

Campus Sustainability Council

December 11, 2018

2:00-3:30

3C12

Meeting called by: Joseph Wasylycia-Leis

Facilitator: Joseph Wasylycia-Leis

Note taker: Maureen Hanlon

Attendees: Joseph Wasylycia-Leis, Maureen Hanlon, Thiago Nunes, Kyle Macdonald, Mike Thul, Allan Amundsun, Brian Daly, Mike Emslie, Lee Anne Block, Ian Mauro, Melissa Dupuis, Inga Johnson Mychasiw, Kim Benoit

Minutes

Agenda item: Sustainability Updates

Discussion: Joe gave CSO updates: we have a new office on the first floor of the Richardson, Alana has left, Thiago has come on board for facilities. Ian presented the new collaboration between the CSO and the Richardson College for the Environment (RCFE), specifically with two main objectives: to track sustainability teaching and research, and to build a community of faculty engagement around sustainability. This includes an effort to “animate the atrium,” most recently with various sustainability speakers. Kyle gave a facilities update: Biomass is currently in use to heat Manitoba, Ashdown, and Lockhart halls, facilitated by a newly installed super-vacuum for pellets. We are moving forward with a Hydro-funded, 175kW solar installation on the RecPlex (!), with construction due to start in spring of 2019. Optergy, an intuitive data collection system, is in place and will now allow us to look at various environmental performance indicators by building, including some leased spaces. Melissa asked for the specs on solar performance in MB, and Kyle said that it will play a small part in our larger sustainable energy transition, along with some hydro, biomass, and other efforts on the way.

Agenda item: FY2017 Annual Report

Discussion: Joe touched on performance changes since FY2016 as well as highlights, challenges, and opportunities. (See ppt attachment.) The Council was asked for feedback: Mike Thul added that reporting green vs. non-green products as a performance indicator might need to change, as ionized water and machinery improvements will mean a decreased use of many green products, but will make the green:non-green ratio decrease. Kyle asked that Physical Plant be recognized for their power broom purchase. Ian asked if meeting Paris Accord GHG reductions was too ambitious a goal, to which Kyle and Mike Emslie responded that it was ambitious, but that potential future technologies and funding opportunities might put it within our reach. Ian responded that we might want to add language about the nuance of this stretch goal to the report. He also offered to pitch our sustainability plans to his contacts if interested. Brian asked if we sell our expertise in sustainability to other businesses interested in similar initiatives, but Mike Emslie answered that we don't have the staff time to do so.

Joe also shared the CSO's intention of having a shorter, “forward-facing” report summary made by the graphic design team from the Annual Report. Kim mentioned that we might pursue a targeted communications strategy; Lee Anne added that student engagement would be vital to making this successful. Melissa noted that this might be more of a booklet than the one pager used as an example. Brian added that the Green Fund might benefit from such a communications strategy as well.

Agenda item: Strategic Targets: People and Plans

Discussion: Joe reviewed our strategic targets, progress made and challenges thus far. (See ppt attachment). Most discussion centered on moving responsibility for equity and Indigenization targets away from the CSO and to the relevant UW offices, who are already undertaking this work. This may have to wait on a back burner, as both the equity officer and the VP Indigenous Affairs are not filled/available. In the meantime, Lee Anne suggested the CSO contact the Aboriginal Students Council and the Elder's Advisory Circle for Melissa mentioned that she is meeting with Jino Distasio on

knowledge mobilization target in January, and will check back in thereafter. Lee Anne mentioned we should aim to use “assess” rather than “measure” when developing social sustainability goals.