



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 27 2025

Minutes of the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee, held via MS Teams, at Thompson Rivers University, Kamloops, B.C.

HEADING	ITEM / DISCUSSION	ACTION
Present (voting):	Catherine Tatarniuk (Co-Chair), Amie Schellenberg, Carmen Love, Hardeep Chahal, Heather MacLeod, James Gordon, John Church, Niki Remesz, Robyn Hollas, Sarah Martin,	
Present (non-voting):	Natalie Yao	
Guests:	Alexandra Turnbull, Sustainability Engagement Specialist, Prism Engineering	
Regrets (voting):	Baldev Pooni, Kai Bauman, Poonam Poonam, Sesathya Nanayakkara, Shelley Church (Co-Chair), Ted Gottfriedson	
Regrets (non-voting):	Anna Rogers	
Recording Secretary:	Teams Recorder/Lora Sartori	
CALL TO ORDER	Catherine Tatarniuk in the Chair. The meeting, being duly constituted for the conduct of business, started at 9:31 a.m.	
WELCOME & Territorial Acknowledgement	Catherine conducted the Territorial Acknowledgement.	
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	<p>The February 27, 2025 Agenda was unanimously adopted with the following amendment:</p> <p>Amend Agenda to include Alex Turnbull, Prism Engineering, Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Motion moved by: Niki Remesz- Seconder: Robyn Hollas- Motion passed.	

The December 10, 2024 Minutes were unanimously adopted as presented.

- Motion Moved by: Carmen Love
- Seconded: Amie Schellenberg
- Motion passed.

PRESENTATIONS

- a. Alexandra Turnbull, Prism Engineering
TRU's Campus Strategic Sustainability Plan (CSSP)
Town Hall, March 6, 2025 10 AM – 2PM
Mountain Room
Drop-in Event

[Prism Engineering Presentation Boards](#)

[Five-year sustainability plan drop-in – TRU Newsroom](#)

MOTIONS

To increase the one-year term of the Chair (co-Chairs) to two years. (See the Terms of Reference under Composition – Chair and vice-chair:

<https://www.tru.ca/senate/committees/esac/composition.html>)

- Want to update the TOR, primarily with minor wording changes. We will send out the proposed TOR after the for the Committees review and discussion at our next ESAC meeting.
- Today we want to discuss and vote on increasing the term of the Chair from one year to two years.

Motion: All in favour of increasing the term of the Chair position from one year to two years.

- Motion moved by Catherine Tatarniuk
- Seconded by James Gordon

Discussion

Motion unanimously passed.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES a. None

NEW BUSINESS a. To better deal with lack of attendance at ESAC – which affects quorum and general lack of participation - discuss the '3 strikes and you're out' rule:

ARTICLE IX: SENATE ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONS

(<https://www.tru.ca/senate/bylaws.html>)

(f) Any elected or appointed Member of Senate or elected or appointed member of a Committee of Senate may be granted a leave of absence by a resolution of the Senate or the Committee, as the case may be, an amount of time less than the remainder of the Member's current term. A Member's term on Senate or Committee of Senate is not extended by the granting of a leave of absence. **Any such Member who is absent for three consecutive meetings, without a resolution of the Senate or the Committee, as the case may be, authorizing that absence shall be deemed to have vacated their seat on the Senate or Committee, as the case may be.** Any Student Member who ceases to be a student in good standing at the University, or any Support Staff Member who ceases to be an employee of the University, or any Faculty Member who ceases to be an employee of the University, or any Appointed Member that ceases to represent their constituency shall be deemed to have vacated their seat on the Senate and any Committee of Senate on which the individual sits. (*For Guidelines Concerning Representation on Senate, see Appendix A*)

- This is a reminder to committee members if you will be absent for three or more consecutive meetings to either step off the committee or apply for a leave of absence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a. Awards Sub-Committee – James Gordon

- Brad would like everyone on the committee to nominate one student for the sustainability award.
- Are Trade students eligible as they are not on campus for an academic semester?

Action Item: James will look into the TOR and get back to Amie regarding Trade Students eligibility.

Action Item: James will share the criteria with the Committee.

Action Item: James will connect with Sierra at TRUSU to see if they have any student recommendations.

b. Zero Waste Sub-Committee – Anna Rogers

- No Report

c. Sustainable Purchasing Sub-Committee – James Gordon

- New TRU Purchasing Policy being finalized by end of March, 2025.
- Purchasing is working with Reeve Consulting to develop the Policy.
- Discussed how TRU can better deal with business air travel. First step would be an audit.

d. Core Theme Planning Sub-Committee – James Gordon

- One of TRU's core values is sustainability.
- We need to report on how we are doing. This is also known as mission fulfillment.
- There is a working group to come up with a new structure.
- Until this is finalized, hopefully by the end of 2025, no need to report on this.

- e. **ESAC Biodiversity Committee** – James Gordon
 - 3rd annual Bird Field School will take place on May 14, 2025.
 - This ties in with bird strikes on campus and looking for hot spots.
 - Suggestion to add an information “plaque” on the windows about the bird strike film.
 - Plaques will be done for the green roof and the window film at the ECEC.
 - Sarah M. says the Trades shops can benefit from the solar window film – the new ITTC building. Amie can be the contact for this item.
- f. **TRU Sustainability Education in the Curriculum Sub-Committee** – James Gordon
 - Committee has been resurrected.
 - Two groups arose: (1) Sustainability Community of Practice and (2) Envirocolab.
 - These groups will create the new subcommittee.

**MANAGER OF
SUSTAINABILITY
PROGRAMS
REPORT**

Report by James Gordon, Manager of Sustainability Programs

- Town Hall for the Campus Strategic Sustainability Plan on March 6, 2025 in the Mountain Room 10 – 2.
- Sustainability Office to hire 3 new people: Someone for the STARS report, replacement for the Energy and Transportation Specialist, Co-Op Student funded by BC Hydro.
- Solar PV project, 500 KW on top of ITTC. Largest project in Kamloops, possibly BC. Congratulations to Natalie for all the work she does to bring these projects to TRU.
- Creating a new Tree App. Need to get photos of the 137 species of trees on campus.
- Campus tree program starts up on April 10, 2025.

**ENERGY
PROJECTS REPORT**

Report by Natalie Yao, Energy Manager

- Concluded the promotion of the Energy Management System Training Campaign. We achieved a completion rate of 25% of the campus who did the training.

- Solar projects are progressing well. 90% complete at ITTC. CAC 15% and AE 10% complete.
- Mid to late April completion date.

CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT

Report by Carmen Love

- Open Learning Building is now called the Administrative Services Building. Rooms with a prefix of AB
- Matt Milovick and his team are on the 4th floor of AB.
- Finance has moved to AB
- 3rd floor is the only outstanding piece.
- Heidi Lawson's group is moving temporarily for one year to the old finance area in OM.
- Future Students will be moving to the HR Building.
- HR will be moving to a hybrid model starting next week and then to ½ of the 3rd floor of AB when renos are complete, approximately 8 weeks.
- TRUFA is moving from House 1 to old Finance in OM.
- Demolitions or moving buildings will be happening in the coming months – House 1 and Future Students Building.
- Underground piping upgrades will be happening.
- New LCDES website will be announced.
- Information will be on The Connect.
- New project for a collocated space for the Bookstore located at the Printshop. Bookstore will primarily be online and pick-up at Old Main.
- Sa-Hali Mall will house Respiratory Therapy Labs.
- IEC – Indigenous Education Centre – sign will be erected next week. Will impact roads.
- Gord Setka is working a hybrid capacity with limited availability, so Carmen has stepped.
- Car Share car will have to move as there won't be access.

CORRESPONDENCE None

NEXT MEETING March 27, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 10:35.