

TRU Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award for Students

Terms of Reference

(as of January 2020)

Introduction:

Many students at Thompson Rivers University are actively engaged in sustainability efforts—creating sustainability initiatives and conducting related research are just a few examples of the commitments to sustainability that students at TRU make. Individuals who are making substantial contributions to sustainability at TRU deserve institutional recognition.

The Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award for students will increase awareness of sustainability efforts at TRU. The award will recognize the students who do the most to enhance environmental sustainability at TRU and in our communities.

Rationale:

This award will help recognize students who conduct research in the areas of environmental sustainability, participate in the development of best practices that support environmental stewardship and sustainability at TRU, foster environmental literacy across campus and in their communities and encourage the development of partnerships in support of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Award

The award will provide to each of two students who are active in environmental sustainability a plaque in their name and a \$1,000 bursary. The award is a one-time bursary given yearly.

Selection Process:

The Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC), which reports jointly to the TRU Board and the Senate, will manage the Student Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award.

ESAC will grant the awards based on the following:

1. Full-time and part-time students are eligible to receive the award.
2. The Selection Committee for the Environmental Achievement Award will consist of:
 - The Chair of the ESAC;
 - The Director of Environment & Sustainability;
 - The President of the TRU-Eco Club; and

- Two additional people appointed annually by the ESAC.
3. The Selection Committee will issue calls for nominations during the second week of October and the second week of January each year. The call will go out to all TRU faculty members, staff, and students by email and will be advertised on TRU's website.
 4. The nomination deadline is February 1st of every year.
 5. At least one nominator must sign each nomination. Nominations must include a written submission from the nominator(s) outlining specific reasons for the nomination.
 6. Nominations must include:
 - a. A statements prepared by the nominator(s) (500 words or less) describing the nominee's contributions to sustainability;
 - b. Relevant materials describing the nominee's sustainability involvement.
 7. The selection committee will meet after February 1st and recommend to ESAC at the February meeting the successful candidates. The award will be presented to the recipients at a suitable event prior to the next academic year.
 8. Award recipients are not eligible for nomination in future years.

Criteria

Nominees should be recognized by staff, students, or faculty as individuals who significantly help to advance sustainability. The Selection Committee will review nominations and make recommendations regarding the award recipients based on the following criteria:

- Significance of the contribution made by the nominee to environmental sustainability;
- The magnitude of the influence of the contribution (quantitative measures of the effects of the contribution should be provided when possible);
- The breadth of the influence of the contribution (the number of people or groups positively affected);
- Innovation and originality.