communities they serve. This project is an excellent example of how this impact can be realized by creating collaborative partnership within the community. The creation of the interpretive planning process that led to the realization of local social, environmental, economic and cultural objective, is time intensive but necessary to achieve this outcome.