



**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

December 6, 2023

Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, held via MS Teams, at  
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>Present (voting):</b>	Catherine Tatarniuk (Vice-Chair), Brad Harasymchuk (Chair), Bridget Chandakasarira, John Church, Kai Bauman, Poonam Poonam, Shelley Church, Vernie Clement, James Gordon, Robyn Hollas, Heather MacLeod	
<b>Present (non-voting):</b>	Anna Rogers, Carolyn Ives, Pete Arkesteyn, Natalie Yao	
<b>Guests:</b>	Spencer Nevacshonoff	
<b>Regrets (voting):</b>	Christine Adam, Elder Mike Arnouse, Maria Buff, Scott Blackford, Warren Asuchak	
<b>Regrets (non-voting):</b>	Sierra Rae	
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Lora Sartori	
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Catherine Tatarniuk in the Chair. The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, started at 12:02 p.m.	
<b>WELCOME &amp; Territorial Acknowledgement</b>	Catherine conducted the Territorial Acknowledgement.  Brief round of introductions.	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA &amp; MINUTES</b>	The December 6, 2023 Agenda was unanimously adopted as presented (Shelley Church motion/James Gordon 2 <sup>nd</sup> ).  The November 1, 2023 Minutes were adopted as presented (Heather McLeod motion/Kai Bauman 2 <sup>nd</sup> ). One abstention James Gordon.	

**MOTIONS**

**a. Biodiversity Subcommittee ToR for ESAC Approval – Shelley Church**



ToR Biodiversity  
Sub Committee appi

**Motion to approve the Biodiversity Subcommittee Terms of Reference as presented.** (Shelley Church motion/ James Gordon 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Motion passed.

**b. Zero-Waste Subcommittee ToR for ESAC Approval – Anna Rogers**



Terms of Reference  
- 2023.docx

**Motion to approve the Zero Waste Subcommittee Terms of Reference as presented.** (James Gordon motion/ Kai Bauman 2<sup>nd</sup>)

Motion passed.

Anna asked to make sure the ToRs are PDF'd before they are posted online.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**a. None**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

**a. None**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**a. Awards Sub-Committee – Report by Brad Harasymchuk**

Awards website has been updated. At the January ESAC meeting, will discuss the new plan to advertise the Awards.

James will be reaching out to the student rep about doing short videos to showcase the awards.

**b. ESAC Zero Waste Sub-Committee – Anna Rogers**

The part-time position between Facilities and Sustainability has ended which was helping with the ongoing bin maintenance.

BOMA Best Waste Audit has now been conducted at Trades, Science and 5 of the houses.

Vet Tech started a compost service for animal food and dog feces. Spa Hills is our composter and has been approved to compost the dog feces. There are no health concerns with this waste.

TRU is using Textbooks for Change to recycle textbooks. The City is now recycling books through Planet Earth. Planet Earth will add a pilot collection at TRU.

East Village new residence – 50 new students moved in on November 15, 2023. New Garbage compound design is a success – organics, recycling, cardboard and garbage.

On the horizon, City of Kamloops is working on diverting drywall. City is identifying collection points.

**c. ESAC Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee.**  
Report by James Gordon, Chair.

Creating a new Sustainable Purchasing Policy. Draft will be distributed to internal stakeholders hopefully by Christmas.

TRU is a member of the BCSPI, [British Columbia Social Procurement Initiative](#). TRU Faculty and Staff can attend their workshops. If you are interested in joining, please contact Shannon Mazereeuw in Purchasing at [smazereeuw@tru.ca](mailto:smazereeuw@tru.ca).

A student did research for the EDI purchasing framework and highlighted a few Canadian Universities with frameworks in order to help with creating a framework at TRU.

Wanting to create a video series highlighting sustainable purchasing.

**d. ESAC Core Theme Planning Committee – James Gordon**

As Alana Hoare is no longer in this role, Core Theme Planning is in a state of transition. We will continue to report on the 6 indicators which we have done for past years. We have an end of June deadline.

**e. ESAC Biodiversity Sub-Committee – Report by James Gordon**

Thanks for passing the ToRs.

James spoke with Garry Feary re: Bird Strike. Clock Tower is 95% done. CAC complete. All but one wall of the HOL complete. Next OM, AE and one end of Science. James will ask Warren for further funding.

Will be creating a process to collect data about bird strikes.

Hawk silhouettes are a good alternative if you don't have bird strike film.

Working on developing a Tree App. Will start Beta testing in the spring.

Will be starting to work on compiling existing Biodiversity Inventories.

Plan a BioBlitz to use the iNaturalist App. TRU is now a member of the [Campus Biodiversity Network](#)

Applying to be a [Bee City Campus](#). Application is ready, need to get some funding.

**f. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-Committee – Carolyn Ives**

Carolyn shared there will be a meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023 for a planning session to determine our upcoming projects for the next term, year, and the next 2-3 years.

If you have an interest in Sustainability in the Curriculum, email Carolyn at [cives@tru.ca](mailto:cives@tru.ca) and you will get an invite to the December 11, 2023 meeting.

**MANAGER OF  
SUSTAINABILITY  
PROGRAMS  
REPORT**

**Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs**

December 8 – Active Transportation Engagement Group – James will attend the meeting.

Please take a moment to fill out the [Transportation Survey](#)

James is going to approach the City of Kamloops regarding [LiME](#) to see if they are interested in this initiative. TRU cannot proceed without the City being onboard.

The Sustainability Office is hiring an Energy and Transportation Specialist.

From February 22 - 24, 2024 TRU will be hosting a three-day [Livable Cities and Collaborative Communities Conference](#)

The Facilities Astro Mini Van conversion from gas to electric is underway by the Trades Department.

Karl Fultz, Michael Mehta and Sustainability gave out 12 air purifiers to various organizations in Kamloops such as Senior Homes and the Big Little Science Centre.

RideShare – starting up this carpooling initiative again. Goal is to have 500 people sign up by the end of April. On-going project.

**ENERGY  
PROJECTS REPORT**

**Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Manager**

Working on ISO 50001 Project. Have an [TRU ISO 50001](#) page on the Sustainability website.

Getting all TRU Energy Metering online.

Wrapped up BC Hydro and Fortis Projects.

Trying hard to finish lighting upgrade project by the end of the fiscal year.

**CAMPUS  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
REPORT**

**Report by Maria Buff, Director of Capital Projects**

No Report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. SDG Week Canada 2024, March 4 – 8, 2024 – James Gordon**

James gave an overview of the 2023 SDG Week at TRU.

James will start recruiting in January for people to help for the 2024 event.

**b. Possible name change for the *TRU Environmental Policy* – James Gordon**

Current policy was adopted in 2012. The policy is being updated. Getting close to the final stages.

Matt Milovic suggested *TRU Environmental Stewardship Policy*.

If anyone has any suggestions or comments regarding the name change, let James know.

**OTHER  
DISCUSSION:**

Brad wanted to thank Chris Adam who was the Dean Representative for the ESAC Committee. The December meeting was Chris' last meeting.

**Action Item: Lora to contact Angela Biro to get a new Dean Representative for the Committee.**

Brad and Poonam are working towards co-chairing the ESAC meetings.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

January 3, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.