



Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 3, 2020

Due to Covid19, the committee meeting was held virtually using MS Teams
Thompson Rivers University
Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 12:00 PM

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
ATTENDANCE		
Present:	Scott Blackford, Karl Fultz (Chair), Jim Gudjonson, Robyn Hollas, Pete Hrkac, Carolyn Ives, Tina Matthew, Christine Miller, Jana Noskova, Meng Sun, Peter Tsigaris	
Participating by Teleconference:	none	
Absent:	Warren Asuchak	
Regrets:	Raikhan Amanzholova, Tom Dickinson (Vice Chair), Bala Nikku, Dipesh Prema, Dev Shah, Nicole Schabus	
Admin Support:	James Gordon	
Guests:	none	
Others:	Alana Hoare (Office of Quality Assurance), Natalie Yao (Sustainability)	
Vacancies:	none	
CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMES	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, in particular new ESAC member, Meng Sun, who is a faculty member from SoBE. A round of introductions by everyone on the call then took place.	
TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	Karl Fultz gave the territorial acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	Minutes of May 6 were accepted.	

PRESENTATIONS None

**BUSINESS
ARISING FROM
MINUTES**

6a. Regarding the matter of the Board of Governors agreeing that TRU should sign the climate emergency letter (<https://www.sdgaccord.org/climateletter>), Karl reported that this issue is tabled.

6 b). Tom was not present to report on this.

6c. James reported that in regards to discussions with TRUSU about setting waste parameters so that vendors at the Back-To-School BBQ (TRU's largest event) won't bring so many single-use items that need disposing of, he sent a second email to Nathan Lane but has had no response. He will follow up with a phone call. The broader discussion with members of ESAC surrounded the fact that it's unlikely that there will be such an event due to Covid-19. Events on campus may resume in December.

James

**REPORT OF
COMMITTEES**

7a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee. Committee report by Carolyn: The sub-committee will be meeting on June 4 to discuss the possibility of a team-taught interdisciplinary sustainability course (the working title of which is 'Indigenous Interdisciplinary Sustainability') that would help students meet the new and upcoming General Education requirements. With a new Dean of Science beginning in August, the sub-committee will investigate if the Faculty of Science is still willing to house this course or if there are other faculties or schools wishing to be involved. Christine said she will join this committee. Thanks! She was recently given a new role as the Open Educational Resource Development Grant Project Coordinator.

7b). Awards Sub-committee. Michael Mehta, Chair, reported to James that he has nothing to report on except that he will reach out to Karl and Scott (former Chair) to get their thoughts on steps to move matters forward for the 2020-2021 year.

Michael

7c). ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee. Committee report by James, Chair. A virtual meeting was attempted but only one member could attend, so another meeting will attempted in June.

James

**DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

Standing report on note-worthy energy projects and plans.

Jim reported on the following:

- Phase 1 of the new electrification project (Science, Reach, TCC, Old Main) is moving ahead, and could see a reduction in GHG emissions of up to 90%.
- Other energy projects thjat Fortis is helping with are moving ahead.
- Solar arrays on new Nursing building and on the Williams Lake campus are now working.
- Several natural gas boilers are being decommissioned in favour of electric replacements.
- Tabled. No further info on the following: TRU signing the pledge for the Post Landfill Action Network (PLAN) Break Free From Plastic Pledge.(<https://www.waste360.com/plastics/plan-unveils-break-free-plastics-campus-pledge>). Jim will talk with Scott about legal issues re TRU signing it.

Jim

NEW BUSINESS

Alana said that due to Covid-19, the working group can have an extension from June 30 to July 24 to get the Sustainability section of the NWCCU emailed to her.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

NEXT MEETING

September 9, 2020 - 12:00 to 1:30 pm— Virtual via MS Teams or in-person; this will be determined at a later time.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 1:05pm

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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