



**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

November 2, 2022

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

<b>HEADING</b>	<b>ITEM / DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b>Present (voting):</b>	Brad Harasymchuk (Chair), James Gordon, Catherine Tatarniuk, Christine Adam, Jessica Papineau, John Church, Kai Bauman, Lillian Kwan, Meng Sun, Sarah Martin, Shelley Church, Yash Kaushik	
<b>Present (non-voting):</b>	Anna Rogers, Chantal Sullivan, Natalie Yao	
<b>Regrets (voting):</b>	Warren Asuchak, Elder Mike Arnouse, Dipesh Prema, Scott Blackford	
<b>Regrets (non-voting):</b>	Sofia Rueda, Crystal Schock, Alex McLellan	
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Chantal Sullivan	
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	<p>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business Brad Harasymchuk, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.</p> <p>Brad started the meeting with a call for introductions from all ESAC members.</p> <p>James shared the meeting agenda and minutes for adoption.</p>	
<b>WELCOME &amp; Territorial Acknowledgement</b>	Brad conducted the Territorial Acknowledgement.	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the updated November 2nd, 2022 Agenda.	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to adopt the October 5th, 2022 Minutes as distributed.	

## PRESENTATIONS

### a. **Christine Adams – The Okanagan Charter**

Attached is a copy of the presentation for reference.

An overview was shared noting the synergies between wellness services and commitments that occur campus-wide towards sustainability.

TRU is currently engaged with a number of community partners in regards to commitments towards student mental health. Keen interest in establishing the university as a hub moving forward.

The Okanagan Charter was established in 2015 – two broad principles in mind, (1) To embed health in all aspects of campus culture & (2) to lead health promotion action and collaboration. Interest was raised in proposing an endorsement for signing the charter with the ESAC committee.

Brad noted that Environmental Sustainability is an ESAC focus as outlined in the Terms of Reference and it's current definition could potentially be adjusted to be broader and holistically encompassing in scope.

Brad thanked Christine for her presentation.

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM MINUTES**

**a. Moodle Survey - Brad**

The results were shared: (0) In person, (4) Meeting on teams (2) hybrid (7) Any of the above options are fine. Call made for any questions, comments.

James noted that lunch has been supplied for in person ESAC meetings in the past and could perhaps be beneficial to incorporate once more if in-person meetings are conducted in the future.

Brad noted that it is important to have a supporting member available to meet the needs of those online when conducting a hybrid meeting (i.e. For chat facilitation). Brad suggested that the December meeting will be conducted online via teams and a hybrid option could be in place for the new year starting January.

Lillian made a note that in-person can be difficult for some due to commitments. Having multiple individuals involved to manage minutes and the virtual chat would be beneficial.

**b. Additional members to ESAC committee - Brad**

Interest noted of ESAC submitting an expression of interest to the external community. Current board appointees are here until 2025.

James mentioned that previous interest was to broaden the reach of ESAC to the external surrounding community and within the indigenous community.

**REPORTS OF  
COMMITTEES**

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

James mentioned that there was no report. To follow up with Crystal Huscroft. Brad mentioned that a roster to see who sits would be beneficial to obtain.

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

Christine mentioned that there will be nomination forms on the Sustain site (to be updated) along with a call for nominations for the Tom Owen and the sustainability awards for staff and students. Brad mentioned that there are 4 committee members and 1 student.

James conducted an overview of the awards, the prize allotments and how to nominate.

**a. ESAC Zero Waste Sub-Committee – Anna Rogers**

The latest meeting was held with 20 members encompassing a comprehensive representation across campus. Went over the terms of reference and perhaps could benefit with an update. Question if quorum is needed for sub-committees.

James addressed that a formal quorum has not been required in the past.

Connie scheduled meetings once a month moving forward the week before the ESAC meeting. Spoke about the preference for hybrid, in person or online. Preference noted for online with a few in person celebratory events.

Discussions surrounded recycling and what can be recycled was conducted. Benefit was noted in investing in face-to-face interactions with a staff/faculty rep in each department to help facilitate sustainability initiatives campus wide.

A new role was noted 50/50 split between the Sustainability Office and Facilities accumulated at 25 hours per week. The role would coordinate sustainable efforts across TRU.

Brad will meet with Scott about formalization surrounding sub-committees moving forward.

**b. ESAC Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee.**

Report by James Gordon, Chair.

Plan Sustainable workshop Sept 27<sup>th</sup> with James and Shannon Marazou. Call to ask if other department would like to have the presentation as well. James and Shannon met to discuss how to make the presentation engaging and innovative for future workshop applications.

**c. ESAC Core Theme Planning Committee – Alana Hoare**

Alana was away so no new report was given. An update will be provided at the next ESAC meeting.

**d. ESAC Biodiversity Sub-Committee – Report by James Gordon**

Looking for a new chair. James noted that statistically we are losing a diverse array of species and the sub-committee is looking to encourage healthy biodiversity on campus. First task is to conduct an audit on campus once a chair is appointed.

Shelley Church raised interest in attending the next meeting to learn more about initiatives surrounding the committee.

**MANAGER OF  
SUSTAINABILITY  
PROGRAMS  
REPORT**

**Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs**

James noted that TRU was awarded the Platinum rating. First institution in Canada to get Platinum a 2<sup>nd</sup> time. James thanked those that helped contribute to the STARS initiative. The sustainability office is planning a recognition event and an official release to come.

Sustainability grant fund overview shared. Deadline for pre-proposal is November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The grant fund has been occurring for 8 years. One staff, faculty and student is required per team.

Campus tree program holding an event on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm.

We are looking to have an official arboretum on campus.

We have signed up for SDG week March 6-10<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with UBC & Colleges and Institutes Canada. TRU will be signing up as a programming partner.

## **ENERGY PROJECTS REPORT**

### **Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Specialist**

TRU to finish the hydro study for future solar PV project to get more on campus. Looking to hear news soon.

ISO 50001 project interim report pushed to November.

## **CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT**

### **Report by James Gordon**

No update. The new campus infrastructure is Maria Buff. She will be able to provide an update in future meetings.

Building moratorium until 2024. There is an environmental assessment on campus occurring. Low carbon district energy system on hold until then. This does not effect the parcel across from East Village.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. SDG Week & CI Canada Climate impact – James Gordon**

The Greenhouse Gas Reduction project encourages students, staff, and faculty to create simple, sustainability-related. Follow-up email to come.

### **2. ESAC and Subcommittees – Membership Updates**

James Gordon will provide an overview of subcommittees updates for the next meeting and will include 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 21<sup>st</sup>.

<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	None
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	December 7th, 2022, at 12:00 p.m.
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.