



Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 5th, 2019

Committee meeting held in the TRU Student Union Boardroom, Thompson Rivers University
Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:10 PM. Lunch was provided.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE	<p>Present: Wilson Bell; Scott Blackford (Vice Chair); Karl Fultz (Chair); Jim Gudjonson; Pete Hrkac; Carolyn Ives; Tina Matthew; Bala Nikku; Jana Noskova; Jessica Papineau; Peter Tsigaris.</p> <p>Participating by Teleconference: none</p> <p>Absent:</p> <p>Regrets: Warren Asuchak; Tom Dickenson; Courtney Mason; Christine Miller; Meherul Mizu; Dipesh Prema; Caitlin Quist; Nicole Schabus</p> <p>Admin Support: James Gordon and Canyon Sinclair</p> <p>Guests: none</p> <p>Others: Natalie Yao, and Aaron Wiebe from Sustainability Office</p> <p>Vacancies: none</p>	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	<p><i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:10 pm by the Chair, Karl Fultz.</i></p> <p><i>Welcomed new ESAC members:</i> Faculty: Carolyn Ives, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, and Staff: Pete Hrkac, Integrated Planning and Effectiveness</p>	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<p><i>On motion duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed with the addition of:</i> Territorial acknowledgment will be performed after adoption of agenda</p>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<p>Minutes of May 1st were not accepted because they were not official due to not having quorum.</p>	
PRESENTATIONS	<p>None.</p>	
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	<p>5.a. Jim to report on inviting the TRU President, Brett Fairbairn, to an ESAC meeting so that he can learn first-hand about how the committee works. Jim announced that as convocation is currently proceeding Brett Fairbairn was unavailable to attend. However, Dr Fairbairn has shown an</p>	

interest in sustainability and is keen to attend when he can. Jim will continue discussions with him about a future visit.

Jim

5.b. Jim to report on what it means to 'electrify' the whole campus (addressed at May meeting). As this was discussed during the May meeting Jim only briefly recapped. We are designing electric systems for Williams Lake and the new Nursing building. The long-term plan is to electrify all of the Kamloops campus. The new electric boiler in the new Trades building heats both it and the old Trades building (unless it's too cold outside and then the natural gas boiler in the old Trades building will kick on). Despite increasing the entire floor space of buildings on the Kamloops campus by 6% with the opening of the new Trades building, total emissions were reduced by 10% due to having this new electric boiler set-up. TRU would also like to use heat pumps (essentially reverse refrigerators) where applicable.

5.c. Jessica reported on solutions to avoid decrease the use of cling wrap with catering (addressed at April meeting). Cling wrap, and other single use plastic items are very wasteful. The zero-waste subcommittee has been looking into alternatives to the single use plastics and feels they are close to finding an alternative. A large number of china plates broke in the catering system so plastic plates are being considered.

5.d. Tom, as ESAC JOHS Committee Representative, to report on issue brought up by the JOHS Committee of increasing numbers of rats on campus. Tabled.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

6.a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee. Committee report by Susan (Chair). James reported that the May workshop facilitated by TRU's CELT had 5 people. The facilitators and those in attendance have since expressed an interest in forming a Faculty Learning Committee. Those interested in joining should contact Carolyn Ives (cives@tru.ca).

6.b. Environmental Sustainability Achievement Awards for 2019 – James reported that he approached Marcom about profiling the two students who won the award in order to help raise the

profile of the award within the whole student body. To that end, MarCom redid the "How to Get Involved" section of the Sustainability Office site. There was a general consensus among ESAC members to market both staff/faculty and student awards on the TV screens around campus and on the 'In Case You Missed It' weekly email list. There is currently only 1 staff/faculty nomination. Scott commented that the lack of staff/faculty nominations could be due to the lack of reward built into the award, the process being to onerous, and the legitimacy that is associated with the award. There was consensus that in the long run it would be great to have the awards as part of the President's Awards. Dr Fairbairn has show a strong interest in sustainability so perhaps he will be open to this in due course. Jim will discuss this with him. Tabled until September.

Jim

6.c. ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee. Committee report by James (Chair). The committee is focusing on two big waste sources on campus: food containers and cigarette butts. Reusable food containers would impact the amount of single use waste that gets disposed of every day. Cigarette butts are a huge eye sore on our campus. The committee is working to reduce waste here. If you want to get involved with the Zero Waste Sub Committee please contact James (jgordon@tru.ca).

6.d. Sustainable Procurement Framework Sub-Committee. Committee report by Jim. Working on the next steps.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

7. Jim reported on the following.

- TRU is currently number one in the world in the ASHEE STARS Report. So when we are tracking growth it's no longer about getting better, we want to focus on growing in other areas. We want to maintain our current status. Other areas we can focus on are: water, food, and procurement.
- The new Nursing building will be fully equipped with solar PV on the roof. We plan to do this for all roofs moving forward.
- In the short term we can expect to make 1 Mw of power from solar and grow to 1.8 Mw's in the midterm, with 3Mw's being produced after 5 years.

**REPORT OF
COMMITTEES**

We are conducting a hydro safety review so see how the local grid will handle this. We currently have a peak demand of 3 Mw on campus. Once the full solar program is achieved we expect to produce 25% of our energy in-house.

- Electric Vehicle Day is a 4 hour long event that the Sustainability Office and BCSEA is hosting. Emotive has provided some funding. The event is June 23rd from 10:00am – 2:00pm with free veggie burgers and a prize draw for a free E-bike. At the event attendees will learn about electric vehicles (cars & bikes) and the rebates available. The event sold out the 200 available tickets in 4 days so we have raised the event capacity to 500 and booked the Grand Hall. Registration is currently at 370 and we expect to reach capacity.
- Bike To Work Week went well. We are still waiting on the final numbers from the TRU team.
- Casual Shirt Fridays will run June 28 to August 23.

NEW BUSINESS

8.a James – Reminder of Sept 4 ESAC elections for Chair and Vice-Chair. From ESAC T of R: “Voting members of the Committee, nominated by the committee and elected at the first meeting of the academic year (September 4), to serve for one year”. Karl does not mind being Chair again, but if anyone else is interested, they should come forward. Scott encouraged anyone who may be interested in being Vice-Chair to nominate themselves, otherwise he will stay on if need be. We will get new student members through TRUSU this Fall.

8.b. Wilson Bell is going on sabbatical for 12 months starting July 1. His ESAC term ends March 2020. He will step down so that someone else can join. Than you Wilson!

8.c. Jim gave an update on a report for the Accreditation Committee of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). One of the key take-aways from the Accreditation Committee report was that TRU should blend this report with the ESAC report to Senate. In other words, TRU should report together for our next reporting period.

Jim will send out the current report for the ESAC to look through and provide feedback on. During the current reporting period, the Sustainability Office and the ESAC will report separately as the submission deadline is fast approaching (end of June). There will be no meeting to discuss and review the report.

Jim

Regarding the new TRU Strategic Sustainability Plan currently being drafted, the UN Sustainable Development Goals may be blended into this plan. The survey for the new sustainability plan is still out and will inform the finished plan. The survey closes June 8th.

8.d. Karl – He’s curious as to the list of Sustainability Grant Fund projects; and mention of the AASHE proposals that got accepted. James will send out a list with all of the sustainability grant fund projects. A discussion about birdstrike mesh occurred as it was one of the current sustainability grant projects. If you are interested in learning more or want to purchase some for your home contact Karl (kfultz@tru.ca).

James

AASHE Conference proposals: James will email all ESAC members the list of accepted proposals from TRU members. Registration is still open for the conference.

James

CORRESPONDENCE None.

NEXT MEETING September 4th, 2019. 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm. TRUSU Boardroom. Lunch will be served (please inform James of dietary needs).

ADJOURNMENT 1:30 pm.

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

Signature of Vice-Chairperson, Vice-Chair (if required)