



**CAMOSUN COLLEGE  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COUNCIL**

**Draft Minutes of Meeting held March 5, 2013**

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**Attendees:**

Peter Lockie, VP Administration (Chair)  
Maria Bremner, Office of Enviro. Sustainability  
Anna Colangeli, Environmental Technology  
Nik Hill, Admissions/Registration  
Kathryn Le Gros, Ancillary Services  
Becky Mason, Economics  
Nannette Plant, Office of VP Strategic Develop.  
Anny Schaefer, Educational Research & Planning  
Ian Tol, Facilities Services  
Darren Vaux, Pipe Trades  
Joan Yates, Communications & Advancement  
Rosemary Smedley, EA to VP Admin. (Support)

**Regrets:**

Heather Deane-Clark, Practical Nursing  
Steve Gormican, Environmental Technology  
Claire Horwood, CCSS - Sustainability Director  
Doug McCurdy, Purchasing  
Jerry Oetting, Mechanical/Metal Trades  
Kathy Tarnai-Lokhorst, Mechanical Engineering  
Jamie VanDenbossche, Applied Research  
Zack Zajchowski, Counselling & Learning Cntr.

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**1. Review of November 30, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were approved as distributed.

**2. Building an Environmental Sustainability Strategy and 3 Year Action Plan for Camosun**

Maria reviewed the background document which has been posted on the SharePoint site. There will be three phases to developing an environmental sustainability strategy:

**Phase 1 (February -April)** - Research, planning and preparations (conduct review of current state, conduct best practice research and draft best practice report and implications, executive interviews, and prepare summary research report and recommendations);

**Phase 2 (March - June)** - Internal stakeholder consultation (student open house, staff workshops, online survey);

**Phase 3 (July - December)** - External stakeholder consultation and draft Sustainability Plan (Feedback from regional and sector sustainability experts and from regional stakeholders, draft and then finalize Sustainability Vision and Plan, release plan with Communications.)

Requested Role of the ES Council: Environmental Sustainability Council members will be invited to participate in a strategy workshop (April/May), provide feedback on the draft strategy (September), and endorse the strategy and three year plan prior to them going to the College Executive Team and the Senior Leadership Council in October.

Council members unanimously agreed that they would like to recommend/endorse the strategy.

### **3. Green Page Renewal Project**

Maria reviewed the background presentation which has been posted on the SharePoint site. The purpose of the project is to update and reorganize Camosun's Green Pages to ensure material is timely, accurate and reflective of Camosun's sustainability priorities. The goals are to create a site that helps educate and raise awareness about sustainable activities happening at Camosun and to encourage action and innovation in sustainable practices, as well as to support the third and fourth pillars of Camosun's Strategic Plan.

Current challenges with the Green Pages: out of date, unorganized, have broken links, too much text, and it is unclear who the target audience is. While it is recognized that, up to now, the Green Pages have been very much an "off the side of the desk" effort, it is important to revamp them to ensure credibility, increase involvement and celebrate success.

Next steps for the project are:

- Start doing immediate applicable updates.
- Research and collaboration with various departments.
- Work with ITS and Communications & Advancement to create website framework.
- Finalize proposed Hierarchy (to be reviewed/approved by the Council).
- Content development (support is required for this step by Departmental leads and content experts).

At the request of the Council, Maria will find out how many visits there have been to the Green Pages and report to the group.

### **4. Sustainability Speaker Series Update**

Since the last Council meeting, Maria and Anny Schaefer have developed a concept piece for the Sustainability Speaker Series. They reviewed the background document which has been posted on the SharePoint site. The purpose of the speaker series will be to raise awareness and knowledge of environmental sustainability initiatives at the College, to catalyze discussion on current topics, and to promote college community engagement, creativity and problem-solving. Conceptually, the series could run September 2013 to April 2014. It was agreed that the focus has to be applicable to both campuses; "The Future of Green Buildings" would achieve this. Suggested topics include: Greening of the BC Building Code, Centre for Trades Education and Innovation, Buildings as Living Laboratories, Technology Solutions for Energy Efficiency, and Buildings with a Positive Footprint/Smart Development. Another suggested topic is Sustainability in Teaching (focus on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students; have faculty who are already engaged in sustainability present and have conversations with other faculty.)

It was agreed that the search for speakers would begin internally (as an achievable starting point) and a scan of in-house expertise/candidates on both campuses will be undertaken.

### **5. Promoting Greater Staff Involvement Through Sustainability Action Teams**

Maria noted that she has been approached by a number of staff who would like to become more involved in the sustainability movement at Camosun. Increased staff involvement would allow for greater information sharing, give a feeling of buy-in, and increase employee satisfaction. Maria will be work with HR to develop official protocol on how staff can participate on such teams within the parameters of their existing jobs.

## 6. Other Updates

### a. Environmental Sustainability Database Project

Maria noted that the creation of an inventory of all projects or activities happening at the college that support sustainability is going well. A list of more than 85 separate projects has been compiled. The projects are grouped in two ways:

PROJECT TYPES	CATEGORIES*
1. STUDENT SERVICES	1. Buildings
2. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	2. Energy
3. EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM	3. Waste management
4. POLICY	4. Recycling
5. RESEARCH AND INNOVATION	5. Water
6. LEADERSHIP & ADMINISTRATION	6. Food
7. COMMUNITY	7. Transportation
8. EVENTS	8. Biodiversity and habitat
	9. Engagement (staff, student or broader community)
	10. Administration
	11. Procurement

*\*Note: Categories were selected by doing a scan of existing sustainability assessment methods, in the interest of the possibility of future third party reporting.*

Preliminary findings indicate that: sustainability is happening in almost every facet of the college community; seed money from President's Funds are very encouraging and play a significant role in spurring initiatives and innovation on-the-ground; there are a lot of potential sustainability stories to communicate out on; and, we have some leading projects under "Research and Innovation" with potential to grow, particularly from a green economy standpoint.

A preliminary analysis has been completed; once analysis is completed, the information will be made available both internally (externally sharing will be determined based on the input of this information into a formal database).

### b. Bike to Work Week 2013

Bike to Work Week occurs May 27<sup>th</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup>. There will be a Celebration Station at Lansdowne on one of the days.

### c. Electric Vehicle Charging Station

The charging station has been installed at Interurban and the site work almost completed; signage and communication are the next steps. The charging station is aimed at employees though it will be open to the general public. The intent is for electric vehicle owners to top up rather than full charge their vehicle; usage will be limited to 3 hours per visit.

**d. Water Bottle Refill Stations Update**

Ian Tol announced that work is underway to install 11 water bottle refill stations; installation is expected to be completed over the next month. Refill station locations will be:

**INTERURBAN**

**Jack White** - Beside pipe chase men's washroom across from boiler room

**Campus Centre**- 1<sup>st</sup> floor across from student society room

**Drysdale** - Across from classroom 135

**Tech Building**-Across from room 181

**CBA**- Atrium area 1<sup>st</sup> floor

**LANSDOWNE**

**Fisher Building**- 1<sup>st</sup> floor by men's washroom

**Ewing Building**- 1<sup>st</sup> floor in hallway to ladies washroom

**Dental Building** - Across from Room 005

**Paul Building** - by the boiler room 1<sup>st</sup> floor

**Wilma Thomas** - 1<sup>st</sup> floor by men's washroom

**Learning Resource Centre**- 1<sup>st</sup> floor by ladies washroom

**e. Increasing Recycling Awareness of College Community**

Heather Deane-Clark requested via e-mail that there be discussion around strategies to increase awareness on campus of what is acceptable for recycling and strategies to encourage people to do more recycling. Maria advised that this is highly relevant to the Ready Set Solve student project to develop a communications and engagement plan for recycling that has been recently initiated in partnership with Facilities and herself. Greater clarification is needed on what materials are acceptable in what bins. Mike Nunn did a waste audit in late February. ACTION: it was suggested that the findings be put on the SharePoint site.

**f. Environmental Technology Students Project Presentations**

Anna Colangeli noted that the Environmental Technology students will be presenting class projects June 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, 1:00-5:00 p.m. in Fisher 100. The event will be advertised to encourage staff attendance. Project topics are:

- A study of mosquito populations at Island View Beach regional Park
- Proposal to monitor a population of western red-backed salamanders in Goldstream Provincial Park
- Qualicum Beach Amphibian Underpass Study
- A marine assessment of SPARS
- Durrell Creek: water quality and habitat analysis
- Disc golf course options in the District of Sooke: An Environmental Assessment.
- Sustainable Small-Scale Aquaponics Food Production Systems
- An Assessment of Plastics on beaches in Southwest Vancouver Island.
- Carbon Management: Coastal Wetlands and Carbon Sequestration in Island View Regional Park.
- Characterization of the Hydrology of Island View Beach

Steve Gormican provided the following background information on the projects:

The Sustainability Projects are akin to a capstone project and are a culmination of the Environmental Technology students learning in the 3 year ET program. Working in small groups, students identify, design, develop and complete a research project on a sustainable resource management problem. This demonstrates appropriate ecological principles, research methodology, data management and analysis, environmental impact considerations, substantiated recommendations and requires both an oral and written report.

Topics are varied, and students develop their projects based on their own interests. Subject matter has included habitat identification, mapping, as well as contamination monitoring in marine, freshwater and land. Projects have also been spinoffs of co-op work terms as well as topics identified by community stewardship organizations. A number of projects have contributed to the sustainability pillar of Camosun. One such project was the feasibility study of green waste collection and composting which lead to the implementation of green waste collection on the Lansdowne campus. Another project supplied and developed a bio-diesel generator that utilizes kitchen waste oil to make bio-diesel that is used in the maintenance tractors on campus.

#### **7. Update on Student Initiatives**

Claire Horwood advised via e-mail that planning for Sustainability Day is going well. The event will take place on March 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Fisher courtyard.

#### **8. Presidents Funds Awards**

Peter noted that three sustainability projects had received Presidents Funds awards: Solar Powered Electric Vehicle Charging Station (Ross Lyle, Lead), Solar Powered Charging Station and Rechargeable Tools for Campus Maintenance (Kevin Blaney, Lead), and Clean Technology Integration with the Pipe Trades - A First Step (Chris Edley, Lead).