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**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

September 6, 2023

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

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| **HEADING** | **ITEM / DISCUSSION** | **ACTION** |

**Present (voting)**: Brad Harasymchuk (Chair), Catherine Tatarniuk, Christine Adam, James Gordon, John Church, Kai Bauman, Robyn Hollas, Scott Blackford, Shelley Church, Vernie Clement.

**Present (non-voting)**: Anna Rogers, Natalie Yao, Pete Arkesteyn, Crystal Huscroft

**Guests:** None

**Regrets (voting):** Elder Mike Arnouse, Heather MacLeod, Maria Buff, Warren Asuchak, Yash Kaushik, Tarneet Kaur, Dipesh Prema

**Regrets (non-voting):** Sierra Rae

**Recording Secretary:** Lora Sartori

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| **CALL TO ORDER** | James Gordon in the Chair. The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, started at 12:07 p.m. |  |

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| **WELCOME & Territorial Acknowledgement** | James conducted the Territorial Acknowledgement.  A round of introductions. |  |

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| **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** | The September 6, 2023 Agenda was presented.  Agenda adopted.  The May 3, 2023 Agenda was unanimously adopted as presented. |  |

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| **ESAC Chair and Vice-Chair Elections** | 1. **ESAC Chair and Vice-Chair Elections** |  |
|  | Brad Harasymchuk was the only person who put their name forward for the position of Chair of the ESAC. This is a one-year term.  **Vote: All those in favour of Brad Harasymchuk for Chair.**  The vote was unanimous with 8 in favour, 0 opposed, 0 abstain.  Brad Harasymchuk is elected the new Chair of the ESAC for a one-year term.  Brad thanked the Committee for their support.  No one put their name forward for position of Vice-Chair.  Brad and Scott offered to help anyone in the Vice-Chair position.  **Action Item: Brad and James will canvass the membership and bring this back to the October meeting.** |  |

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| **PRESENTATIONS** | 1. **None** |  |

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| **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES** | 1. **Discussion re: adopting Student Co-Chair Framework Update – Brad Harasymchuk** |  |
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|  | Would like to pilot this framework this year, however not amend the TOR. If successful, will go into the TOR for 2024 – 2025.  **Action Item: Brad will talk to Sierra and put this on the October Agenda.**  James would like to co-chair with the Sustainable Purchasing Subcommittee.  Crystal would like to co-chair in the Education in the Curriculum Subcommittee |  |

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|  | 1. **Sustainability Grant Fund** – James Gordon |  |
|  | Sustainability has $100,000 budget. Try and support as many projects as possible.  Team consists of a minimum of 1 faculty, 1 student, 1 staff member.  Pre-proposals due by November 13, 2023 deadline.  Grant writing workshop – November 21 & 22, 2023  Full Proposals due on February 12, 2024.  **Action Item: Sent out the Sustainability Grant Fund TORs with the Minutes.** |  |

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|  | 1. **Results from SDG Survey –** James Gordon |  |
|  | James would like to do the same SDG and Super Snack Event in March, 2024.  We will then have 2 years of ideas to action. 1st year brainstorming – 2nd year can be more specific.  **Action Item: James will email Brad and John and then come up with a proposal of how to move forward with the next event.**  **Action Item: Send out the Survey Results with the Minutes.** |  |

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| **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES** | 1. **TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-Committee – Crystal Huscroft** |  |
|  | The Indigenous course will be going through the final approvals.  New Course with “Sustainability in Action” with Crystal Huscroft and James Gordon starting this fall.  Would like to be able to invite a class to observe an ESAC meeting. Any concerns? This may be a great recruitment tool for students to sit on meetings.  Goal Setting: want to advance Campus wide Certificate in Leadership (Leadership in Environmental Sustainability) perhaps a booth at Open House. Chris Adam suggested to contact Future Students, not Student Services.  Need to get more faculty involved in this Subcommittee. Let Crystal know if she can direct recruit anyone. |  |
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|  | **Action Item: For next meeting, discuss joining a Subcommittee.** |  |

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|  | 1. **Awards Sub-Committee –** Report by Chris Adam and Brad Harasymchuk |  |
|  | Membership: Brad Harasymchuk, Chris Adam, James Gordon, Scott Blackford and Anna Rogers.  **Action Item: Brad will send out a meeting invite.** |  |

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|  | 1. **ESAC Zero Waste Sub-Committee – Anna Rogers** |  |
|  | Last meeting was in May, 2023  26th annual Trash Bash had to be postponed due to wildfire smoke. Still invited everyone for lunch, but asked everyone to come again to actually pick-up trash on another date. 230 pounds of garbage 150 recycling total of 380 pounds total.  **Action Item: Follow-up with the winners to have lunch for them.**  Graham Specht joined our department for the 50/50 position. He is with us until December, 2023.  Waste Management is now our waste consultant. They started hauling August, 2023. Very happy with the change.  Will be doing a waste audit in October, 2023.  Next meeting will be September 19, 2023. |  |

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|  | 1. **ESAC Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee.** Report by James Gordon, Chair. |  |
|  | Consultant hired to create a Sustainable Purchasing Policy. Take approximately 1 year. This will affect everything which is purchased on campus.  Working on EDI Purchasing Framework.  Best Practice for Life-Cycle Cost Assessment.  HIPO Worksheets, ie catering, garden equipment, swag. Trying to work with relevant stake-holders to make sure they are up to date.  How to promote reusing items. Want to promote a campus wide garage sale in April, 2024. |  |

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|  | 1. **ESAC Core Theme Planning Committee** |  |
|  | Chris Adam – there is a mission fulfillment retreat coming up. Can report further after that. |  |

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|  | 1. **ESAC Biodiversity Sub-Committee – Report by Shelley Church** |  |
|  | TORs will be finalized.  Bird Strike – Tom Dickenson hosted a bird observation including the need for more feather friendly film. Will get a final report from Tom to give to Facilities.  Can hire a co-op student focusing on Special Projects – one project will be a biodiversity project.  Moving forward with the Tree Program. Applying mulch. Will be another Tree Planting event on September 20 in Lot N.  We will apply to becoming a Bee Campus. James and Courtney Mason had a meeting to move this along.  No Mow Zone (behind HOL) to promote biodiversity on campus.  Had a successful Bird Photo Contest.  Hired Greg Brain (MARCOM). He has created a tree app. Will have a QR code to identify trees. This is to assist with an official TRU Arbouretum.  Want to introduce the iNaturalist app. |  |

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| **MANAGER OF SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS REPORT** | **Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs** |  |
|  | Working on Professor Green – short presentations for faculty to use at the start of classes. Shelley suggested to repurpose this information for campus radio segments.  Sustainability Sticker Contest.  Outdoor Bike Shelter behind HOL is almost ready to launch.  Natalie Yao received a promotion to the Energy Manager Position.  Electric Vehicle Conversation project is now moving ahead.  Construction of our 2 solar tables has finally started.  Tweaking Sustainability Research Grant – now there will be 4 student awards at $2500 each.  We have been approached by the City of Kamloops to co-host the BC Government Climate Action Symposium in October, 2023.  Livable Cities, Collaborate Communities will be taking place in February, 2024. |  |

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| **ENERGY PROJECTS REPORT** | **Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Manager** |  |
|  | Still working on implement ISO 500001 continuing – hope to have training material out soon.  Upgrade lighting in OM to LED. |  |

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| **CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT** | **Report by Maria Buff, Director of Capital Projects** |  |
|  | James – the LCDES will be located between OM and IB by the “smoke shack”. Ground-breaking in the Spring. |  |

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| **NEW BUSINESS:** | 1. **None** |  |
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| **CORRESPONDENCE** | None |  |

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| **NEXT MEETING**  **ADJOURNMENT** | October 4, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.  Meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m. |  |