



Minutes of the ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

December 4, 2019

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
ATTENDANCE		
Present:	Scott Blackford, Tom Dickinson (Vice Chair), Karl Fultz (Chair), Jim Gudjonson, Pete Hrkac, Carolyn Ives, Tina Matthew Christine Miller, Jana Noskova, Jessica Papineau, Dev Shah, Peter Tsigaris.	
Participating by Teleconference:	none	
Absent:	none	
Regrets:	Raikhan Amanzholova, Warren Asuchak, Bala Nikku, Dipesh Prema, Nicole Schabus	
Admin Support:	James Gordon	
Guests:	none	
Others:	Alana Hoare (Office of Quality Assurance) and Natalie Yao (Sustainability Office)	
Vacancies:	1 faculty member	
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 back.	
TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	Tina gave the territorial acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	On MOTION duly made it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed with one slight change: move one item to the top.	
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	Minutes of November 6 were accepted.	

**BUSINESS
ARISING FROM
MINUTES**

6c) Re letter (attached) from TRU's Paul Michel, Executive Director, Indigenous Education, and Chair, First Nations and Aboriginal Affairs Committee. The letter asks the ESAC to support by **MOTION**, "This ESAC Senate Committee supports and recognizes the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People". Also, to hand out accompanying booklets to all ESAC members. The motion passed. During the discussion, it came up that Paul and Tina are planning a conference in the Spring that will touch on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People. James will ask Paul to speak about this at the January 8 ESAC meeting. Tina also told everyone that she is taking over Paul's position (Executive Director, Office of Indigenous Education) and he is taking on a new role at TRU: Special Advisor to the President on Indigenous Matters.

James

NEW BUSINESS

9a) Karl lead the discussion on the **MOTION** to recommend to TRU's executive administration team that they adopt the new TRU Campus Strategic Sustainability Plan; which covers the Williams Lake campus. The **MOTION** passed. Jim mentioned he send the draft plan to the Board of Governors last Friday and that he will present the plan to the B of G this week.

9b) Karl reported on ESAC Special Meeting on November 20, 2019, where a **MOTION** passed for the ESAC 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 will send the letter to both the Board of Governors and members of Senate. Karl will also follow-up with the TRUSU Executive to find out if they are willing to sign the letter as well.

Karl

PRESENTATIONS

5a) Tom presented findings on the Bird Strike Remediation Project that he and Karl were the project leads on. Student Matt McIsaac did most of the data gathering and coordinated

the installation of the Feather Friendly Window Film on some campus buildings. Results to date are very favourable, and more windows will be covered in the Spring in high impact zones. The following **MOTION** passed: Be it resolved that TRU assess all existing and new buildings for features that might place birds at risk of colliding with windows and that an effort be made to take steps to lessen or eliminate risk where it is greatest, through the use of the most appropriate technologies (e.g., adhesive films, decals, etc).

**BUSINESS
ARISING FROM
MINUTES
(continued)**

6b) Tom, as ESAC JOHS Committee Representative, reported on the issue brought up by the JOHS Committee several months ago of increasing numbers of rats on campus. Tom mentioned that the increased amount of construction on campus has likely disturbed their habitat and due to this, they sometimes seek shelter indoors. He stressed the importance of being vigilant and staying on top of this issue so it doesn't escalate. Any sightings should be reported.

**REPORT OF
COMMITTEES**

7.a) TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-committee. Committee report by Carolyn: The sub-committee hasn't met since our last report to ESAC, but we are planning to meet on December 12. We would like to finalize our terms of reference and possibly revise them to expand the membership to include representation from all faculties and schools, as we may be able to create a team-taught interdisciplinary sustainability course that would help students meet the new and upcoming General Education requirements. If it's the will of the sub-committee that we do this, we will seek additional members to have broad faculty representation. A **MOTION** was put forward to support this initiative and it passed. Tom said he will bring this motion to the Dean's Council for further discussion.

Tom

7b) Awards Sub-Committee. Environmental Sustainability Achievement Awards for 2020 (students x2 and staff/faculty x1) – Committee report by Scott, Chair. Jim committed \$1000

to add to the staff award as a way to entice more nominations. A motion was put forward that the money has to be used in PD or a program that has a connection to sustainability. The motion passed. James and Scott will work together to get the word out about seeking nominations for both the staff and student awards in the new year.

**James &
Scott**

7.c) ESAC Zero Waste sub-committee. Committee report by James, Chair. Plans are moving ahead to install two new cigarette butt waste receptacles (Ballot Boxes). Also discussed at the last meeting was the possibility of faculty members being asked to show at the beginning of semesters some simple and short videos on various zero-waste programs on campus. Dipesh and James are working on this.

**James &
Dipesh**

**DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

8) Jim reported that TRU is embarking on a Low-Carbon study for the campus. The plan in the next 5-7 years is that TRU will produce no carbon. He mentioned that it will take approximately \$17-20 million to totally electrify the campus. The plan is to use third-party contractors to install everything and to create three energy kiosks around campus. In the end, the contractor will fund the whole project and own it, and then sell energy back to TRU. A Notice of Intention for the contract is going out to tender in the next few weeks.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting: January 8, 2020; 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm in the TRUSU boardroom. Lunch will be served.

ADJOURNMENT

1:30 pm.

Signature of Chairperson, Chair

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