



## Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

April 7, 2021

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 |
|--|--|--------|
| <b>ATTENDANCE</b>                            |  |        |
| <b>Present:</b>                              | Christine Adam, Christin Chen, Alana Hoare, Robyn Hollas, Pete Hrkac, Carolyn Ives, Tina Matthew, Christine Miller (Chair), Jana Noskova, Nicole Schabus, Meng Sun, Peter Tsigaris, Thamindu Widyaratne, Natalie Yao |        |
| <b>Participating by Teleconference:</b> none |  |        |
| <b>Absent:</b>                               | Bala Nikku   |        |
| <b>Regrets:</b>                              | Warren Asuchak, Scott Blackford, Michael Mehta, Dipesh Prema   |        |
| <b>Admin Support:</b>                        | Rikia Penchuk  |        |
| <b>Guests:</b>                               | Laura Kalina, Bobbi Sasakamoose, Kendra Besanger, Alana Rogers, Stacia Panko   |        |
| <b>Others:</b>                               | Alana Hoare (Office of Quality Assurance) and James Gordon from Sustainability Office.   |        |
| <b>Vacancies:</b> none                       |  |        |
| <b>CALL TO ORDER &amp; WELCOMES</b>          | The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, was called to order at 12:04 pm by the Chair, Christine Miller, who welcomed everyone.  |        |
| <b>TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>           |  |        |
|  | Christine Miller 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.  |        |

**ADOPTION OF  
MINUTES**

Minutes of Mar 3, 2021 were accepted.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- 5a. Presentation of student awards for TRU Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award – Alana Rogers and Stacia Panko.
- b. Presentation by Tina Matthew on community gardens around Kamloops (City of Kamloops and on the grounds of the Skeetchestn Community School). Laura Kalina, Bobbi Sasakamoose, and Kendra Besanger presented, since they have all been a part of a community garden. Kendra shared a PowerPoint of the process of a community garden start to finish on Victoria St downtown. Laura and Bobbi shared a PowerPoint about the Skeetchestn Community School food projects (food forest, operational greenhouse and 12 raised garden beds). All three presenters agreed that partnerships are very important. **Action item:** Add to May Agenda for discussion under business arising.

**Rikia**

**BUSINESS  
ARISING FROM  
MINUTES**

- 6a. Re Climate Emergency Letter (<https://www.sdgaccord.org/climateletter>)
  - i. Update from James. James reported that Marcom posted on The Bulletin about the letter; however, Marcom did not think it was a good idea to post about it again. It is on the Sustainability Office's social media accounts and webpage. There is a Apr 29 event called Changing the Climate on the Climate Emergency Registration and the committee could share the letter there. Event registration is free: <https://kamloopsunited.ca/2021/04/climate-emergency-forum-april-29/>. Christine suggested that the committee put this item aside for now and then talk about it in the fall when everyone is back on campus. Nicole motioned to send a rep from the ESAC committee to share TRU's commitment at

**Christine,  
James,  
Nicole**

the event on Apr 29th. Nicole moved and Carolyn seconded. Motion carried. Either James/Christine/Nicole will attend.

- ii. Update from Thamindu regarding TRUSU and if they have replied. Thamindu reported that there has been no reply, so the item is tabled.

b. Bird Strike film. Update from Warren. James reported on behalf of Warren and plans are moving forward to finish Old Main. James has to confirm what has happened to the Clock Tower.

c. ESAC discussion regarding possible update to Terms of Reference regarding adding two new members for the purposes of making the ESAC more relevant in the community: an Indigenous Community Member and a Community Member at Large. Christine suggested that we add this item for discussion at the May meeting because the committee was running out of time at this meeting. **Action item:** add to May Agenda and attach Terms of Reference to review before meeting.

Rikia

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES

7a. TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum sub-committee report by Christine. Christine reported that there has been some good groups around TRU meeting on the subject. Discussion around which knowledge, skills and attitudes students will leave with after they take the course was discussed. This process should be done at the end of May, and then a course sustainability worksheet will be created.

7b. Awards Sub-committee report by Michael Mehta, Chair. Michael was absent and he did not send anything to report on in his absence.

7c. ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee; report by James, Chair. James reported that the committee is working with Aramark on a plan to get rid of plastic single-use cutlery by September. James also reported that he is in the final stages of getting the TRU Student Sustainability Ambassadors

program up and running; which will help with this and other office initiatives.

7d. ESAC Core Theme Planning sub-committee. Report by Alana Hoare, Chair. Alana reported that the committee is taking a pause while data is collected. Waiting for STARS report to come out to use that data. Core theme workbook due June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

8. Warren Asuchak, Executive Director of Campus Infrastructure and Sustainability  
Standing report on note-worthy energy projects and plans. Update on Low Carbon District Energy System (LCDES).

Matt Milovick, Diego (from Creative Energy), and Warren attended the Kamloops Indian Band Chief and Council Regular Meeting to present the LCDES. This is a requirement of the Utilities Commission Act for Private Utility Provides to provide public consultation. More public consultation will occur over the next few months. Once this is completed, the application will be submitted to the province and a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) will be granted. Next steps will be the detailed design and construction of the LCDES. Realistically, looking at end of 2023 for project completion.

Update on Low Carbon Energy System at Upper College Heights (UCH): Contract was awarded April 1 for phase 1 for the installation of air source heat pumps. Work to commence June.

- a. Natalie reported on energy conservation projects: finishing up hydro and Fortis's projects.
- b. Motion to rename this section to 'Manager and Director Update'. Christine mentioned that a motion may not be needed, but we should check with Scott Blackford.

- c. Update on Trash Bash. James reported that the Trash Bash is 4 days – April 15/16/17/18.
- d. Go By Bike Week starts May 31.
- e. Discussion on Sustainability Purchasing workshops. James asked the committee to think about if their department would like to be a part of the workshops. There will be 8 departments presented to in May.
- f. James reported that Eric Vandermuelen agreed to be a part of a Sustainability Purchasing sub-committee; likely to start by June’s ESAC meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**      9a. Biodiversity subcommittee – Discuss the addition of this subcommittee. The committee will hold off on putting this subcommittee on the website until the Terms of Reference are complete.

**CORRESPONDENCE**      None.

**NEXT MEETING**      May 5, 2021- 12:00 to 1:30 pm—Virtual via MS Teams

**ADJOURNMENT**      Adjourned at 1:30 pm

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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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