

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday 27 October, 2010

Time: 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

NOTES

Place: OL 127

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Present:**

R. Reid; J. Van Hamme; P. Powers; D. Parkes; P. Tsigaris; D. Crespin-Mueller; B. Klohn; S. Purdy; L. Tabata; T. Owen; J. Murray; B. Christianson; J. Sparks;

**Regrets:** G. Hayes; H. Parsons; D. Parkes

**Notetaker:** S. Jackson

**Guests:** K. Smith; K. Bronnimann - TRUSU

**1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

J. Murray in the Chair. The meeting was called to order at 4:36 pm.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

TRU ECO overview was added to the Agenda under “Any Other Business”. **On motion duly made, it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as amended.**

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**On motion duly made, it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes as circulated.**

**4. MATTERS ARISING**

None.

**5. CEI ARCHITECTURE – T. OWEN**

CEI Architecture is an architectural company in Kelowna, involved in Canada’s first green living building in Penticton (a step above LEAD). CEI Architecture would like to come and do a presentation for the EAC, but as this has not been requested by the committee and it does not serve any immediate purpose, it was agreed to respectfully decline. The contact details will be given to B. Klohn and TRUSU can proceed with this if they think it is appropriate.

*B. Klohn*

## 6. COCA-COLA/NESTLE – T. OWEN

A letter has been received from Nestle, which R. Barnsley has responded to. Nestle may produce a list of companies/institutions that have not banned bottled water; it would not be desirable for TRU to be on such a list. T. Owen has met with the Head of Nestle, who said he would be willing to come and discuss alternatives to banning bottled water. D. Crespin-Mueller suggested inviting the Head of Nestle to speak at our Speaker Series, to inform the internal community on how we want to move. Internally, we need to decide if we're going to phase bottled water out. We already have water stations, and we are offering water alternatives.

K. Smith, TRUSU, talked about a national, provincial and local campaign that TRUSU was involved in to ban bottled water. Schools in Manitoba and the Maritimes have committed to ban bottled water. K. Smith went on to talk about local initiatives, and said someone from the local campaign could do a presentation for the EAC. R. Reid indicated she would welcome such a presentation.

**On motion duly made, it was *RESOLVED* to invite a representative from Coca-Cola to address the committee, along with any other companies the EAC deemed appropriate.** *T. Owen*

**On motion duly made, it was *RESOLVED* to invite TRUSU to do a presentation to the EAC on what they're doing to ban bottled water.** *B. Klohn*

## 7. ELECTION OF CHAIR

**On motion duly made, it was *RESOLVED* to elect Peter Tsigaris as Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.** *P. Tsigaris*

**On motion duly made, it was *RESOLVED* to elect Tom Dickinson as Vice-Chair of the Environmental Advisory Committee.** *T. Dickinson*

## 8. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – T. OWEN

T. Owen reported that he is currently working on the following:

### **Speaker Series:**

- Peter Victor, economist, author of *Managing Without Growth*.
- Abram Lazar, President, Canadian Forest Products Institute and an NGO representative discussing the joint process to agree to a Canadian cutting strategy, agreed in principle, date to be determined.
- Steve Mannel, Director of the College of Sustainability at Dalhousie University.
- James Hoggan, Chair, Suzuki Foundation, author *Climate Cover Up*.

**Conferences:**

- Attended AASHE annual conference in Denver. Scope was overwhelming, but T. Owen will be pursuing, in particular, possibility of siting a greenhouse water cleaning project on campus as part of developing a TRU water conservation strategy.
- Attended CBSR Summit in Toronto where met with Canadian President of Coke who expressed willingness to come to TRU to discuss bottled water; and Abram Lazar, President of Forest Industries who has agreed to participate in the Speaker Series.

**Research Assistants:**

- T. Owen will be hiring three research assistants: One to support the EAC, a second to develop revisions to the Purchasing Policy and energy projects, and a third to support a new CURA-based programme to develop research partnerships related to sustainability with private sector partners in Kamloops.

**Internship:**

- The Y has initiated an internship programme and we have applied for one intern.

**TDM:**

- Urban Systems has won the competition for the TDM. Kick-off meeting anticipated for first week of November.

**Sustainability Week:**

- TRUECO are planning a Sustainability Week in November.

**ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

T. Owen reported that he had circulated comments received from J. Sparks, and had incorporated the comments into the latest draft policy. T. Owen proposed that the draft policy be returned to J. Sparks for circulating to the Deans.

R. Reid suggested the committee look at the definition of sustainability. T. Owen pointed out there was urgency to the EAC approving the draft policy, as a review would be done on Friday November 29<sup>th</sup> and T. Owen wanted to say the draft policy is in the process of being reviewed.

J. Sparks suggested that the definition of university community be removed from the policy. This was agreed.

D. Crespin- Mueller asked if there is a mechanism to attach a document to a policy without it being part of the policy. J. Sparks suggested that usually, all definitions are put in the Regulations. The President has jurisdiction over the Regulations and can amend them at any time. The EAC could, therefore, approve the draft policy and

request the President to include the definitions in the Regulations at a later date. T. Dickinson suggested that if the document is circulated to the Deans without definitions, then the Deans would request a definition of sustainability.

**It was moved and seconded to strike the definition section from the policy. The motion was defeated.**

**On motion duly made, it was *RESOLVED* to approve the draft policy and forward it as written (including definitions) to J. Sparks for circulation to the Deans and then Senate, for institutional approval.** *T. Owen*

D. Crespin-Mueller suggested that, knowing the committee has dissention on definitions, work should begin straightaway on the definitions – T. Owen & R. Reid to work on definitions.

#### **9. UNIVERSITY REPORT CARD SUSTAINABILITY RESULTS**

D. Crespin-Mueller did a PowerPoint presentation re. University Report (to be circulated to the committee separately). This is a reflection of students' perception of how we're doing as an institution. We need to work on strategies and initiatives that we have, and communicate them to the student population. This is not a budget or resource issue; it's all about perception.

#### **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Sustainability Week, November 22 – 26, including Black Friday (buy nothing day), speakers on environmental issues, community kitchen, trashion show (recycled fashion show and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> hand clothing), stuff swap.