

HIGHLIGHTS

sustainable development
2019-2020

Université Laval's sustainable development program has been part of its mission for many years. The university community—with its deeply rooted culture of sustainability—is more than ever committed to that path, its members continuing and redoubling their efforts to contribute to the common good.

For more informations: ulaval.ca/en/sustainable-development

STORIES

NEW AND AMBITIOUS RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT STRATEGY / SDG 7 9 13

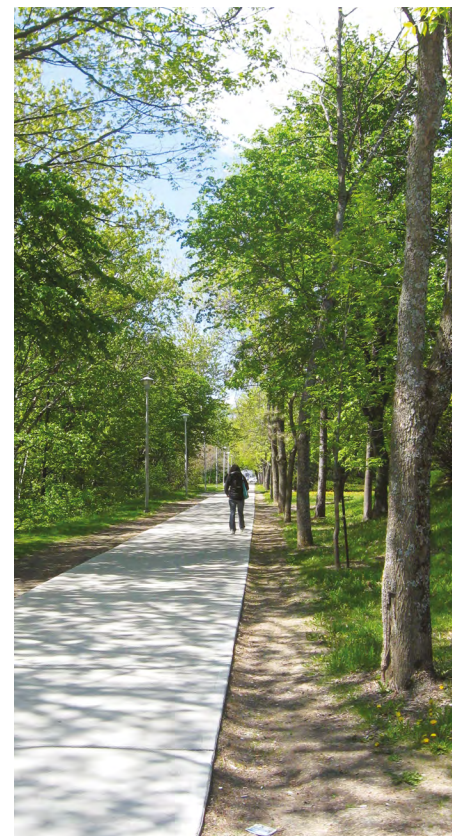


Université Laval and the Université Laval Foundation have adopted a new responsible investment strategy to once again lead the way in fighting climate change. They have set ambitious targets for reducing the carbon footprint of their investment portfolios. Emissions will be reduced by 30% by 2025 and cut in half by 2030, with 2018 as the baseline.

Note: The University signed onto the United Nations responsible investment principles (UNPRI) and is aiming for an A.

CONTRIBUTE TO CANADA'S PROGRESS IN RESPONSIBLE PURCHASING / SDG 12 17

Two Faculty of Business Administration researchers, Luc Brès and Martin Dumas, stepped up to help ECPAR, the responsible procurement working group, with the methodology for its 2020 Responsible Procurement Barometer. The Barometer is the only one of its kind in Canada, assessing responsible procurement for organizations all over Canada and identifying improvement levers they have available.



The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), adopted in 2015 by all United Nations member states, provide a “roadmap for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all”. Though their individual and collective commitment, members of our academic community are actively engaged in finding solutions to work toward the 17 goals. Concerned about generating a positive and lasting societal impact, Université Laval also intends to further measure the effects of its actions on the advancement of SDG, not only those carried out by the institution, but also those carried out by members of its community.



TOGETHER/ENSEMBLE 2020 GOES VIRTUAL / SDG **4** **17**

[Together/Ensemble 2020](#)'s 2020 event, put on by Institut Hydro-Québec en Environnement, développement et société (Institut EDS), *SDSN Canada*, and *Waterloo Global Science Initiative* was a runaway success. Initially scheduled for May 2020 on the Université Laval campus, the national conference on Canada's progress in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals was turned into a free event and streamed online throughout the country. It drew more than 1,700 participants from the private sector, academic community, government institutions, and the general public, sparking enriching and inclusive discussions in its all-new virtual setting.



SUPPORTING OUR STUDENT COMMUNITY IN TIMES OF CRISIS / SDG **1** **2**

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Université Laval and the Foundation were quick to establish an emergency fund to support the student community through the disruptions of the new normal. Emergency assistance was provided to 1,196 students in the 2020 Winter Session, helping them cover basic necessities. Close to \$900,000 was channeled through the Awards and Financial Aid Office in an unprecedented wave of solidarity. In addition, 1,864 meals were whipped up by the members of Pub universitaire to help sustain people through a period of food insecurity.

GLOBAL IMPACT RECOGNIZED BY TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION / SDG **4**

Université Laval placed 41st in the *Times Higher Education Impact Ranking*, out of 766 universities around the world. The ranking looks at the global impact of universities and their ability to change the world, based on the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Note that Université Laval ranked 8th world-wide on SDG 13, Climate Action. It's a tribute to the sustained efforts of the entire university community and its commitment to fundamentally and permanently transforming our societies.

NEW SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM / SDG **17**

A new official social engagement program has been drawn up at Université Laval based on the guidelines of the 2017–2022 Strategic Plan. Drawing on an institutional issue table, it fosters, nurtures, and recognizes the social engagement of the members of our university community while adding depth to the University's teaching, research, and community service mission. That determination to promote community engagement led the University to join in a new partnership with Institut Mallet and found an interdisciplinary group on social engagement, self-giving, and the culture of philanthropy: the Institut Mallet–Université Laval Group.





TWO UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL ALUMNI ENTREPRENEURS REVOLUTIONIZE COMPOSTING / SDG 8 9 12

Two graduates of the School of Design, Élizabéth Coulombe and Valérie Laliberté, have scored a big hit with the innovation they developed. “Tero is a small appliance that crushes and dries household food waste. In just a few hours, it reduces waste volume by 90%, turning it into natural fertilizer and cutting down on what goes to the incinerator.” With hosting and support from a number of members of the University’s entrepreneurial circuit, the Tero cofounders put together a remarkable crowdfunding campaign, exceeding their target by 2,500%—a sign that their invention might have caught a few eyes.

TOWARDS MORE EQUITABLE, DIVERSE, AND INCLUSIVE UNIVERSITIES / SDG 5 10 16

Université Laval has endorsed the *Dimensions Charter* on equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) and is proud to be the sole Québec university participating in the [Dimensions](#) program pilot project. The project seeks to enhance diversity in the field of research and make it more inclusive for people belonging to underrepresented groups, such as women, Indigenous people, disabled people, visible minorities, racialized groups, and members of the LGBTQ2 community.



MINI-SCHOOLS OF HEALTH IN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES/ SETTINGS / SDG 10 16

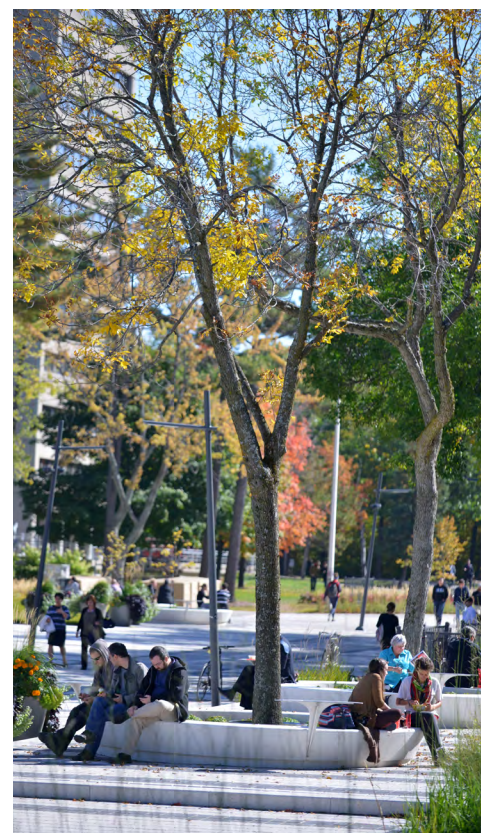
The mini-school of health is a day for university students in various health science and social services programs to meet and talk with students and members of Indigenous communities.

The program helps build bridges between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people and includes a look at Indigenous people’s history, lived experiences, cultural sensitivity, and the importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration in community healthcare teams. It’s also an opportunity for Indigenous people to learn more about health professions and education options while showcasing their culture (crafts, traditions, and so forth).



PROMOTE OLDER PEOPLE’S SOCIAL INCLUSION IN THE GREATER QUÉBEC CITY AREA / SDG 1 3

Université Laval received \$4 million to produce *Social Inclusion of Older People: A Collective Issue*, a research and action project. It draws on the expertise developed by [Institut sur le vieillissement et la participation sociale des aînés](#), which pools the knowledge of more than 30 professors and 65 students from 7 different faculties, as well as a network of 80 partner-members from the community, public, and private sectors to support the health and wellness of seniors 65 and over experiencing or at risk of experiencing social exclusion. Academic expertise and experiential knowledge will both be used to promote older people’s social inclusion in Communauté métropolitaine de Québec.



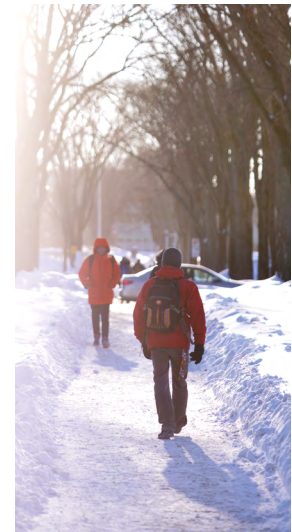
THE UNIVERSITY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP IN FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE / SDG 13 17

The increasing strength of the university community's commitment to fighting climate change has been palpable over the past year. In addition to marking its 5th consecutive year as a carbon neutral institution, Université Laval joined 10 Québec universities and hundreds of other universities around the world in signing the Climate Emergency Letter, an international declaration by the academic community calling attention to the ongoing climate emergency. The University demonstrated remarkable international leadership by founding the International Student Network on Climate (the UniC Network) through Institut Hydro-Québec Éducation, Développement et Société (Institut EDS). The UniC Network, with the support of its governmental partners, invites hundreds of young university students around the world to get together and put forth realistic solutions for creating a less carbon-profligate society. To cap it off, the University received the 2019 SDG Leadership Award for its accomplishments under SDG 13, which specifically addresses the fight against climate change.



OUR ACADEMICS SPEAK OUT ON TODAY'S BIG ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / SDG 4

The [Regroupement Des Universitaires](#) (Academics Group) was founded by Faculty of Medicine professor Patrick Provost and Thierry Lefèvre, an Institut EDS member-collaborator. Their purpose was to invite academics to share their knowledge and research with the public, particularly in the fields of climate change, environmental protection, and biodiversity. Their views appear in local newspapers, online, and elsewhere. Many Université Laval faculty members have signed on with Regroupement Des Universitaires.



2019–2020 IN FIGURES

A wide range of sustainability training is available to the student community:

398 courses
in sustainable development

35,211 registrations
in a sustainable development course

69% of undergraduate students
are introduced to sustainable development issues

GHG balance, direct emissions (categories 1 and 2):

0 tonnes net
Université Laval achieved a net-zero carbon balance for the 5th consecutive year.

LPU
Laissez-passer
universitaire

More than 1.7 million rides on public transit were made on a University Bus Pass (UBP) in the fall 2019 session alone.