

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday 6 October, 2010

Time: 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Place: OL 127

ATTENDANCE:

Present: J. Van Hamme, P. Powers, P. Tsigaris, S. Purdy, T. Owen

Regrets: J. Sparks, J. Murray, D. Crespin-Mueller, G. Hayes, L. Tabata

Notetaker: S. Jackson

Guests: K. Bronnimann, K. Smith - TRUSU

1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

P. Powers called the meeting to order at 4:45. Quorum was not achieved, so it was agreed to reconvene on October 27th at 4:30 pm and those present will constitute quorum.

2. INFORMAL DISCUSSION

It was further agreed to have an informal discussion at the current meeting. T. Owen gave a short report which included the following points:

- The Student Advisory Committee has met for the first time, and consists of 6 students appointed by T. Owen. Tom raised the concern that there had always been a TRUSU representative on the committee until now however that may not be a problem because of the open and direct two way communication between the Environment and Sustainability Department and TRUSU.
- TRUSU has delegated responsibility for filling vacancies on institutional committees. P. Powers, as EAC vice chair, sent an email to L. Butt indicating the EAC would welcome Kevin Bronnimann and Bonnie Klohn as student representatives. L. Butt will take the recommendation to the Senate Steering Committee.
- T. Owen met with representatives from BC Hydro. It is important for TRU to be able to take advantage of a grant from BC Hydro, and so we need an environmental policy in place that we can demonstrate to BC Hydro. T. Owen will tell J. Sparks that the draft Environmental Policy was circulated to EAC members before the last meeting for comment, discussed informally, and should now go forward for approval. Those EAC members present were in agreement with this. The agreement with BC Hydro which provides for the Energy Manager position

requires an annual review meeting which will be held at 10 am on October 29th in the Facilities Boardroom.

- The Office of Environment & Sustainability is cosponsoring Pachamama – a movement started in Equador by a group in the rainforest that had no contact with the outside world – see website <http://www.pachamama.org/> for further information. T. Owen indicated he is organizing a seminar and facilitation workshop in November, and he will circulate further details to the committee. If anyone is interested, please contact Tom for tickets. The event is here at TRU, on a Friday evening and weekend, and is open to the general public. An entrance fee will be charged.
- T. Owen was approached by CEI, an Okanagan company, and Tom is now thinking of pursuing an environmental speaker series, co-sponsored by the Environmental Energy Association.
- T. Owen wants to meet with Arrowmark and Coke. We need to come up with a phase-out plan for their products which are sold in plastic containers. Under the next contract, we do not want to accept any product in bottles, just cans. Nestle Water have been very aggressive on the issue of banning bottled water.. Facilities are currently moving the signs directing people to water bottle filling stations. It has been pointed out that these signs are made of plastic, and therefore not sustainable. The signs will circulate to highlight different environmental features for example recycling stations.
- All new photocopiers on campus can print double-sided, and the Environmental Advisory Committee is encouraging everyone to print double-sided. People can still do single-sided copies if they need to. In the student labs, users have to check that they want double-sided printing; this should be the default setting – T. Owen to pursue.
- T. Owen is seeking a research assistant for $\frac{3}{4}$ months, roughly halftime but negotiable, to do data input on the greenhouse gas report. Tom will be advertising in Omega but requested people pass along the names of any interested research assistants to him.
- T. Owen will ask the Eco Club to give us a report at the next meeting.
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan has been finalized, and is awaiting legal review. The first TDM Steering Committee meeting will take place before the end of October.