

SOCIAL IMPACTS

2021-2022



FOREWORD

Sustainability has long been a core value and a way of life at Université Laval. It has become a source of motivation, creativity, and innovation for the University and its community, as shown by the impacts their actions have on society.

Université Laval has developed major cross-cutting sustainability agendas in recent years to help devise comprehensive solutions and bring about fundamental change. These agendas are rooted in the University's teaching and research mission and sincere and lasting commitment to communities. Far-reaching and forward-looking, they galvanize scientific and administrative leaders and a roundtable of stakeholders from the University and the broader community—more than 240 people in all.

Integrating teaching and research allows these agendas to explore cross-cutting themes in depth and maximize the University's social impact. They use the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a common foundation and are structured around three interdependent, mutually reinforcing objectives: advancing our teaching and research mission, experimenting with sustainable approaches and behaviours within the campus environment, and developing forward-looking leadership and partnerships. Through these efforts, the University makes a tangible impact on its community and a direct contribution to achieving the SDGs.



CROSS-CUTTING AGENDAS

Sustainable development

Sustainable development is central to Université Laval's mission. Driven by a deeply rooted culture of sustainability, the university community is more committed than ever to this path and is ready to pursue and multiply its efforts to contribute to the common good. The University is helping achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals through a participatory approach—with, by, and for the community. Recognizing its important role as an educational institution in the community, Université Laval intends to be a key player in fighting climate change by collaborating with a range of stakeholders to develop sustainable solutions and initiatives.

ulaval.ca/en/sustainable-development

Sustainable health

The sustainable health agenda is embedded in the regional ecosystem and aims to support, promote, and foster collaborative and interdisciplinary education, research, and community engagement. Building on the living laboratory concept, it looks at ways to improve practices and behaviours through sustainable health research projects and educational opportunities. The sustainable health agenda works closely with Mon équilibre UL, PULSAR, and Alliance santé Québec and engages partners from the public and private sectors at the provincial and regional levels.

ulaval.ca/sante-durable (in French only)



Responsible entrepreneurship

The goal of the responsible entrepreneurship agenda is to build a strong culture where entrepreneurship and sustainability go hand in hand. Because of its teaching and research mission, the University is an ideal environment to foster the entrepreneurial spirit and encourage students and graduates to develop projects geared toward social, scientific, and technological innovation. These wide-ranging projects led by different departments will have concrete benefits for the community and the greater Québec City area.

ulaval.ca/entrepreneuriat-responsable (in French only)



Social engagement

The social engagement agenda encourages members of the university community to get involved in community development and social and environmental issues. It also aims to ensure that this social engagement and Université Laval's teaching, research, and community service mission are mutually reinforcing.

This agenda is driven by the voluntary personal commitment of the members of our community. The goal is to develop and gain recognition for efforts that reflect a social engagement culture already well established at Université Laval.

ulaval.ca/en/social-engagement

Partnership

The partnership agenda aims to redefine the partnership experience with a view to building and maintaining solid, long-term relationships with community stakeholders. A partnership culture engages people in the community and strengthens connections between University departments so everyone is working together to make a difference and achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The SDGs adopted in 2015 by the United Nations Member States are a “blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.” The members of the university community, through their individual and collective engagement, take an active part in achieving them.

By joining this global initiative, the University is stepping up as an academic leader and committing to doing its part to transform our world. Université Laval also intends to measure the impact of its actions and those of its community on advancing the SDGs to ensure it is making a positive and sustainable societal impact.

<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>



TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION IMPACT RANKINGS

In 2022, Université Laval came in 36th out of 1,406 universities in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, which assess the global impact of universities around the world.

This marks significant improvement over 2021, when Université Laval ranked 70th among 1,117 of the world’s universities. It is also the University’s highest ranking since the metric was created in 2019.

The Impact Rankings assess universities’ impact on achieving the UN SDGs against criteria that recognize the efforts of the entire university community, from the scientific contributions of research teams to educational content, university operation, and the contribution of graduates. Université Laval came in 8th among Canadian universities in the 2022 Impact Rankings. The University did especially well on the goals related to Climate Action (6th worldwide) and Zero Hunger (6th worldwide).

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are just a few examples of the many contributions members of our community have made to achieving the SDGs. These initiatives use interdisciplinary, creative, and innovative approaches to promote the collective well-being of our communities and are a great source of pride for the University.

CENTRAIDE CAMPAIGN / SDGs **1 10**

Thanks to the 100+ volunteers from the university community who graciously donated their time in the 2021 campaign, Université Laval was awarded the “Coup de cœur” Prix iA Groupe financier (stratégie innovatrice) by Centraide Québec et Chaudière-Appalaches. The University was also recognized as one of the top three performers in the Education and Health category (more than 1,000 employees), alongside Cégep de Sainte-Foy and CHU de Québec-Université Laval.

The Université Laval Foundation received a top-three award in the Education and Health category (fewer than 1,000 employees) as well.



ADDING NEW OPPORTUNITIES TO THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICE'S VOLUNTEER PLATFORM / SDGs **1 4 16**

The Professional Development Service (PDS), the social engagement agenda, Fédération des centres d'action bénévole du Québec, and Alliance action bénévole worked together to beef up the PDS's social engagement platform.

Now that many new volunteer opportunities have been added, the university community will be able to see the bigger volunteering picture, which will make it easier to get involved.

In keeping with Université Laval's teaching and community service missions, this initiative also promotes social engagement as an experiential learning opportunity, much like a job or an internship.

NEW ENGAGEMENT PROJECT MATRIX / SDGs **1 4 10**

The Engagement Project Matrix was developed jointly by the Faculty of Business Administration's Educational Leadership Chair in Social Engagement and Educational Leadership Chair in Entrepreneurial Values and Entrepreneurship.

The matrix is a project planning tool used to support student and local initiatives by considering the socioecological challenges inherent in each project. It is designed to help individuals and groups ask the right questions when conceiving and carrying out their projects and to help sponsors plan their support for student and local initiatives.



SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT FORUM AND COLLECTIVE PROJECT SELECTION / SDGs **1 4 10**

Assises en engagement social” (Social Engagement Forum) is a governance body where every member of the academic community can have input on the social engagement agenda and its priorities. To establish a shared foundation for the new agenda, the main objective of the first edition of the Forum was to write a [Statement of Social Engagement](#).

For year two, in the October 13, 2021 Social Engagement Workshops leading up to the Forum, participants did creative brainstorming to devise projects that could be implemented as part of the social engagement agenda. The following topics were selected: 1) engaged research, 2) education and social engagement, 3) strengthening ties between the University and the community, 4) myceliums of engagement, 5) climate action, and 6) Indigenous reconciliation. At the November 11, 2021 Forum, participants prioritized and began planning how to implement these projects as a group.



RELEASE OF THE ACCÈS SAVOIR STRATEGIC PLAN / SDGs **1 4 10**

Accès Savoir, Université Laval’s science and knowledge boutique, rolled out its new strategic plan this year. Under the auspices of the Faculty of Arts and Human Sciences, the program fosters collaborative projects between civil society organizations and the university community. As a starting point, Accès Savoir aims to help academia address the needs and concerns shared by the organizations. Four main policy directions were identified: 1) community embeddedness, 2) engaged teaching, 3) research by, for, and with communities, and 4) opportunities for growth.

A new research-based service by, for, and with communities will be rolled out for these areas of focus in conjunction with the University’s social engagement agenda.



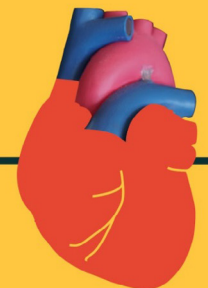
IN UNI-SON: MUSIC FOR A GOOD CAUSE / SDGs **2 17**

The Faculty of Music, together with Mon équilibre ULaval, held a benefit concert for Table du Pain. Some 220 attendees raised \$950 for the organization, which supports students experiencing financial hardship. The event was also an opportunity for the community to reconnect and recharge after many long pandemic months.

COLLABORATIVE BLOG: SUSTAINABLE HEALTH / SDGs **3 4**

The La [santé durable](#) blog (in French only) is an initiative of Alliance santé Québec covering topics related to sustainable health. With articles, news, and events shared on social media, the blog offers people opportunities to learn about, interact with, and benefit from the many organizations and individuals who are helping cultivate sustainable health. The blog is facilitated by members of the Table des communicateurs en santé durable (Table of Sustainable Health Communicators) and students who want to share their research findings or professional insight. Launched in May 2020, it has reached hundreds of readers over the past year and has generated thousands of interactions on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#), increasing awareness of the sustainable health vision.

Des humains
et une planète
en santé



LA SANTÉ
DURABLE

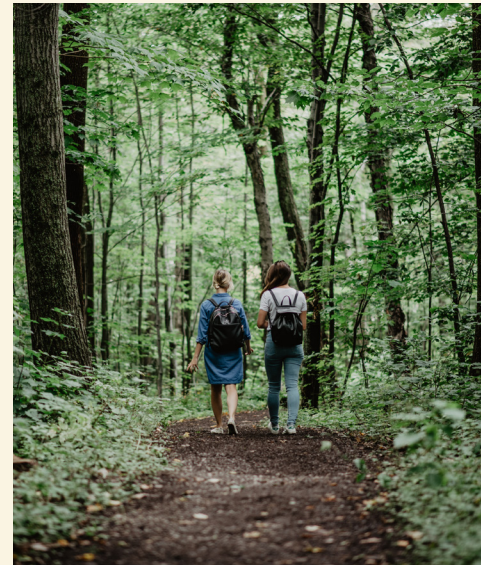
ESSAIM PROJECT: BUILDING A HEALTHIER CAMPUS / SDGs **3 8 11**



“The [ESSAIM project](#) aims to become Québec’s first major longitudinal university cohort on sustainable health working WITH and FOR the university community.” The project is carried out with three partners, Mon équilibre ULaval, Alliance santé Québec, and PULSAR. It entered its second feasibility phase this year, which involved designing and deploying all project components and conducting two campaigns to collect data from the university community, with a retention rate of almost 75% between campaigns. Another goal of this phase was to gauge interest in and acceptance of the project and identify factors for success, issues, and lessons learned from the technological, organizational, ethical, and communication perspectives. Project data was added to the [Sustainable Health Databank](#), providing more evidence researchers can use to support their work.

SUSTAINABLE HEALTH ACTION PLAN / SDGs **3 11 17**

This year members of the Table de concertation responsable de la Démarche en santé durable (Sustainable Health Agenda Issue Table) developed a Université Laval [2021–2024 Sustainable Health Action Plan](#) (in French only) based on the principles of the Okanagan Charter, which the University signed in 2020. The collaborative exercise revealed two priority areas for action: “Incorporate sustainable health in all academic and administrative activities and efforts” and “Prioritize action and collaboration that promotes sustainable health from a local, regional, and international perspective.”



MON ÉQUILIBRE ULAVAL: TEN YEARS OF PREVENTION / SDGs **3 11 17**

The year 2022 marked the 10th anniversary of the Mon équilibre ULaval program, which encourages healthy living. The program has engaged many different internal and external stakeholders and was inspired by students and by the Executive Committee’s goal of promoting University administrative services around health and wellbeing. Key activities include dozens of workshops, a wooded campus wellness trail touching on various themes (nutrition, stress management, sleep, changes in behaviour), creation of indoor and outdoor wellness spaces, and a full week of outdoor winter activities showcasing student initiatives.



HEALTH PARTNERSHIP: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT / SDGs 3 4 11

Prevention through healthy living is the best medicine and can make all the difference: That's the motto of [Partenariat Santé](#). The organization, whose mission is to host private, free cardiovascular risk awareness sessions in public places, is made up exclusively of volunteer Université Laval Health Sciences students. Having future professionals do outreach in their community gives them an opportunity to hone their motivational communication skills while educating the public about the effects of physical activity, smoking, diet, and other lifestyle choices on cardiovascular health. Generations of students are advancing the Partenariat Santé mission by launching innovative projects that contribute to the social engagement and sustainable health visions.



STUDY ON WOMEN IN SPORT / SDGs 3 5 10

Université Laval is announcing the creation of Laboratoire pour la progression des femmes dans les sports du Québec (Québec Laboratory for the Advancement of Women in Sport, PROFEMS) through a \$1.25 million five-year grant from Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec. Faculty of Education Professor Guylaine Demers will head up the new joint research unit, which will collect and disseminate evidence on the footing of girls, women, and people who identify as female in sport. PROFEMS will work with various partners, including the Research Hub for Gender+ Equity in Sport (E-Alliance and the non-profit Égale Action).



CLIMATE, HEALTH, ACTION! / SDGs 3 13 17

Health sciences students launched the Climate, Health, Action! campaign in collaboration with the Littoral Chair. The goal of the initiative is to raise awareness and engage not only health sciences students but also professionals on the impact of climate change on health and to promote educational opportunities on the topic. Campaign activities include seminars, panels, and community challenges.

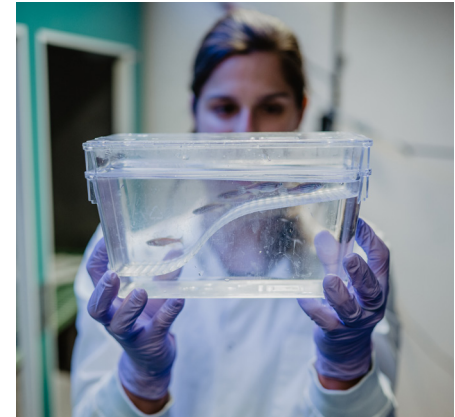


ALIGNING RESEARCH, CREATION, AND INNOVATION WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS / SDGs **4 17**

Université Laval has adopted a new Research, Creation, and Innovation Development Plan that will focus on three priority research areas: inclusiveness, connection, and sustainability. These themes are based on the SDGs and the principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion; interdisciplinarity; scientific entrepreneurship; partnership culture; and responsible conduct.

NEW SHORT GRADUATE PROGRAM IN SUSTAINABLE HEALTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE / SDGs **3 4 13**

Université Laval's Faculty of Medicine will offer a new Short Graduate Program in Sustainable Health and Climate Change in fall 2022. The only one of its kind in Québec, the comprehensive program will explore the impacts of climate change on health (including mental health) and implementation of the SDGs. The curriculum aims to develop students' skills in analyzing, anticipating, and solving complex problems stemming from the direct and indirect health impacts of climate change.



COGECO GRANT FOR EDI EDUCATION AND IT RESEARCH / SDGs **5 10**

Université Laval would like to recognize Cogeco for its generous donation of \$500,000 over five years. Half of the funding will be used to support the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Initiative for the Future, a graduate program designed to meet the current needs of businesses. The other half will go toward creation of the Fonds pour les communautés connectées Cogeco (Cogeco Connected Communities Fund). Under the Faculty of Social Sciences, the new fund will invest in research and education projects, which will include analyzing the social impact of information and communications technology.



CÉLINE VANECKHAUTE AWARDED FOR HER RESEARCH / SDGs **6 9 11**

Faculty of Science and Engineering Professor Céline Vaneckhaute received the 2021 Prix du Québec – Relève scientifique for her research projects, which provide concrete solutions to societal challenges, particularly with regard to wastewater and waste recovery, to ensure a healthy environment for current and future populations. A project on recovering excess phosphorus from water and using it as fertilizer is currently being tested at a Bionest site and will soon be rolled out in Nunavik.



NEW TECHNOLOGY TO OPTIMIZE WATER QUALITY IN NUNAVIK / SDGs 6 9 12

Manuel J. Rodriguez and Daniel Nadeau have been working on an early warning system (NUNARISK) for drinking water management and monitoring through environmental data analysis for the past few years. The project will be a tool for drinking water operators in Nunavik, a region more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change on water quality. The system will analyze and model meteorological variability and source water quality to optimize water treatment in real time. Manuel J. Rodriguez is a professor in the Faculty of Planning, Architecture, Art and Design and Daniel Nadeau is a professor in the Faculty of Science and Engineering.



GLOBAL ULAVAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK ON THE THEME “RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP” / SDGs 7 9 12

As a show of its entrepreneurial leadership, Université Laval offered a rich program to commemorate Global Entrepreneurship Week, working with stakeholders from the campus’s entrepreneurial ecosystem and Québec City partners. Organized around the theme of responsible entrepreneurship, the week of free activities open to the public showcased entrepreneurs who are changing the world through their values and visions. Louis Tremblay, President and CEO of FLO|AddÉnergie, a pioneer in electric mobility in Canada, made the opening remarks. The seasoned entrepreneur had a natural rapport with the audience and shared his experience and vision of responsible, innovative entrepreneurship that creates value for Québec.



NOT YOUR RUN-OF-THE MILL PUBLISHING HOUSE / SDGs 8 12

Laetitia Beaumel, a PhD candidate in Literature, Music and Agriculture at Université Laval, launched an environmentally friendly publishing house, Les Éditions de l'Écume, which published its first poetry collection in 2021. The publisher’s innovative distribution model—books are printed on recycled paper using vegetable ink and distributed to bookstores through a network of volunteer cyclists—also allows writers to receive more royalties.



HITTING THE RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT STRATEGY TARGET! / SDGs 7 9 17

Université Laval is no newcomer in the fight against climate change. This year, the University and its Foundation announced a 42% reduction in the equity portfolio’s carbon footprint, well above the 30% interim target. The portfolio’s footprint is now estimated at 85 tCO₂e/\$M. The Trust also divested from companies listed on the Carbon Underground 200 and signed the 2021 Global Investor Statement to Governments on the Climate Crisis.



REUSING COOKING WATER GENERATED BY THE LOBSTER INDUSTRY / SDGs 9 12

A team of researchers from the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences looked at reusing cooking water generated by the lobster and snow crab processing industry. Led by Professor Lucie Beaulieu, the team conducted an initial study at the E. Gagnon et Fils Ltée plant in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Gaspé, where they explored the possibility of recovering cooking water and turning it into cubes and concentrated powder. The result of the recovery process was a concentrate rich in minerals, proteins, and aromatic compounds.

RENEWAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH VILLE DE QUÉBEC TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION / SDGs 4 9 17

As a talent and innovation incubator, Université Laval is a key component in the region's entrepreneurial ecosystem. In recognition of this important role, Ville de Québec renewed a three-year agreement to help the University continue its efforts to educate and support a new generation of responsible entrepreneurs. The agreement will allow Université Laval to expand its sphere of influence by promoting the development of inclusive, innovative, and sustainable projects in priority sectors like science and engineering, agri-food, health, and information and communications technologies.



NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL AND SORBONNE UNIVERSITY / SDGs 9 12 17

Université Laval and Sorbonne University have confirmed a new five-year strategic partnership to facilitate networking and fruitful collaboration between the two university communities and create transdisciplinary research programs and courses and transfer the resulting knowledge to society. Four priority areas of interest were identified: oceanography, science communication and journalism, changing societies (artificial intelligence, ethics, humanity, and philosophy), and environmental transition and sustainable development. As part of the partnership, the Sorbonne Center for Artificial Intelligence and the International Observatory on the Societal Impacts of AI and Digital Technologies offered a summer school on responsible artificial intelligence (AI), sustainable health, and climate change.

BIostatISTICS AND ANALYTICAL DEVELOPMENT TO ADVANCE THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE / SDGs 9 11 17

With financial support from Québec's Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, Université Laval created a new Educational Leadership Chair in Biostatistics and Analytical Development. Led by Faculty of Science and Engineering Professor Sandra Hamel, the Chair will work on further diversifying analytical methods, fostering the dissemination and transfer of knowledge, and making analytical methods more efficient and effective. Through the new Chair, Université Laval intends to educate tomorrow's researchers and equip them with the tools and reliable data they need to become decision-makers in the fight against climate change.



EATING LOCAL: FARM TO CAFETERIA TABLE / SDGs 9 12 17

Université Laval is proud to collaborate with Concordia University through GastronomiQc Lab, a joint research unit between the University and Institut de tourisme et d'hôtellerie du Québec (ITHQ), to develop a digital tracking tool to encourage people in public institutions to buy local and sustainable foods. Developed using a grant from Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ), the app allows users to set goals for buying local foods, track their progress, and measure the impacts.

MOBILISIG: A GPS DESIGNED FOR PEOPLE WITH REDUCED MOBILITY / SDGs 9 10 11

Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics Professor Mir Abolfazl Mostafavi and his team have been working on the MobilisIG research project for several years. The web-based application aims to improve the daily lives of people with reduced mobility by showing them the safest and fastest way to get around the city. The research project is backed by Ville de Québec, Institut de réadaptation en déficience physique de Québec, Regroupement des organismes de personnes handicapées de la région 03, and other partners to ensure that the solutions developed meet the realities and challenges faced by people with reduced mobility.



MAKING OUR TECHNOLOGIES MORE SUSTAINABLE— AND CUTTING COSTS IN THE PROCESS! / SDGs 9 12 13

With financial support from Genome Canada, researchers at Université Laval have adapted genotyping by sequencing (GBS) techniques to reduce the amount of plastic waste generated by the process. NanoGBS technology, which was developed by François Belzile and Davoud Torkamaneh, professors in the Plant Science Department, and Brian Boyle, coordinator at the Institute of Integrative and Systems Biology (IBIS), reduces the use of plastic by 90% and analysis costs by 70%. They have discovered that they can work with tenfold smaller volumes using the technology, avoiding the use of pipette tips and other plastics. The researchers plan to improve the technology and adapt it to different fields.



Crédit photo : Davoud Torkamaneh



ECO-DESIGN PROCESS FOR A MORE ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRODUCT FROM MOS / SDGs 8 9 12

MOS, a bicycle rack company launched by Université Laval, is finding new ways to reduce its environmental footprint. In keeping with University values, MOS now prioritizes green design in every phase of product creation, from initial design to the choice of materials and suppliers, all the way through the production chain to final transport. All products are conceived and designed in Québec by the MOS team. Some parts are produced in Québec or elsewhere in Canada, and the racks are assembled in a plant in Vietnam known for its outstanding working conditions and production quality, two of MOS's priorities. Racks go through final testing at the Faction Bike Studio in Granby, Québec.

STUDENT ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN CONCEPTS AWARDED / SDGs 9 11 12

Students in the Université Laval Professional Master's Architecture program once again distinguished themselves in the annual competition organized by the American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment (AIA COTE) to recognize architectural projects that feature carbon-neutral design strategies. The award-winning projects, Uqumuujuk and Tumi, were completed as part of the Physical Ambiances workshop course. Their concept envisioned turning the Cambridge Bay arena in Nunavut into a modern greenhouse. The designs stood out for the innovative way they incorporated the region's extreme climate into the infrastructure.



Crédit photo : Florence Bouchard-Bédard, Daphné Garon-Rioux, Coralee Tremblay

ADAPTING OUR PRACTICES FOR THE WELL-BEING OF ALL / SDGs 9 10 11

Four speech language pathologists from the Faculty of Medicine are sharing their expertise with the community to improve the experience of patients with communication disorders like aphasia. Annie Légaré, Laura Monetta, Monica Lavoie, and Sarah Bérubé-Lalancette recently launched Accessibilité communicationnelle des commerces pour une équité des services (Accessible Stores for Equitable Service, ACCES). Aimed primarily at merchants, the two-part program provides online training and practical pointers on adapting facilities and services to facilitate communication with consumers with aphasia. Once merchants complete the program, they receive a seal to display in their store window so shoppers know they cater to people with aphasia.

SUPPORT AND COACHING FOR YOUNG INDIGENOUS ENTREPRENEURS / SDGs 8 10 17

Université Laval and the Mastercard Foundation are teaming up to support Indigenous entrepreneurship. With a historic donation of \$15 million, the Mastercard Foundation will help the University pursue its goal of supporting First Peoples' self-determination and aspirations to access, pursue, and succeed in university studies, and entrepreneurship in particular. The ULaval Entrepreneurship incubator will have a resource dedicated to promoting Indigenous entrepreneurship, developing specialized tools and training, and supporting student entrepreneurs.



Crédit photo : Monica Lavoie

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH ITUM / SDGs 4 10 17

Université Laval signed a five-year framework agreement with Innu Takuaikan Uashat mak Mani-utenam (ITUM), an Innu First Nation on the North Shore that includes the communities of Maliotenam and Uashat. The agreement provides for linguistic and cultural development projects with support from the University's Department of Anthropology, a training program through the Uashat mak Mani-utenam Mani Regional Adult Education Centre, collaboration with the Rouge et Or program to increase student retention, and support from the Faculty of Nursing to improve Indigenous women's and children's health. This joint initiative is part of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's call to action to respect the languages, cultures, worldviews, and knowledge of Indigenous peoples.

NEW EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP CHAIR ON THE INCLUSION OF INDIGENOUS TRADITIONS IN LAW / SDGs 10 16

In collaboration with the Faculty of Law and through a \$500,000 donation from retired Judge René Dussault, Université Laval created the René-Dussault Educational Leadership Chair on the Inclusion of Indigenous Traditions in the Teaching of Law. The Chair's mission will be to enhance legal education programs by giving students the opportunity to learn about and embrace Indigenous legal traditions. It will be led by Civil Law Professor Kathy Bellefleur, whose research focuses on the Innu tradition in particular.



Crédit photo : Matthieu Mellon Photographie

NEW INDIGENOUS STUDENT SPACE ON CAMPUS / SDGs 10 11

Université Laval received a \$10 million grant from Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur to create a space for Indigenous students on campus. The project will be led by Société immobilière du Regroupement des centres d'amitié autochtones du Québec. The goal is to give the Indigenous student body access to affordable housing and front-line services and improve the essential conditions for their academic success by providing a culturally safe space. The project aligns with the 2017-2022 Government Action Plan for the Social and Cultural Development of the First Nations and Inuit and "En action avec les Premières Peuples," Université Laval's First Peoples action plan.

PARTNERSHIP TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES IN THE ARCTIC / SDGs 10 11 17

Faculty of Social Sciences Professor Gérard Duhaime was awarded a \$2.5 million grant by Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for the WAGE Circumpolar Partnership, a research project focusing on economic and social inequalities in the Arctic. The partnership unites some 20 universities and research centres with an interest in Arctic issues. Indigenous partners will identify priorities and offer guidance to ensure that the research incorporates their perspectives and that findings are made accessible to Indigenous communities. The goal of the partnership is to develop recommendations to promote social equity and justice within Arctic communities.



CREATION OF RÉSEAU QUÉBÉCOIS DE RECHERCHE EN AGRICULTURE DURABLE / SDGs 12 17

Université Laval is proud to collaborate with other Québec universities and research centres to implement the new Réseau québécois de recherche en agriculture durable (Québec Network for Sustainable Agriculture Research, RQRAD). Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences Professor Jean Caron will be one of four co-holders. RQRAD's program will be structured around four areas of research and encourage the pooling of resources and efforts to accelerate the development of knowledge around soil health and conservation and the reduction of pesticide use against the backdrop of climate change. The network will receive \$2.5 million in funding from Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologie and Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation.



CREATING THE PERFECT LAWN / SDGs 11 15

A research team at Université Laval launched a study on making lawns in Québec more resistant and more attractive to pollinators. The team, led by Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences Professor Guillaume Grégoire, planted four different ground covers (wild strawberry, white clover, lawn daisy, and creeping thyme) across 11 handpicked sites in Québec City and Montréal. The group intends to collect more data as part of the project to offer ground cover alternatives while making yards more resistant to climate change and human activity.

NEW ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP COURSE / SDGs 9 12 15

The Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences launched a new open course designed to help people develop the skills and knowledge needed to create a market gardening business in Québec. It introduces basic organic farming and entrepreneurship concepts and provides practical information on launching a business venture in agriculture. Students learn about the responsible business model to encourage them to give a lot of thought to sustainability as they develop their business.



FIRST SUMMIT OF UNIC INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NETWORK ON CLIMATE / SDGs 4 13 17

Université Laval hosted the first summit of the International Student Network on Climate in summer 2021. In the virtual event, over 350 climate leaders envisioned and explored concrete and innovative solutions to protect the planet and build better societies. The biennial event aligns with the goals of the UniC Network, an international student community of practice formed in 2020 to promote knowledge sharing and transferability and discuss current best practices. The network aims to identify climate knowledge gaps as opportunities for international scientific research collaboration.



CREATION OF GLOBAL ATLAS OF UNGULATE MIGRATION TRACKING DATA / SDGs 13 15

Université Laval Faculty of Science and Engineering Professor Steeve Côté and 91 other researchers from 25 countries collaborated to establish the Global Initiative on Ungulate Migration. The project involves creating an atlas of tracking data on migratory ungulates and mapping their migration movements and corridors. Professor Côté's contribution includes data related to caribou, a focus of his research since 2009. With the global atlas project, the group of researchers hopes to encourage decision-makers to look seriously at the effects of human activity on migration routes.

ALLIANCE OF STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS FOR THE SDGs / SDGs 13 17

Last October was the first student symposium, "Unis pour les ODD : les associations étudiantes à la conquête du développement durable" (United for the SDGs: Student Associations for Sustainable Development). Organized by Association étudiante en développement durable (AEDD), Université Laval's student association for sustainable development, the event was a unique opportunity to mobilize the University's student associations around the SDGs and discuss student engagement. A mini hackathon was held to spur research into solutions for consumption issues on campus.



MAJOR FORESTRY RESEARCH PROJECTS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE / SDGs 13 15

Professors Évelyne Thiffault and Mathieu Bouchard from the Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics each received \$1 million in funding from Ministère de la Forêt, de la Faune et des Parcs and the Partnership Research Projects Program offered by Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies (FRQNT) for their project to examine the forestry sector's contribution to climate change mitigation. Professor Thiffault will focus on the dynamics of forest carbon and wood products in Québec, and Professor Bouchard will look at mitigating risks associated with natural disturbances in the fight against climate change.



IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON LAKE OXYGEN LEVELS / SDGs 13 14

Professor Émilie Saulnier-Talbot in the Department of Biology and the Department of Geography collaborated with 44 scientists from the Global Lake Ecological Observatory Network on the study “Widespread deoxygenation of temperate lakes” published in the journal Nature. The study showed that oxygen concentrations in lakes in temperate regions have decreased drastically in recent decades due to climate change. Out of 45,148 temperature and oxygen profiles, 79% of the lakes experienced an increase in surface water temperature and 67% saw a decline in oxygen concentration. Lakes are losing oxygen three to nine times faster than the oceans, which could have implications for marine species.



NEW PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT FOR OCEANOGRAPHY RESEARCH / SDGs 4 13 17

Université Laval entered into a partnership agreement with Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (Ifremer) to advance oceanography research in the Arctic and North Atlantic. Québec scientists will be able to conduct studies on board the

French Oceanographic Fleet and French scientists will have access to the Canadian Coast Guard Ship Amundsen. The partnership will foster further in-depth research on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and societies in the regions.





METRICS

TEACHING AND RESEARCH

392

Number of SD courses

34,046

Number of registrations in an SD course

72%¹

Number of students exposed to SD issues

59,3%*

Proportion of research projects in SD

1,055

Number of registrations in a MEUL course

More than 7,000

Number of registrations in an entrepreneurship course

175

Number of SD research chairs, institutes, and joint units

667 members and 64 countries

Number of UniC members and number of countries

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT

GHG balance – Direct emissions (Scope 1 and Scope 2)

0 tons

of net GHG emissions

Université Laval maintained a net-zero carbon balance for the 7th consecutive year

767 tons

Tons offset by the community through the voluntary offset program

56,5%

Percentage of renewable energy used on campus

1,229

Number of MEUL activity participants

1,468

Number of entrepreneurship activity participants

160

Number of entrepreneurship projects supported

1,4 GJN/M²

Energy intensity

85 tCO₂e/M\$

Carbon footprint of the equity portfolio

COMMUNICATION

Number of visits to SD agenda websites

Over 150,000

SD agendas' reach on social media

More than 100,000 people

¹This is 2020–2021 data since 2021–2022 figures were not available at the time of writing. The document will be updated whenever possible.