



SDG TRAINING SESSIONS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS



The SDG Training Sessions for Community Groups are part of the *Universities and the SDGs* project, which is funded in part by the Government of Canada's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Funding Program.





SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

In 2015, the United Nations adopted the **17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** as part of the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. The SDGs call for immediate action from all countries to achieve a more sustainable future for all. Acting as a blueprint, the SDGs aim to lead nations to **achieve social, economic, and cultural prosperity while simultaneously caring for and protecting the earth.**

17 GOALS

for a more sustainable future for all.

While it is important for the SDGs to be addressed by governments and large-scale corporations, it is equally important for individuals, community groups and local organizations to join in efforts. **Collaboration from all sectors and levels ensures that nobody will get left behind in the development of a more sustainable future.** The SDGs are broad enough to be applied within a large and small-scale lens, allowing them to be accessible on all levels. The SDG Training Sessions for Community Groups aim to facilitate a discussion on how to make the SDGs accessible and achievable on a local scale, supporting our community now and in the future.

MABRRI

The [Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute \(MABRRI\)](#) is the research arm of the [Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region](#), a UNESCO designated Biosphere Reserve located on central Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Additionally, as an entity of Vancouver Island University (VIU), MABRRI works to uphold VIU's Research and Academic Plan and aims to be a center for collaborative research, innovation, and knowledge sharing. MABRRI has a number of projects on the go, focusing on all aspects of sustainability. One of MABRRI's projects is the *Universities and the SDGs: Engaging the campus community in the 2030 Agenda*.

UNIVERSITIES AND THE SDGS

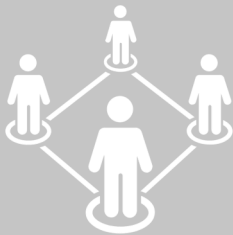
Funded in part by the Government of Canada's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Funding program, the *Universities and the SDGs* project is focused on promoting and advancing the SDGs at VIU and within surrounding communities. Ideally, increased awareness will foster local collaboration and implementation of the SDGS, allowing us all to serve as a global example. This project involves hosting a number of initiatives and events to engage VIU's communities with the SDGs and learn how we can take action locally.

One of our initiatives is the **SDG Training Sessions for Community Groups, which involves offering educational sessions to community groups and organizations within Nanaimo, Duncan, and Powell River.** These sessions will focus on introducing the SDGs and ways in which groups and organizations can promote and advance them on a local level. We will engage in conversations about how the work local groups and organizations are doing already contributes to the SDGs and how they can build off that to make further contributions.

SDG TRAINING SESSIONS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Our training sessions aim to familiarize local community groups and organizations on the SDGs and facilitate conversations focused on how they can implement the SDGs into their work. **Participation in our training sessions will help advance the SDGs locally, while creating collaborative opportunities to create more sustainable communities** within our immediate and broader surroundings. The training sessions hold capacity to build and strengthen bonds within community groups and organizations and foster collaboration on sustainable strategies for community prosperity. The SDGs promote “leaving nobody behind”, which perpetuates inclusivity in the advancement of community resilience.

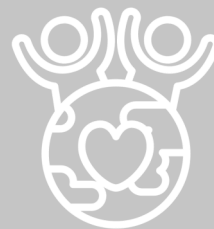
Increased SDG awareness and local implementation can benefit community groups and organizations by:



Identifying shared values and like-minded individuals to strengthen mutually beneficial community bonds




Fostering inclusion for all community members



Improving community resilience and interdependence



Increasing support for sustainable and innovative growth strategies



Our training sessions are open to all community groups and/or organizations within communities surrounding VIU campuses (Nanaimo, Duncan, and Powell River). **The sessions will focus on introducing the SDGs, localizing the SDGs, and learning how the SDGs can be implemented locally.**

SESSION 1: SDGS - AWARENESS AND RELEVANCY

August 12, 1:00 - 2:30 pm PST

This session will introduce the SDGs and provide information about how organizations and groups can implement them.

SESSION 2: SDGS - LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP

August 19, 1:00 - 3:00 pm PST

This session will be a workshop focused on diving deeper into SDG implementation.

While the two sessions build off of each other, it is not mandatory to attend both. **Both sessions will be held over Zoom and are free to attend.**

If you are unable to attend the scheduled sessions, but are interested in this topic, we would be happy to send along an SDG information package that will be reflective of the sessions or arrange alternative sessions based on limited resources.

If you are interested in participating in the sessions or arranging an alternative session, please email Courtney.Vaugeois@viu.ca