

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 3, 2014

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the Independent Centre boardroom,
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 4:00 pm.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE		
Present:	S. Blackford (designate from TRU office of Legal Counsel); E. Bourassa; M. Harrison; C. Huscroft; L. Komori; D. Parkes; S. Purdy (Chair); W. Singular; L. Tabata; R. Wisla	
Participating by Teleconference:	None	
Regrets:	J. Gudjonson; H. Hove; S. Learie; S. Perkins-Taal; G. Read; J. Sparks; P. Tsigaris;	
Guests:	Alex McLellan (TRUSU)	
Others:	J. Gordon (note-taker, TRUOES); N. Yao (TRUOES)	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 4:10 pm by the Chair.</i>	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<i>On motion duly made by E. Bourassa and seconded by D. Parkes, it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<u>Minutes of November 5, 2014</u> <i>On motion duly made by C. Huscroft and seconded by S. Blackford, it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as distributed.</i>	
PRESENTATIONS (A)	None.	
BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	<p><u>On development of Strategic Sustainability Plan (SSP) – Tabled due to J. Gudjonson’s absence.</u></p> <p>S. Blackford mentioned that due to unavoidable circumstances, J. Gudjonson’s meeting with the Senate to explain the SSP got bumped to the next meeting on Dec 15. The development of a digital ‘dashboard’ (that will help track the key performance</p>	

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indicators of the plan) will be ready in the Spring. The SSP will be promoted through all of the regular promotional 'channels' (TV monitors, social media, Mar Comm, etc.).

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

S. Purdy mentioned that she and members of the sub-committee (E. Bourassa; M. Harrison; C. Huscroft; S. Perkins-Taal; P. Tsigaris) will meet on Dec 4 with Uli Scheck about TRU offering a sustainability-focused program (either Major or Minor). The issue of where such a program would 'live' (within which faculty) is yet to be determined. She will report back at the January 7th EAC meeting regarding what Uli thinks about more sustainability course content at TRU. Ideas to consider during the discussion with Uli include the following: perhaps students would be able to take sustainability courses as part of any program; maybe the course could be project-based; maybe the course could be 'team-taught'; maybe the major or minor should be declared during the students' second year.

S. Purdy

Another issue that the sub-committee will look at (which arose after reviewing the draft sustainability course inventory mentioned below) is looking at what it would take to emulate UBC regarding the sustainability classification system they use for all courses. On their course calendar, they place one to three different colour dots next to each course to indicate the sustainability content of the course. UBC also includes, when appropriate, sustainability in each course's Learning Outcome write-up.

TRU sustainability course inventory

J. Gordon reported that he and staff members in his office have compiled a draft sustainability course inventory. The inventory tracks two types of courses: those with sustainability 'focused' content and those with sustainability 'related' content. The inventory covers TRU Kamloops campus courses and Open Learning courses.

http://www.tru.ca/_shared/assets/Sustainability_Courses_201433825.pdf

THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY
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HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p><u>Possibility of changing scope and name of EAC to the TRU Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) (working title)</u></p> <p>S. Blackford noticed that the definition of sustainability was different in the draft Terms of Reference for the SAC compared to the one used in the TRU Environmental Policy. Is this an issue?</p> <p>S. Purdy lead a discussion around the circulated second draft of Terms of Reference for the proposed new SAC. She will take all of the relevant points brought up in the discussion and include them in a third draft which she will circulate prior to the next EAC meeting on Jan 7. At the Jan 7 meeting, the T of R will be voted on. If changes to the EAC's name and/or scope are voted on for approval, then these will need to go before the Senate for its approval.</p>	S. Purdy
	<p><u>Grasslands Education Kiosk behind Warehouse –</u> Tabled due to J. Gudjonson's absence.</p>	
	<p><u>Initiative to phase out desk-top printers</u></p> <p>Although this topic was tabled due to J. Gudjonson's absence, here are the salient points that arose from the discussion. Several EAC members thought the issue would carry more weight if it addressed all important points and came from an executive office, like Matt Milovick's. Issues to do with colour copying, and printing sensitive documents need to be addressed. What about if a multi-use printer is locked up after hours or if it breaks? How will printing take place then? J. Gudjonson will report back at February 11 EAC meeting.</p>	J. Gudjonson
	<p><u>Update on CommUnity Innovation Lab, sustainability conference and 'Village' (Feb 3-5, 2015 at the CAC).</u> Discussion lead by S. Purdy and J. Gordon. E. Bourassa will draft an email informing TRU faculty about the event and asking them to get involved as 'table topic' leaders. J. Gordon will report back on when registration link is ready.</p>	E. Bourassa J. Gordon
REPORT OF COMMITTEES	None.	

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT	Tabled due to J. Gudjonson's absence.	
NEW BUSINESS	<p><u>Possible reduction in electric use</u> - E. Bourassa asked the committee about the power usage of the electric gates for staff parking lots. L. Tabata informed everyone that although the capital costs for the installation of the gates was note-worthy their electricity needs are marginal. He also noted that they serve the purpose they were intended to serve, which is to ensure that there are ample parking spots for staff. After 5 PM and on weekends, the gates are always open.</p> <p><u>Update on TRU Sustainability Grant Fund</u> – J. Gordon reported that the SGF received nine pre-proposals, but that he and the other staff members in the office are busy with a big report and so have not been able to return the comments on the pre-proposals to the proponents. They will do this asap. Although the deadline for pre-proposals is closed, there is still an opportunity for faculty and students to request funding from the SGF specifically for sustainability-related research projects. This is a new program of the SGF and makes \$10,000 available to any one faculty member, and two \$5000 awards to any two students (\$5000 each).</p> <p><u>Report on new Solar PV system on CAC roof</u> – N. Yao reported that the new 10 kilowatt system using 40 solar photovoltaic panels was installed on the roof of the CAC and is now fully operational and producing electricity for the Independent Centre. The system is tied-into the grid and so any excess power will go into the grid.</p>	
	None	
CORRESPONDENCE	January 7, 2015 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM in the TRUSU Boardroom.	
NEXT MEETING		
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.	

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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