



**Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

January 8, 2020

Committee meeting held in the TRU Student Union Boardroom,  
Thompson Rivers University  
Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:00 PM. Lunch provided.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>Present:</b>	Scott Blackford, Tom Dickinson (Vice Chair), Karl Fultz (Chair), Jim Gudjonson, Pete Hrkac, Carolyn Ives, Tina Matthew, Paul Michel, Christine Miller, Bala Nikku, Jessica Papineau, Dev Shah.	
<b>Participating by Teleconference:</b>	none	
<b>Absent:</b>	none	
<b>Regrets:</b>	Raikhan Amanzholova, Warren Asuchak, Jana Noskova, Dipesh Prema, Nicole Schabus, Peter Tsigaris.	
<b>Admin Support:</b>	James Gordon and Canyon Sinclair	
<b>Guests:</b>	none	
<b>Others:</b>	Alana Hoare (Office of Quality Assurance) and Natalie Yao (Sustainability Office)	
<b>Vacancies:</b>	1 faculty member	
<b>CALL TO ORDER &amp; WELCOMES</b>	The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:05 pm by the Chair, Karl Fultz, who welcomed everyone back.	
<b>TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	Paul gave the territorial acknowledgement.	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	On <b>MOTION</b> duly made it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the agenda as distributed.	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	Minutes of December 4 were accepted.	

**PRESENTATIONS** Paul presented on the plans for a conference he and Tina Matthew are planning in the Spring that will touch on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. He also spoke in general about the progress that has been achieved on the rights of indigenous people, as well as the work that still needs to take place on this issue.

**BUSINESS  
ARISING FROM  
MINUTES**

6a) Regarding any news from the ESAC motion at the December meeting to recommend to the TRU Board of Governors and members of the TRU Senate that they sign a 'climate emergency letter' (attached; and further information here: <https://www.sdgaccord.org/climateletter>), Karl reported that he met with three members of TRUSU (Nathan Lane (Executive Director), Sierra Rae (President, University Affairs Committee) and Dev Shah (student representative for ESAC)) and they were all supportive of the motion. Karl and Dev will formally ask TRUSU to support the motion this Monday. Once TRUSU's support is confirmed, Karl, Dev and Jim will seek support of the motion at the February 24 TRU Board of Governors' meeting. If the timing is too tight to get on the agenda for this meeting, then they will attempt to get on the March meeting agenda.

**Karl, Dev**

**Karl, Dev,  
Jim**

6b) Tom reported on his discussion with the Dean's Council about whether they would support further discussion on the ESAC motion to create a team-taught interdisciplinary sustainability course that would help students meet the new and upcoming General Education requirements. He mentioned that the deans have not met since the last ESAC meeting but that his talks with individual deans indicate that there is support for this idea. He will report back to the ESAC on this issue after the next Dean's Council meeting.

**Tom**

6c) Scott and James reported on progress to get the word out about seeking nominations for both the staff and student Environmental Sustainability Achievement Awards in the new year. James said that promotions for this would include

**James**

campus TV monitors, faculty and staff list-serves, and social media. Nominations are due Feb 1 so that there they can be finalized at the Feb 5 ESAC meeting. Jim's email, [jgudjonson@tru.ca](mailto:jgudjonson@tru.ca), is listed on all promotional material as the one email to send nominations to. It was also agreed by all present that the \$1000 staff/faculty award should be spend within 12 months unless permission is granted by the ESAC to provide an extension.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

7a) TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-committee. Committee report by Carolyn: The sub-committee made a small change to their terms of reference as the original idea for a sustainable interdisciplinary course may be challenging to achieve. With these changes and a broader range of information to be considered in the new course, a temporary increase in membership is likely necessary. The working title for the course is '*Indigenous Interdisciplinary Sustainability*'. Furthermore, the new course will need dean approval, ideally from the dean of the faculty that will house the new course. A motion was passed for committee permission to start the process of course creation. Tom and Tina said they will start this process.

**Tom, Tina**

7b) Awards Sub-Committee. Environmental Sustainability Achievement Awards for 2020. Committee report by Scott, Chair. See 6c.

7.c) ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee. Committee report by James, Chair. A new task force will be set-up to eliminate single-use items, especially plastic ones, around the campus. Jim recommended the following: that solid research precede any action to remove items; have ample discussions with all stake-holders in order to get everyone on-side; come up with good alternatives to what is being taken away; provide good examples of other institutions of how these alternatives are working. Also, plans are moving ahead to install two new cigarette butt waste receptacles (Ballot Boxes).

**DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT**

8) Jim reported on the following:

- The theme for the ISCN (International Sustainable Campus Network) conference in June in Lausanne Switzerland is ACCELERATING CLIMATE ACTION AND SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION. It will be happening between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of June.
- Regarding solar initiatives on our campuses: All solar panels for the nursing building arrived recently. All panels necessary for the Williams Lake campus are now on the roof. 213 kW of solar will be fired up in the next few months.
- Notice of intent to use Creative Energy to de-carbonize and electrify the campus has been posted. TCC and the Reach are included. If we do not receive any interest from other organizations, we will proceed with Creative Energy.
- We are launching a new transit program. One initiative is to get a 'sustainable bus pass' for faculty which will be free if they commute via bike regularly at certain times of year.
- A new survey is coming to find out how we can reduce SOV rates on campus.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

February 5, 2020; 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm in the TRUSU Lecture Hall. Lunch will be served.

**ADJOURNMENT**

1:00 pm.

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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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