

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 22, 2016

Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee. Held in the Independent Centre Boardroom, Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:30 PM.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE (there is one vacancy: a student)		
Present:	Warren Asuchak; Karl Fultz; Jim Gudjonson; Jessica Heney; Crystal Huscroft (Vice Chair); Susan Purdy; Glenn Read; Wayne Singular (Chair); Peter Tsigaris; Robert Wisla	
Participating by Teleconference:	Michael Mehta	
Regrets:	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of General Counsel); Tom Dickinson; Hoberly Hove; Paul Michel; Dale Parkes; Amie Schellenberg; Marjorie Serack	
Guests:	Charles Hays	
Others:	James Gordon (note-taker; TRU Sustainability Office (TRUSO)); Dustin Melan (TRUSO, Research Student); Natalie Yao (TRUSO)	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:30 pm by the Chair. Charles Hays, TRU faculty member, and Dustin Melan, new Research Student in the TRU Sustainability Office, were welcomed.</i>	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<i>On motion duly made by Karl, seconded by Crystal, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<i>Minutes of May 4, 2016. On motion duly made by Crysyal, seconded by Robert, and approved by all others it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as distributed.</i>	
PRESENTATIONS	<i>Hand Drying in Washrooms at TRU.</i> Charles Hays and Jim Gudjonson presented on the pros and cons of using the two most common methods of hand drying in TRU washrooms: paper towels and jet air hand dryers. Charles presented first, and his main points were:	

- There was a lack of consultation with the University community as a whole when the electric hand dryers were initially installed
- the noise from the electric hand dryers is very disruptive in certain parts of the campus, for instance around classrooms
- there are some possible negative health implications to the use of electric hand dryers compared to using paper towels, although, when looking at the campus as a whole, the health effects may be more of a red herring than anything else.

Jim then presented and his main points were:

- from long term financial and environment points of view, electric hand dryers are the obvious choice
- the noise issue caused by electric hand dryers was not initially considered when they were installed, but a mitigation strategy will now be used to deal with high and medium sensitivity locations (essentially either reinstalling paper towel dispensers or installing super quiet hand dryers)
- possible negative health effects from electric hand dryers has also come to the forefront since the installation of the electric hand dryers, and again, a mitigation strategy will be used to address these. This strategy follows many of the main recommendations of the Public Health Agency of Canada:
 - Fast-track the installation of touchless faucets in washrooms
 - Install alcohol-based hand sanitizer pumps in high traffic locales around campus
 - Continue the ongoing education campaign around proper hand-washing procedures
 - Continue installation of washroom door foot-pulls
 - Moving forward, use only electric dryers with HEPA filter installed

At the completion of the presentation, the following motion was put forward by Karl: the electric hand dryers should remain in the washrooms on condition that the cash savings realized by their use is

used to implement the list of six mitigation strategies outlined below, on a case-by-case, washroom-by-washroom basis. This motion was seconded by Warren, and the motion was carried. The six mitigation strategies are:

1. Fast-track the installation of touchless faucets in washrooms
2. Install alcohol-based hand sanitizer pumps in high traffic locales around campus
3. Continue the ongoing education campaign around proper hand-washing procedures
4. Continue installation of washroom door foot-pulls
5. Moving forward, use only electric dryers with HEPA filters installed
6. In order to deal with high and medium noise sensitivity locations, either install super quiet hand dryers (medium sensitivity areas) or reinstall paper towel dispensers (high sensitivity areas).

Further actions that were agreed upon after the presentation include:

- Blue recycling bins just for water-dampened paper towels should be installed in labs and other places that use large volumes of paper towel. James to complete.
- A timeline will be drawn up outlining when these mitigation strategies will be implemented. James to complete.
- An email will be sent to all staff outlining the main points of this decision, along with posting the main points on the TRU Sustainability Office social media sites. James to complete.

James

James

James

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

On work of sub-committee looking at issues to do with entrenching and infusing sustainability into TRU curriculum

Susan reported on her attendance at the Canadian Colleges and Universities Environmental Network (CCUN) conference in Halifax (May 11-13), which had the theme 'sustainability in curriculum'. Her presentation is [here](#). At the end of the presentation Crystal put forward the following motion: for Susan to bring her presentation to the TRU Senate in order to find out their views on embedding sustainability in the curriculum. Robert seconded the motion and it was carried.

Susan

Tabled: Dale will report on his draft proposal to have 'sustainability in curriculum' as a topic of discussion for next year's agenda for the teaching colloquium at TRU. **Dale**

Business arising from name change from EAC to the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC). James reported that the changes to the website are complete.

Using a new Sharepoint Site. James reported that he sent all committee members the link to the new SharePoint site. He was asked to load the unapproved minutes, and all committee presentations and reports to the site which he will do. **James**

Report on ESAC Visioning Session from May 2. James reported that he did not have time to complete the visioning session minutes but will do so within the next few weeks. **James**

Discussion re Provost helping to fund TRU joining Canadian Colleges and Universities Environmental Network (CCUN). Tabled since Tom was not present. **Tom**

TRU Parking proposal issue that TRUSU is spearheading. Warren provided the following report: there are no further changes from his last report and that parking will remain virtually unchanged for this coming school year. New measures will come into effect September 2017. To mitigate against disruptions in parking, ongoing promotions of using alternate transportation methods like transit and car sharing (especially TRU's new Rideshare program) are important

Administration of the Sustainability Grant Fund - Crystal. Tabled due to lack of time at the meeting. **Crystal**

Waste/composting food from retailers on campus – Amie. Tabled due to Amie's absence. **Amie**

Ensuring proper process for awarding Environmental Achievement Award (now changed to Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award) – Wayne. Wayne will report on this in September. **Wayne**

REPORT OF
COMMITTEES

None.

Tabled due to running out of time at the meeting.

**DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

NEW BUSINESS

Chelsea Corsi, from TRU Wellness. Chelsea was approved to present at this meeting but at the last minute could not make it. The committee would like to hear her presentation in September and James will ask her to do that. All ESAC members can review the following charter, in regards to her presentation: the Okanagan Charter for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges(that was developed last June at the International Conference for Health Promoting Universities and Colleges, hosted at UBC Okanagan.) It was developed with input from hundreds of university and college community members representing over 40 countries. Here is a link to the document:

James

<http://www.internationalhealthycampuses2015.com/2015/10/02/release-of-the-okanagan-charter/>

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEXT MEETING

September 7, 2016; location to be announced; time to be determined via a doodle poll, which James will send out.

James

2:30 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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