



TRU ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR STUDENTS

Terms of Reference 2026

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS: April 14, 2026

Introduction

Many students at Thompson Rivers University are actively engaged in environmental sustainability efforts; creating environmental sustainability initiatives and conducting related research are just a few examples of the commitments to environmental sustainability that students at TRU make. Individuals who are making substantial contributions to environmental sustainability at TRU deserve institutional recognition.

The **Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award for Students** is administered by the TRU Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC). The award will increase awareness of environmental sustainability efforts at TRU. The award recognizes students who do the most to enhance environmental sustainability at TRU and in our communities.

Rationale

This award will help recognize students who do some or all of the following: **conduct research** in the areas of environmental sustainability; participate in the **development of best practices** that support environmental stewardship and sustainability at TRU; **foster environmental literacy** across campus and in their communities; and encourage the **development of partnerships** in support of environmental stewardship and sustainability.

Award

The award will provide to each of two students that are active in environmental sustainability a **plaque in their name and a \$1,000 award**.

Selection Process

The Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC), which reports jointly to the TRU Board and the Senate, will select a recipient of the **Environmental Sustainability Achievement Award for Students**.

ESAC will grant the award based on the following:

1. All full and part-time students are eligible for this award.
2. The awards committee will issue calls for nominations in winter each year with a stated deadline. Deadlines may be extended to encourage applications. The call will go out to all TRU faculty members, staff, and students via the wide variety of communication

channels at TRU.

3. At least one nominator must sign each nomination. Nominations must include a written submission from the nominator(s) outlining specific reasons for the nomination.
4. Nominations must include (a) A statement prepared by the nominator(s) (500 words or less) describing the nominee's contributions to sustainability and transformation of campus culture. Relevant materials documenting the nominee's sustainability involvement should be included.
5. ESAC's awards subcommittee will make a recommendation to the full committee of ESAC for consideration. The awards subcommittee will meet in spring and recommend to ESAC at the next meeting the successful candidate. Quorum for the committee will be 50% +1 of the committee present, excluding vacancies. If quorum is not achieved, the chair of the committee shall call a special meeting within two days, and a decision will be made at that time based on committee members present.
6. The award will be presented to the recipient at a suitable event prior to the next academic year.
7. Previous award recipients are not eligible for nomination in future years.

Criteria

Full-time and part-time students are eligible to receive the award. Nominees should be recognized by staff, students, or faculty as individuals who significantly help to advance sustainability. The Selection Committee will review nominations and make recommendations regarding the award recipients based on the following criteria:

- **Significance of the contribution** made by the nominee to environmental sustainability.
- The **magnitude of the influence** of the contribution (quantitative measures of the effects of the contribution should be provided when possible).
- The **breadth of the influence** of the contribution (the number of people or groups positively affected).
- **Innovation and originality.**