

# The SDG Accord

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

## **Integration of SDGs in**

- □ Institutional governance/strategic level
- $\boxtimes$  SDGs in research
- $\boxtimes$  SDGs in campus operations
- SDGs in curriculum development
- $\boxtimes$  SDGs in student engagement activities
- ⊠ SDGs into community activities
- $\hfill\square$  SDGs at a whole-institution level

## Focus on

- □ Goal 1 No poverty
- □ Goal 2 Zero hunger
- $\hfill\square$  Goal 3 Good health and wellbeing
- $\boxtimes$  Goal 4 Quality education
- □ Goal 5 Gender equality
- $\hfill\square$  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
- $\hfill\square$  Goal 11 Sustainable cities and communities
- $\hfill\square$  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
- $\boxtimes$  Goal 17 Partnerships for the goals

## CASE STUDY

#### Engaging Selkirk College campus and the local community with SDG-themed Global Goals Week event.

Global Goals Week was an opportunity for students and staff at Selkirk College along with the surrounding community to learn about the Sustainable Development Goals and discover how to work towards them at a personal and local level. The event featured six speakers who presented different SDG-related topics.

The topics were, Climate Change & Health, Local initiatives and how to get involved, SDG 101: An introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals, 100% Renewable Energy: 100% possible, while costing less, My Journey with the SDGs, and Peace and Sustainability: How Doukhobor history, culture, and community connects to the Sustainable Development Goals. The speakers provided positive, solutions-based perspectives and offered resources for attendees to work towards the SDGs in their own lives.

In addition to the speakers, Global Goals Week featured an online SDG quiz, offered a short SDG workshop to classes, and highlighted existing Selkirk initiatives via social media that are contributing to the Global Goals.

#### BENEFITS

- 1. Increased awareness and knowledge of the SDG across the campus and surrounding communities
- 2. Helped to further develop community partnerships

#### BARRIERS

1. Due to COVID-19, hosting events now looks different. We overcame this by hosting online and using interactive features to encourage discussion and participation.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Selkirk now plans to host a similar Global Goals Week annually. Having a focused week of outreach was beneficial and the speaker series helped show the diversity within the SDGs. We also plan to continue to spotlight existing initiatives as a way of raising more awareness of the SDGs.



## CASE STUDY 2

#### Connecting Selkirk's initiatives with the SDGs through an ESRI Story Map project.

In an effort to share SDG-related initiatives, Selkirk College's contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals were archived in a Story Map webpage. This webpage is to be used as a 'living' resource for SDG actions at Selkirk. It will be updated as new initiatives are developed, as projects change, and as new items are suggested. The resource is interactive and features PDF reports, maps, quizzes, hyperlinks, videos, and photos. It is structured by featuring a contribution for each SDG as well as a list of further contributions. This project aims to help the campus community, as well as our broader community see where College initiatives fit within the SDG framework, and in turn aims to support further work towards the SDGs.

The Selkirk & the SDGs Story Map can be found here -

https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6cbc3063a8ac4b479938a2cccb5ebe77

#### BENEFITS

- 1. Increased awareness and knowledge of the SDG across the campus and surrounding communities
- 2. Helped to build interdepartmental connections
- 3. Helped to further develop community partnerships

#### BARRIERS

1. It was challenging to 'inventory' and map the SDG work of the entire College. We over came this by ensuring this was a living resource that could be updated regularly. We have already had different departments reach out to share further initiatives to add to this resource

#### CONCLUSIONS

Displaying this information within this interactive resource has helped to bring awareness of Selkirk's efforts towards achieving the Global Goals. It has sparked conversations across the College.



## CASE STUDY 3

#### Highlighting SDGs within Selkirk College's State of the Basin community monitoring project.

The State of the Basin indicators provide data to monitor well-being in the Columbia Basin-Boundary Region of British Columbia. Each indicator has now been flagged with the corresponding SDGs it is related to. These SDGs were selected by cross-referencing keywords and datasets from the State of the Basin indicators with the SDGs' targets and indicators. By linking State of the Basin indicators to the SDGs, the local lens of the Global Goals has been created. These connections help inform and motivate local decision-making to contribute to the shared global vision to achieve the SDGs.

Visit <u>https://stateofthebasin.ca/sustainable-development-goals</u> to view the State of the Basin indicators and their related SDGs.

#### BENEFITS

- 1. These connections help inform and motivate local decision-making to contribute to the shared global vision to achieve the SDGs.
- 2. This project showed how the SDG lens can be used with existing projects to enhance

#### CONCLUSIONS

Taking an existing project and adding the SDG lens helped to show the opportunities that exist to further incorporate the SDG framework at the College.



## CASE STUDY 4

Installed over the summer by Empower Energy, the 46 bifacial solar panels are expected to produce more than enough energy to meet the annual needs of the beautifully restored early 20<sup>th</sup> century Doukhobor communal dwelling building located on the grounds of the Castlegar Campus. Producing approximately 21,000 to 26,000 kWh of annual electricity, the panels are tied to the FortisBC grid that enables excess power to be exported. <u>https://selkirk.ca/news/mir-centre-peace-selkirk-college-joins-solar-power-grid</u>

The ground mount installation has been used in Selkirk student labs, provided hands on opportunities.

This project has contributed to many SDGs:

- SDG 7 Clean and Affordable Energy
- SDG 13 Climate Action: Reducing our carbon footprint
- SDG 4 Quality Education: The installation is being used in labs with students on campus
- SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: These panels are providing energy for the Mir Centre for Peace (<u>https://selkirk.ca/mir-centre-for-peace</u>). Climate justice is one of their strategic priorities.

#### BENEFITS

- 1. Further reducing our GHG emissions
- 2. Providing hands on educational opportunities
- 3. Showcasing solar potential to our region.

#### CONCLUSIONS

This project was a collaboration between different areas and departments of the College. The result is an initiative that is contributing to not just 1 but 5 SDGs.

Figure 1 Ground mount solar installation featuring 46 bifacial panels. Installation is beside the Mir Centre for Peace at Selkirk College, Castlegar Campus.



Figure 2 First year engineering students participated in a lab using the solar panels.

