

**ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

April 2, 2014

Minutes of the Environmental Advisory Committee held in the TRUSU Boardroom,  
Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C., commencing at 4:30 pm.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
<b>ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>Present:</b>	M. Gordon; J. Gudjonson; C. Huscroft; S. Learie; S. Purdy (Chair); J. Sparks; W. Singular	
<b>Participating by Teleconference:</b>	None	
<b>Regrets:</b>	T. Dickinson; M. Harrison (on leave); H. Hove; J. Lam; B. Mackay; D. Parkes; G. Read; L. Tabata	
<b>Guests:</b>	N. Yao (Office of Environment and Sustainability)	
<b>Others:</b>	J. Gordon (note-taker, Office of Environment and Sustainability)	
<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	<i>The meeting being duly constituted for the conduct of business, the Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<i>On motion duly made by C. Huscroft, and seconded by W. Singular, it was RESOLVED to approve the agenda as distributed.</i>	
<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>	<u>Minutes of February 5, 2014</u> <i>On motion duly made by S. Learie, and seconded by C. Huscroft, it was RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the meeting of February 5, 2014 as distributed.</i>	
<b>BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES</b>	<u>Thank-you letter for departing EAC members and discuss need for one new member.</u> S. Purdy sent around two thank-you cards for Dorys Crespin-Mueller and Peter Tsigaris and asked all EAC members to sign them. She will then send them to these two former EAC members, who have contributed greatly to the EAC over the years.	<b>S. Purdy</b>

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	<p>Three current EAC members' terms are almost over and so the Board of Governors will soon vote to extend their terms or not. The three are T. Dickinson, H. Hove and B. Mackay.</p> <p>S. Purdy will send J. Sparks an email asking him to contact the Board to ask them if they can reinstate P. Tsigaris as an EAC member. The Board's original reasons for disallowing him to remain a member were that they wanted greater gender balance within the members of the EAC, and they wanted new members to get involved. J. Sparks will ask Board about getting EAC members reinstated. Unlike some committees, of which membership is greatly sought after, since EAC membership is not like this, he thought that there is a possibility that this might happen.</p> <p>S. Purdy will also ask T. Dickinson and H. Hove if they would like to remain members of the EAC.</p> <p>C. Huscroft would like to know what the process is stay on as an EAC member after one's term is up. S. Purdy to ask about this.</p>	<p>S. Purdy</p> <p>J. Sparks</p> <p>S. Purdy</p> <p>S. Purdy</p>
	<p><b><u>TRU Environmental Achievement Award</u></b> - From feedback S. Purdy received over many weeks, she received the most nominations for Peter Tsigaris. Nominations from members of the EAC included: J. Gordon; J. Gudjonson; C. Huscroft; S. Learie; S. Purdy; and J. Sparks. S. Purdy will contact Arlie Strachan to find out deadline for full nomination package.</p>	<p>S. Purdy</p>
	<p><b><u>Restarting TRU Green Teams</u></b> – J. Gudjonson reported that there are currently 26 zones around campus that have a new green compost bin as part of the composting pilot program currently happening. Almost every bin has one 'composting champion' that has agreed to oversee it in some capacity. Jim thinks that one way to reignite the Green Teams program is to talk to each of these champions to find out if they would be interested in leading a Green Team (specifics of this need to be finalized) in the area of campus that they work in. The Office of Environment and Sustainability (TRUOES) will draft a plan in the next two months to move this initiative forward.</p>	<p>TRUOES staff</p>
	<p><b><u>Paper Use Study and/or Challenge between faculties and/or between institutions</u></b> – C. Huscroft will present a draft plan at next EAC meeting re a structure of a September 'paper reduction</p>	

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challenge' ("The Paper Cut Challenge") between TRU depts. (possible participants are Arts, Sciences and Tourism). TRUOES can present monthly data on TRU paper usage. J. Gordon will report on yearly paper usage decrease over the last three years.

**C. Huscroft**  
**TRUOES staff**  
  
**J. Gordon**

**Battery Recycling Bins** – J. Gordon will do the following:

- Post a link on the EAC site telling of where the fifteen bins are around campus. Please let James know if you think of other good places for the bins and he will ask Facilities to install them. James will also act on the following:
- What the City of Kamloops is doing specifically regarding battery recycling initiatives
- If the province has any legislation around battery recycling
- Talk to the head of the TRU Journalism Dept. about if this topic might be of interest for a story that one of their students might pursue
- Generally doing a better job of promoting the use of the battery recycling bins with, among other things, better and more signage
- Enquire with recycle.com if they offer any sort of battery recycling programs in Kamloops

**J. Gordon**

**Temperature Differences Between Buildings** – After hearing from several members about some of the more acute examples on this issue (wasting energy since heat stays on at night when no one is around; huge fluctuations in heat between buildings and even sometimes between zones within buildings; similar frustrations in summertime but with areas being to cool/cold) J. Gudjonson explained some of the steps being taken to look for solutions to this issue of differences in temperature:

- Heating in buildings is typically done zone by zone, and so the first step to figure out why temperatures vary so much is to assess each zone on a 24hr basis. Once this is known then the 'low-hanging' ones (those with consistent temperature variations) can be easily adjusted. The plan is to turn the average temperature down 1 or 2 degrees. The zones with larger temperature variations are more difficult to adjust and more complex solutions will then have to be

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looked at.

**J. Gudjonson**

- Presently, N. Yao from TRUOES has installed 5 temperature loggers throughout Old Main and HOL over 3 weeks in order to gather data in support of the above mentioned first step. She will report back on progress at the next meeting.

**N. Yao**

**Zero-Waste Initiative** - J. Gordon and J. Gudjonson reported on campus initiatives and TRU's participation in the National Zero Waste Council.

The big initiative that TRUOES is currently working on is developing a new zero-waste plan for TRU. This involves

- Conducting waste audits of the various interior and exterior waste and recycling collection bins/dumpsters in order to find out what current contamination rates are.
- In the next 2-4 weeks rolling-out four new state-of-the-art zero-waste stations in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallway where TRUOES has its office; as well as reconstituting existing multi-holed waste management bin systems around TRU and TRUSU to turn them into zero-waste stations; and finally, the unveiling of two new zero-waste stations in the CAC (one in Rotunda and one in cafeteria) made up by placing together existing bins under a 'Zero-Waste Station' banner and using new signage. Data will be gathered over the next 4-8 weeks to determine contamination rates using all of these different types of bin systems.
- TRU has decided to join the National Zero Waste Council and J. Gudjonson is in the process of formalizing this.

**J. Gudjonson**

**Energy Projects**

- J. Gudjonson reported that the installation of 40 to 60 new solar PV panels on the roof of TRUSU has taken longer than anticipated due to roof engineering issues (what can it hold). The project is still moving ahead, however. Once installed it will power all TRUSU lights. Unused power will flow over automatically to help with the CAC's power needs. The project will have approximately a 15 year pay-back period (this is with no government subsidies).
- Nothing to report on re the installation of a wind turbine test

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	site on the land behind the Warehouse.	
<b>PRESENTATIONS</b>	None	
<b>REPORT OF COMMITTEES</b>	<b><u>EAC sub-committee discussing vision of a 'TRU Sustainability Centre'</u></b> – S. Purdy reported that the sub-committee will reconvene in the Spring and send out a notice to members about this.	<b>S. Purdy</b>
<b>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b>	J. Gudjonson's updates on on-going initiatives. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stantec report: TRUOES is heading-up a revamping of the Campus Sustainability Action Report. This will begin this month.</li> <li>• Next steps re implementation of environmental sustainability elements of the TRU Master Plan. J. Gudjonson will take steps to put together a sub-committee to investigate this issue. On the sub-committee he would like representatives from TRUOES, the EAC, TRU Eco, and maybe others.</li> </ul>	<b>J. Gudjonson</b>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	S. Purdy reported that there has been a delay by the Trades Dept. to move the heavy equipment that has disrupted grasslands behind the Warehouse. They said twice since last Fall that they would move it. She will contact Lindsay in Trades to discuss this once more.	<b>S. Purdy</b>
<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b>	None	
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	May 6, 2014 from 4 to 5:30 PM in Old Main 1662. There will be no meetings in July or August.	
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.	



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*Signature of Chairperson, Chair*

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