

UOIT Sustainability Committee

Minutes

Monday, January 11th, 2016 9:30am CC2214

Nov 10, 2015 Action Items	Responsible	Status
Reach out to Step Forward Paper to get something in writing from the company regarding a deadline; distribute paper to other departments in meantime	Shannon Oletic	Complete
Create one page summary of STARS progress for the committee members	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	Complete
Work with the Student Association to draft a letter of support for Bike Share Program	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	In progress
Create a box for the Thrift Swap at 61 Charles to make it easier for downtown staff and students to participate	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	In process
Reach out to Aramark to see if they are included in the North Campus Waste Audit	Shannon Oletic	Complete
Send link for We Grow Trees staff challenge to committee members; distribute materials for challenge to committee members	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	Complete

1. Approval of November 2015 minutes

Reviewed the minutes from last meeting, everyone approved. Ijlal will add them to the website.

2. Committee members

Holly MacPherson stepping down (non-academic, Faculty of Health Sciences). Jeremy suggested Susan from Durham Region Smart Commute program to replace. Shannon will look in to TOR for membership requirements.

3. Program updates

- Step Forward Paper
 - As of Jan 5th: Lyreco account representative does have some Step Forward paper in stock but says supply chain looks really fragile and the company can't guarantee a constant supply in Canada. Additionally, there has been a price increase while stock is limited.
 - Lyreco has advised us to hold off on ordering until we can guarantee a continual supply

- Box of Step Forward paper sent to each department.
- For now we will stay with the recycled paper.
- Smart Commute Durham
 - UOIT workplace designation: silver.
 - New program: Emergency Ride Home program, where sustainable commuters from UOIT can get up to \$75 reimbursed if they require an emergency ride home. OCIS is promoting program through website and social media.
- Shoreline Cleanup
 - Numbers are out: more than 148,000kg of trash from nearly 3,000km. Most cleanups ever registered in one year.
- Thrift Swap
 - Part one happened before exam break.
 - After items were swapped out, e-waste and paper went to EWB@UOIT program, books were collected and the residences are going to open used book library, non-perishable food items went to campus food drive, clothing went to Habitat for Humanity
 - Question was asked if there was a way to get more accurate numbers for diversion from landfill. Suggestion of having a tracking sheet for participants to 'check-off' when they drop items off.
 - Suggestion to start with some material from previous thrift swap to get it going from beginning.
- We Grow Trees
 - Submitting the initiative to pollution probe, using #WeGrowTrees to promote challenge
 - Shannon brought supplies for participating committee members and reminded them to sign up online.
- Post-Paris Briefing summary
 - Shannon attended the event. Adoption of the COP21 Agreement: Keep global temperatures well below a 2°C rise (above pre-industrial levels). Pursue efforts to limit the increase to 1.5°C. "To limit warming to 2°C, need to get to zero net emissions between 2050 (1.5°C) and 2100 (2°C)". Requires mitigation (emissions reduction – avoiding the unmanageable) and adaptation (managing the unavoidable). 119 submitted efforts of 147 countries, representing 86% of global emissions.
 - Durham Region Mitigation Plan: 20% reduction by 2020, 80% reduction by 2050

- GHG emissions from transportation sector account for 35% of Ontario's emissions and 50% of Toronto's emissions
- Electric vehicles (EVs) are going to be a huge emphasis, as the transportation is large source of pollution.
- Paris Pledge for Action
 - Shannon reviewed the requirements of joining the Paris Pledge for Action. SFU has already signed up, and everybody was consulted with whether or not UOIT should sign. Concerns around the fact that we are a growing university.
 - We can calculate our carbon footprint per student, set a target and update the targets with the constructions of new buildings.
 - 13 universities have signed the pledge already.
 - Our buildings were built to a better level of efficiency than the building code suggested and improving the current progress by 20% would be a challenge.
 - There is an incentive to put EV charging stations on campus. There are 3 levels of chargers. Shannon and Ken are meeting with Durham College to plan to install more and will update committee after. We currently have a station at SSB.
 - Suggestion was made by Isaac to publish our GHG numbers and urge other universities to do it as well. Research universities have challenges around buildings using high amounts of energy – for wind tunnels, etc.
- Waste Audits
 - Increase in recycling from 2013 to 2015 for both downtown and north campus locations.
 - Co-mingle recycling for both downtown and north campus locations.
- Composting
 - Working with Durham College and Aramark to expand composting on the north campus. Waste audit numbers show that the diversion rate could be improved if there was a composting system in UB Café.
- STARS
 - Review of where we are at – engagement is our best category.
 - IAQ: UOIT buildings have CO2 monitoring equipment.
 - Challenge is the baseline and improvement.
- 4. UOIT-DC shared campus updates**
 - Composting program with Aramark

- Coffee Cup Campaign – Green Team and Blue Team

5. Discussion and new items

6. Next meeting: Tuesday, February 23rd, 2016 1pm – 2:30pm

Jan 11, 2016 Action Items	Responsible	Status
Check Sustainability Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) for membership, choose member and edit TOR if necessary.	Shannon Oletic, all committee members	In process
Create tracking sheet for Thrift Swap table tops	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	In process
Create Paris Pledge for Action poll and send out to committee members	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	In process
Update on EV charging stations for committee members	Shannon Oletic/Ijlal Gondal	Complete