

Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 1, 2017

Committee meeting held in the Independent Centre Boardroom, Thompson Rivers University,
Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:00 PM.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE (there is one Board appointed vacancy, and two faculty vacancies)		
Present:	Scott Blackford (designate from TRU office of General Counsel); Tom Dickinson; Karl Fultz; Jim Gudjonson; Rory McKerchar; Michael Mehta; Aanchal Mogla; Susan Purdy; Glenn Read; Amie Schellenberg; Peter Tsigaris	
Participating by Teleconference:	None.	
Regrets:	Warren Asuchak; Courtney Mason; Paul Michel; Marjorie Serack; Guenter Weckerle (new member)	
Guests:	none	
Others:	James Gordon (note-taker; TRU Sustainability Office (TRUSO))	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	<i>The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:05 pm by the interim Chair, Susan. This committee has a new board appointed member from Williams Lake. Guenter Weckerle could not be present via conference call for this meeting but James is in communication with him about doing so for future meetings.</i>	James
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<i>Two new items were added: report on recent In-Service Day, and report on new parking plan. On motion duly made by Tom, seconded by Michael, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed, along with the two new additions.</i>	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	<i>Minutes of January 11, 2017. On motion duly made by Amie, seconded by Karl, and approved by all other members it was RESOLVED to approve these Minutes. February 1, 2017. Since there was no quorum at this meeting, it was resolved by all present to store these 'Meeting Notes' in the Notes file on the ESAC Sharepoint site.</i>	James
PRESENTATIONS	TRU staff In-Service Day. Jim reported that there was approximately 500 people present for the February 22 event, the	

theme of which was Sustainability. Various ESAC members who were present for the event said the following: there was strong engagement; it was well attended; there were excellent presentations; and the keynote speaker was very enlightening.

**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM MINUTES**

Chairperson and Vice-Chair positions need filling. Scott reported that all members of the ESAC, whether ex officio or otherwise, can become the Chairperson or Vice Chair. Since no one stepped forward to express interest in either the positions positions, Amie agreed to be the interim Chairperson and Scott agreed to be the Vice Chair, but both only until September. Thanks Amie and Scott! James reported that based on the most recent doodle poll results regarding ESAC meeting times, Wednesday noon to 1:30 was still preferred my most.

Ensuring proper process for awarding Environmental

Sustainability Achievement Award – Scott reported that he will look further into the steps to award this faculty/staff \$1000 award to a student scholarship. He will consider Peter’s proposal, the TRU Employee Recognition Policy, as well as how the Office of the President and Vice Presidents (PVP) wants to proceed. He will report back at the next meeting. The final process will not be ready for this spring’s awards

Scott

TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee.

Susan, interim Chair, reported that the sub-committee is looking at trying to bring in somebody from McEwen University in Edmonton to do a workshop on embedding sustainability into their courses.

Susan

Updates to new ESAC Sharepoint site - James reported that the [ESAC Sharepoint](#) linking issue is fixed, so when Minutes or Agendas are clicked on it will go to the [ESAC website](#). He will finish getting Sharepoint access to the ESAC students.

James

Discuss joining Canadian Universities Environmental Network.

Tom reported that the Science Department will pay the \$350 membership fee this year. Susan will coordinate with the other TRU deans to rotate the payment for future years. Susan is going to Whitehorse for the annual Network conference this May.

Susan

Administration of the Sustainability Grant Fund. This item is tabled since Crystal, who raised it, is no longer sitting on the ESAC.

Regarding Crystal, Susan agreed to contact her about any outstanding issues she has with the ESAC so they are not dropped.

Susan

Food trucks & waste/composting food from retailers on campus.

Glenn reported on the following

- MacLeod's By-Products from Armstrong collects all of the used cooking oil. He will follow-up with them about what it is used for, and, for James' purposes, any weights and/or volumes when it is collected.
- He talked to Wes from the Kamloops Food Bank about collecting edible unwanted food from TRU and he was informed that the food bank really only collects from grocery stores for the simple reason that most other types of food outlets don't have the volume needed to make it worth the effort of the food bank to collect it.
- He mentioned that all wrapped and/or packaged foods that are currently going into the landfill from food outlet staff will now be unwrapped/unpackaged and put into compost bins.
- He is in discussion with food truck operators about the possibility of operating at TRU. Michael raised the issue of avoiding trucks that pollute excessively (either air pollution or solid waste), for instance those with wood fire ovens, diesel generators, or that produce excessive waste of other types.

**Glenn
Glenn**

Rory raised the issue of the possibility of buying 'past due' food and Glenn will look into this.

Glenn

Aanchal reported that according to the BC Centre for Disease Control and Interior Health, unwanted food can be given away so long as it's kept at the appropriate cold temperature.

**REPORT OF
COMMITTEES**

None.

**DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

Jim reported on the following regarding the business of the Sustainability Office:

- Four new fat-tire mountain bikes were acquired, and staff/faculty or students are welcome to borrow them for up to 6 days at a time as soon as the borrowing process is finalized.

- A new waste transfer station will be built near the upper daycare. It will include balers for paper and cardboard (in order to sell them on the open market), a crusher for aluminum cans, and a place to sort waste. There will also be a separate building near the CAC to house one of the existing composters.
- The Zipcar program, with two cars, continues to increase in ridership.
- The Continuous Optimization Energy Program will help with the reduction of roughly another 10% of campus energy once several new boilers and rooftop heat pumps are installed.
- Further energy savings will be realized with the installation of LED lights at the Williams Lake campus, as well as the Open Learning and Trades buildings.
- The Williams Lake biomass boiler has already saved a minimum of 2000 GJ of energy compared to when it was using natural gas.
- Various energy components will be upgraded at both New Rez and McGill Rez.

NEW BUSINESS

Recruiting members for the ESAC. Due to the ‘buzz’ around Sustainability at TRU right now, and since quorum for the ESAC remains an issue, Karl opened up the discussion about recruiting members for the ESAC. It was identified that the application process is a bit cumbersome, and several sitting members had to wait for many months before getting on the committee. Scott agreed to look into the process and report back. Karl mentioned that Law faculty member Clare Sladden expressed a lot of interest in TRU sustainability recently through emails on the staff email list, and that perhaps someone from this committee could reach out to her to see if she’s interested in joining the ESAC. Aanchal agreed to do that.

Scott

Aanchal

New TRU Parking Plan. Since neither Warren nor Jim were present to discuss the new parking plan, this item was tabled.

Warren or Jim

CORRESPONDENCE None.

NEXT MEETING April 5, 2017. Noon to 1:30 in the Independent Centre Boardroom.

ADJOURNMENT 1:35 PM.

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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