



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 5, 2022

Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, held via MS Teams, at
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
Present (voting):	Brad Harasymchuk (Chair), James Gordon, Tina Matthews, Christine Adam, Jessica Papineau, Lillian Kwan, Meng Sun, Sarah Martin, Scott Blackford	
Present (non-voting):	Marcia Dick, Natalie Yao, Anna Rogers, Chantal Sullivan, Alana Hoare, Shelly Church	
Regrets (voting):	Warren Asuchak, Elder Mike Arnouse, Dipesh Prema,	
Regrets (non-voting):	Sofia Rueda, Crystal Schock, Alex McLellan	
Recording Secretary:	Connie Georget (for Lora Sartori)	
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business Brad Harasymchuk, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Brad acknowledged James Gordon for stepping in as Chair at the September meeting.	
	James Gordon welcomed and introduced Shelly Church and Marcia Dick.	
	ESAC Committee members and attendees introduced themselves.	
WELCOME & Territorial Acknowledgement	Brad did the Territorial Acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the updated October 5, 2022, Agenda with the following additions to the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentations: #8 Synopsis of the 2022 Zero Waste Conference by Anna Rogers	

- New Business: 4. Report to Senate Update

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to adopt the Sept 7, 2022, Minutes as distributed.

PRESENTATIONS

- a. **TRU 5-Year Zero Waste Plan was presented by Marcia Dick**

Attached is a copy of the Presentation for review.

Marcia described the 5-year plan, reviewed the Zero Waste hierarchy, project timelines and initiatives based on the following scope:

- Operations
- Construction
- Housing

James Gordon thanked Marcia for the presentation and mentioned that Anna Rogers will be taking over most of the Zero Waste Program initiatives and projects.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- a. **ESAC Vice-Chair Elections**

The Vice-Chair election is postponed until someone expresses interest in the position.

Tina Matthew has generously agreed to continue in the role until someone expresses interest in the role. All ESAC members are encouraged to consider serving in his role, and an expression of interest for this position will be going out to all new members at the next meeting.

- b. **Bird Strike Film. Report on Progress. - James Gordon**
OLARA and Clocktower are done. James will check with Garry Fearey if CAC or Old Main is ongoing.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Action Item - Carried over from previous minutes: James will investigate an opportunity for a Research Student to look at new building hot spots.

a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-Committee – No Report by James Gordon

Action Item: James will reach out to Crystal Huscroft, Chair, and ask her to join the meetings and provide a report.

b. Awards Sub-Committee – Report by Chris Adam and Brad Harasymchuk

Brad, Chris, James, and Scott met and explored the possibility of moving the awards to the President Awards. They also made recommendations to:

- make the awards more prestigious.
- revise the documentation for clarity.
- review the structure and quorum.
- move deadlines.
- update content and photos on website and social media sites including Instagram.

a. ESAC Zero Waste Sub-Committee – No Report by James Gordon and Anna Rogers. Next meeting for Sub-Committee is scheduled for October.

James reported on the pilot project of the garbage compounds at McGill and East Village. The compounds are more centralized and locked to make waste management practices safer and more accessible to students.

A request for proposal to hire a Zero Waste consultant for 3-year contract will be awarded by October 31, 2022. We have received two submissions which are being reviewed, and we look forward to additional expertise and best practices.

Anna Rogers mentioned data collection is being streamlined where a tablet is being used at the Warehouse to submit weights of various waste streams via an online form that auto populates a master spreadsheet.

Anna is engaging volunteers to capture location of recycling bins and to re-evaluate the logistics of the locations.

Anna will conduct waste and brand audits to identify the source of disposed garbage.

Anna is looking to provide recycling educational information to students.

Anna provided a summary of key takeaways from the Zero Waste Conference she attended in Vancouver on September 28 and 29. These included the importance of:

- **Advancing a Circular Economy**

- Current economy is still linear. Materials are taken from the Earth and turned into products that eventually get thrown away as waste. Advancing a circular economy requires rethinking design in a way that eliminates waste and pollution from the start, circulates products and materials at their highest value so they do not become waste, and facilitates regeneration of resources rather than extracting them.
- Rather than focusing on doing less harm to nature we must focus on actively improving it. This requires experimenting with totally new ways of doing things.

- **Transforming Business Models (A few examples)**

- TriCycle is fighting food waste by feeding insects with by-products from the agri-food sector, turning the insects into a high protein and vitamin food for people, and using insect manure as an organic fertilizer to nourish the earth.
- UNLESS Collective makes plant-based clothing that can withstand the elements. At end of life their clothing can be decomposed to make new plants for the future.
- Building industry is starting to explore ways to create buildings that are living, regenerative, restorative, and adaptive by design (e.g., biomimetic architecture).

- **SHIFTing Behaviors**

- Everyone has a role to play in achieving zero-waste. The SHIFT framework distills global, evidence-based practices in marketing, psychology, and behavioral economics into a practical tool for encouraging eco-conscious consumer behaviors.
- Social Influence – people engage in behaviors that are widely socially approved.
- Habit Formation – making sustainable choices easier and automatic.
- Individual Self – appeal to people’s core values, motivations, norms, and self-interests.
- Feelings and Cognition – tap into people’s thoughts and feelings through information and experiences.
- Tangibility – make things real, substantial, concrete, and easy to imagine.

b. ESAC Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee.

Report by James Gordon, Chair.

- James met with Shannon and Eric from the Procurement Office and finalized the Terms of Reference.
- Work towards core planning in progress.
- James and Shannon presented a Sustainability Purchasing workshop during the New Employee Orientation series.

c. ESAC Core Theme Planning Committee – Report by

Alana Hoare

October report will go to Senate and Board of Governors.

The Committee reports annually on mission fulfillment related to sustainability and meeting the annual and 5-year targets. Percent of mission fulfillment was 86%, but we did not meet carbon target.

Dashboard reports are a process to track targets and reflect if outcomes show improvements.

Subcommittee will meet again in November, and they are happy to have new members.

Brad congratulated committee.

d. ESAC Biodiversity Sub-Committee – No Report by James Gordon

Former Chair is unable to chair. A new Chair is needed. Any takers?

MANAGER OF SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS REPORT

Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs

We are close to launching the Tesla into the TRU CarShare program

Full proposals due in February for \$100,000 Sustainability Grant Fund for student, staff, and faculty in need of financial assistance for projects that ‘advance sustainability at TRU’ (conferences, energy, waste, and transportation projects, etc.).

There will be an upcoming Grant Writing workshop.

CI Canada is launching a Greenhouse Gas Reduction project to get students, staff, and faculty to produce simple videos on sustainability projects and get excited about the initiatives. It's called Impact Climate.

Campus Tree Program planting event on September 21, 2022 – National Tree Planting Day was a success. We planted fifty-two trees by Lot N. The next tree planning day will be October 31st where we will plant six nut trees and 5 other trees.

STARS has given us an extension to October 28, 2022.

**ENERGY PROJECTS
REPORT**

Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Specialist

ISO 50001 project interim report due in October.

Two new Fortis energy Studies at multiple campus buildings ongoing.

**CAMPUS
INFRASTRUCTURE
REPORT**

Report by James Gordon

Maria Buff will be the new manager for this division.

Sustainability Office is continuously looking for new spots for bike cages. James mentioned the main outdoor cage by the old daycare will be enclosed

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ESAC Meetings

Brad held a quick discussion regarding future meetings and if they should be hybrid, online or in-person. Brad has sent out a survey to your gather feedback. If you have not completed the survey, please click the following link:
<https://www.surveymonkey.ca/r/QYP3R8Z>

2. ESAC and Subcommittees – Membership Updates

James Gordon will provide an overview of subcommittees for next meeting and if Chairs are needed.

3. Sustainable Development Goals event

James Gordon reported on the event ‘SDG Week (March 6-10, 2023)’. More details to come.

4. Report to Senate Update

Brad Harasymchuk will reach out to subcommittees for accomplishments and “things to do” to include in the Report to Senate on the 21st.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

NEXT MEETING

November 2, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.