

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

May 6, 2015

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
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>Present:</b>	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of Legal Counsel, which John Sparks is head of); Emma Bourassa; Michele Harrison; Jim Gudjonson; Hoberly Hove; Dale Parkes; Marjorie Serack; Peter Tsigaris; Wayne Singular;	
<b>Participating by Teleconference:</b>	None	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Tom Dickinson; Crystal Huscroft; Stacey Jyrkkanen; Linda Komori; Sharman Learie; Sofia Perkins-Taal; Susan Purdy (Chair); Glenn Read; Les Tabata; Robert Wisla	
<b>Guests:</b>	none	
<b>Others:</b>	James Gordon (note-taker; TRU Sustainability Office (TRUSO)); Natalie Yao (TRUSO)	
<b>CALL TO ORDER &amp; WELCOMES</b>	<i>Due to the Chairperson, Susan Purdy, being away, the Vice-Chair, Wayne Singular, ran the meeting. The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 4:10 pm by the Chair.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<i>On motion duly made by P. Tsigaris and seconded by H. Hove, it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	<u>Minutes of April 1, 2015</u> <i>On motion duly made by P. Tsigaris and seconded by W. Singular, it was RESOLVED to approve the Minutes as distributed.</i>	
<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	None.	
<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b>	<u>On work of sub-committee looking at issues to do with entrenching and infusing sustainability into TRU curriculum</u>	

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This item was not discussed.

**Possibility of changing scope and name of EAC to the TRU Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) (working title)**

S. Blackford reported on a discussion he had with S. Purdy and W. Singular, who both attended a Senate Steering Committee meeting where the new terms of reference (ToR) for the proposed SAC were discussed.

- Committee members were nervous about the EAC straying too far from its ‘advisory’ role into more of an ‘action’ role. It is important to show the Steering Committee the intended changes to the ToR in a red-lined (Track Changes) version, so it is clear what we already have in our ToR.
- There is also still a worry that deviating from the boundaries of ‘environmental’ to ‘sustainability’ – which encompasses simultaneous attention to environmental, social and economic matters – will be problematic since it could greatly expand the scope of the committee.
- Comparing the original EAC ToR with the latest track-changes version of the SAC ToR that the Senate Steering Committee changed would provide useful insight into their concerns (the Senate Steering Committee might need to be contacted to retrieve said copy).
- Addressing the concerns of the Senate Steering Committee before approaching the Board about pursuing the move to the SAC is likely prudent. The Board meets next in September.

**Paper Cut Challenge**

Nothing to report.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

None.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

J. Gudjonson reported on the following:

- a) The province’s Carbon Neutral Capital Project’s fund (CNCP)

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helped fund two new high-efficiency boilers in the Science building and Old Main.

- b) New funding programs with BC Hydro and Fortis Gas will come on board in early winter of 2016.
- c) 450 street and parking lights around the Kamloops campus will be converted to LED 'smart' light technology, resulting in a \$30,000 savings, which will go back into the TRU Revolving Fund (now valued at roughly \$300,000).
- d) A new wood bio-mass mini district energy system will, in close partnership with the Williams Lake (WL) school district, be built this fall, and will heat most of the TRU WL campus, along with some school district buildings. A test of a similar system for the forthcoming Trades building expansion on the Kamloops campus will also take place.
- e) TRU will soon purchase 10 % of the natural gas that it uses as 'renewable natural gas'; through the Fortis Gas program.
- f) TRUSU will soon start buying electricity from Bullfrog Power.
- g) New indoor (70), outdoor (10), and specialty coffee shop (6) zero waste stations will be installed around campus over the next few weeks.
- h) The CAC is receiving new in-vessel composter within the next month (similar to the one in Culinary Arts) to process all of its organic food waste.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Due to time challenges faced by EAC members Glenn Read and Warren Asuchak, who cannot attend the EAC meetings at the current time, the committee was asked to consider their request: that meetings take place—either always or at least occasionally—during lunch-time; and they would be willing to offer a catered lunch for all EAC members. The consensus of the committee was positive, and so a time of 12:30 to 1:30/2:00 on June 3 was confirmed.

E. Bourassa suggested that better cigarette butt ashtrays might alleviate some of the butt litter currently found near the smoking huts, and offer better protection from fire hazards. Large ashtrays that are filled with water were discussed, and she will report back on these at the next meeting. On a related note, it was questioned if more huts will be built?

E. Bourassa

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**CORRESPONDENCE** None.

**NEXT MEETING** June 3, 2015 from 12:30 to 1:30/2:00 PM in the TRUSU Boardroom.  
Lunch will be catered.  
W. Singular will miss this meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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