# TRU Anti-Idling Guidelines

(as of January 2015)

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY

**Preamble**

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) has identified "increasing sustainability" as a Strategic Priority and the TRU Strategic Sustainability Plan (SSP) outlines goals strategies to address this priority. One key goal of the SSP is to reduce energy use and air emissions. The Vehicle Anti-Idling Guideline provides guidance to achieve the goal of reducing energy use and air emissions from mobile sources.

**1.0 Idling:** an engine is running while a vehicle is stationary or a piece of equipment is not performing work.

**2.0 Purpose:** The anti-idling guideline aims to support TRU's Strategic Sustainability goal of reduce resource consumption and air emissions through the reduction of unnecessary idling. Vehicle emissions produce pollutants that contribute to climate change, smog and acid rain affecting the health of people, infrastructure, and the ecology.

**3.0 Idling Reduction:**

The following limitations are to be followed for any vehicle operating on the TRU campus and for any TRU fleet vehicle whenever in operation.

• Vehicles shall never be left idling when unattended.

• Engine warm up periods should not exceed one (1) minute (provided air pressure for air brake systems are fully charged and all safety provisions are in place)

• Light –duty vehicles (passenger size) should be shut down whenever idling periods are expected to exceed one (1) minute. Heavy-duty vehicles (such as buses and cargo trucks) should be shut down whenever idling periods are expected to exceed (3) three minutes.

**4.0 Idling Exceptions:**

The exceptions to this guideline have been identified for the following circumstances:

- Police, fire or ambulance vehicles while engaged in operational and/or emergency activities.
- Vehicles for which idling is required as part of a repair or regular pre-check maintenance process.
- Armoured vehicles in which a person remains inside the vehicle while guarding the contents of the vehicle or while the vehicle is being loaded or unloaded.
- Vehicles required using heating or refrigeration systems powered by the motor or engine for the preservation of perishable cargo.
- Under extreme weather conditions or any other time when the health and safety of the employee or others may be jeopardized. (below -25 C or above 38 C)
- If the unit is not expected to be able to restart due to a mechanical problem
- This guideline does not apply to typical stop and go traffic.

**5.0 Application:**

This guidleine applies to all vehicles on TRU property. The following strategies will be used by the TRU Facilities Department (and parking officers) to ensure the guidelines are met:

- Append this guideline to the parking regulations;
- Include reference to this guideline in the procurement of vehicle fleet services such as couriers and goods deliveries (i.e. office supplies, equipment, furniture).
- Post anti-idling signs in key idling locations around campus.
- Equip TRU staff, faculty, and students and current suppliers with information and educational tools to help promote the guidelines on campus