



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 5, 2022

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

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
Present:	Christine Miller, (Chair), Brad Harasymchuk, Christine Adam, Claire Irvine, Dillon Alexandre, James Gordon, Jessica Papineau, Lillian Kwan, Meng Sun, Natalie Yao, Petar Hrkac, Sarah Martin, Scott Blackford, Tina Matthews	
	QUORUM MET	
Regrets:	Alana Hoare, Carolyn Ives, Dipesh Prema, Elder Mike Arnouse, Gabriela Rivera, Jana Noskova, Thamindu Widyarante, Warren Asuchak	
Guests:	None	
Recording Secretary:	Lora Sartori	
CALL TO ORDER	Christine Miller in the Chair. The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, the Chair called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.	
WELCOME & Territorial Acknowledgement	Christine did the Territorial Acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the April 5, 2022 Agenda.	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to adopt the March 1, 2022 Minutes as distributed.	
PRESENTATIONS	Feed BC Program by Jessica Papineau Feed BC Program - Province of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca) Provincial Government Initiative lead by the Minister of Agriculture and Food, The Honourable Lana Popham. TRU is 1 of 21 post secondary institutions participating.	

The Program tracks purchases and identifies as many local BC Food suppliers as possible.

TRU Challenges:

- Due to the Pandemic most food services were closed for 1.5 years.
- Had high staff turn over.
- Currently food traffic is down significantly from pre-pandemic numbers. TRU had to close the Urban Market due to low numbers.
- Aramark would prefer their suppliers to be on a preferred suppliers list. If they are not, it is a lengthy process for approval.
- TRU does not have a dining hall on campus which limits buying flexibility. All locations are retail based.

Feed BC has a directory of suppliers which meets our needs.

Want to highlight Kamloops local businesses. We do not have the luxury of having a lot of Kamloops suppliers. Have improved since January, 2022. Trying to focus the future on more local business.

2020 - 2021 - 21% of TRU food purchases were from BC Suppliers.

2021 - 2022 - currently we are at 24%. Hoping to bump up as time goes on as we gather further information.

Feed BC's target is 30%.

TRU Successes:

- Purchased honey produced at TRU.
- Twisted Goat Coffee.
- Fresh is Best Salsa.
- We have 13 interior farms that supply TRU with products.

Trying to promote BC Products. Built into Aramark contract to have a local tabling event, samples, etc.

Developed a "local symbol" - purple farm tractor.

Started to highlight labels of which is local and what is not.

Want local suppliers to do sampling events which we have done limited amounts pre-pandemic.

This program does not include Culinary Arts and TRUSU yet. Will start to involve them in 2023.

Food Waste is not part of the Feed BC Program.

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES**

a. Re: Climate Emergency Letter.

(<https://www.sdgaccord.org/climateletter>).

i. Update regarding interest from TRUSU.

The Climate Emergency Letter has been on our Agenda for approximately one year.

Individual Student Unions are not represented in the larger climate emergency letter. We have made TRUSU aware and have done our due diligence.

We will be removing this item this from our Agenda.

b. Bird Strike Film. Report on Progress – James Gordon

Garry Feary heading up the install of the project.

OLARA East side material ordered. Will arrive week of April 11 and will start the install the week of April 18th.

History: Tom Dickinson identified hot spots. Clock Tower (done), OLARA, OM and AE. Warren approved \$40,000 for OLARA, OM and AE. This is proceeding.

James sent out through the ECON email and now will send out through “Connect” information to let the TRU community know about the hawk silhouette and that staff members can print and put on windows of concern.

Action Item: James to send the hawk silhouette information through “Connect”.

Keep on Agenda for Regular updates until the 4 buildings are done.

c. Chair Succession - Christine Miller

Christine Miller's term is up at the end of June, 2022.

Election in June, 2022? Normally elections are in September at the first meeting of the academic term. Christine's term on the Committee will expire prior to the Chair term expiring.

Action Item: Scott will review this and bring back information at the May, 2022 meeting.

Lillian suggested that Christine make a presentation to the Board as this is a great Committee. Christine does report to Senate once a year. Christine is willing to present if the Board requests a presentation or if ESAC asks Christine to present.

Action Item: Lillian will ask the Chair of the Board about how go about presenting to the Board.

Action Item: Christine and James will discuss presenting to the Board.

A number of committee vacancies are coming up: Jana, Carolyn, Pete, Christine - 3 faculty and 1 staff. If you know of anyone who would be interested, contact Angela Biro.

**REPORTS OF
COMMITTEES**

a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-Committee – Report by Christine Miller

Last meeting was with Shannon Wagner, Associate Vice-President Academic. She provided excellent information.

It is difficult to get co-taught with faculty and indigenous community partners approved.

Two issues are: having the course labeled as interdisciplinary and have the course team taught - Shannon gave good insight on these issues.

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

Met on April 4 but missing a student rep. 7 nominees for the three awards.

Will come to a conclusion then present at the May, 2022 meeting.

c. ESAC Zero Waste Sub-Committee – Report by James Gordon
No Report.

d. ESAC Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee.
Report by James Gordon, Chair.
No Report.

e. ESAC Core Theme Planning Committee – Report by Alana Hoare
No Report.

Alana will be taking an hour at our next meeting to discuss and facilitate Core Themes and Mission Fulfilment.

Tina will Chair the May meeting - open and close and Alana will facilitate the Core Theme Planning.

f. ESAC Biodiversity Sub-Committee – Report by Christine Miller
No Report.

MANAGER OF SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS REPORT

Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs

5-year Zero Waste Plan - have a solid draft from Marcia Dick. Hopefully have a presentation to the ESAC in June.

Staff and Faculty Ambassador Program - would like one representative from every office and department.

https://www.tru.ca/_shared/assets/staff-faculty-sustainability-ambassador-terms-of-reference55157.pdf

Talk to James if you need more info.

STARS Report - Very close to submitting the Stars Report by May 31, 2022 to Aashe. Then Aashe has 3 months to work on it. Hoping to get Platinum Rating again.

Earth Day April 22- hoping to give away more saplings.

Solar Table Design Competition - Received 9 submission for the 2022 Solar Table Design Competition. The winner will get \$500 cash and the trades department will build it. Will meet the designer and have a photo op next week.

Hoping to report on the Bike Survey results in June, 2022.

ENERGY PROJECTS REPORT

Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Specialist

All projects still going ahead.

Hydro Continuous Optimization Program. Finishing BCCOL soon, starting at Old Main and Williams Lake.

Starting ISO50001 Process: Energy Management System Compliance. We will be asking ESAC for input in the future.

CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

Report by Dillon Alexandre

Low Carbon District Energy System still waiting for City Permits.

ECE will be complete by end of April, 2022.

Indigenous education centre working with architect, and Tina.

Science building modernization will start when exams are done. Out for tender.

Gym budget approved. Will start when exams are done.

HOL/Tim Hortons will be expanded - Potential touch self serve kiosk. Trying to mitigate the clustering of people and have it a bit quieter for the library.

AE will get an exterior upgrade.

New builds are all coming with showers and areas to lock up bikes also have discussed bird film.

Action Item: Dillon will send James zero waste design ideas for science.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Format of the May 3, 2022 ESAC Meeting

One hour of time for Core Theme Planning Activities.

Voting on Award Recipients

Reminder for Chair/Vice Chair - Perhaps an interim Chair?

CORRESPONDENCE None

NEXT MEETING May 3, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 12:42 p.m.