KPU Environmental Sustainability Committee March 2, 2023 1:00 pm -2:30 pm **Via Teams Meeting**

Minutes

Attendees: Dr. Alan Davis (co-chair), David Stewart (co-chair), Brett Favaro, Brent Elliott, Brian Kuchinka

(BCGEU), Chani Joseph, Dan Jackson, Harjot Sran (KSA), Karen Terblanche, Rebecca Harbut, Thomas

Kwadzovia, Caroline Lillico, Gidget Maguire

Guests: Candy Ho

Regrets: Adam Rhode (KSA), Ellen Pond, Iain Hunter, Melissa Drury, Todd Mundle	
Agenda Item	Discussion
1. Agenda	D. Davis called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. Harjot Sran, Sustainability Specialist for KSA, introduced themself. The Agenda was approved as circulated.
2. Minutes	The Minutes of the previous meeting on November 22, 2022, were approved as circulated.
3. Campus & Community Master Planning	Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Mapping Dr. Ho thanked Dr. Davis for sponsoring the project and thanked everyone for supporting and providing input to the Sustainable Development Goals Mapping Project Interim Report for KPU. Dr. Ho reviewed the Interim Report, highlighted some sections with the Committee, and assigned homework.
	Homework 1: Review and provide feedback on the <u>SDG Mapping Interim Report</u> by March 15
	You are welcome to email me your thoughts and/or join us at any of the roundtable sessions: March 6, 3-4, Surrey Cedar 1140 March 7, 9:30-10:30 Cloverdale 1853 March 7, 1:30-2:30 Langley West 1005 March 9, 10-11 Richmond 1805 March 10, 10-11, Online (MS Teams) March 15, 10:30-11:30, Civic 513 To register for a roundtable, please email candy.ho@kpu.ca.
	Homework 2: Review our list of external SDG initiatives As part of our environmental scan, review the final list of initiatives and identify top ideas (up to 10) that, from your vantage point, KPU should consider elevating. This will help us produce a more tailored scan and help the proposed cross-functional team kick-start its prioritization exercise.
	 Suggestions on how to approach this: Begin by reviewing the three buckets on Row 3 (quick wins, high impact, inspiring) and their definitions. With each initiative, we identified a primary sustainability framework category (governance, physical campus, academics, and operations, see columns K-N).

Based on your role, you may want to review initiatives within the category you identify with most.

Dr. Ho advised that KPU will participate in SDG Week Canada from March 6th to 10th. There will be workshops, talks, and other activities at all five KPU campuses and online.

D. Jackson noted that this is possibly something Dr. Ho can bring to the new KPU Community Day planned for May 27th at the Richmond Campus.

Dr. Davis noted that there are a lot of things that KPU has signed up for (CiCan, Climate Challenge, Universities of Canada, and a new Social Impact Group) because it is good for us and helps us track. CiCan reached out to Dr. Davis advising that we are only 1 of 8 institutions in Canada (they have approx 300 members) signed up for the three accords (50/30 Challenge, SDGs, and Indigenous Education Protocol). Dr. Davis asked Dr. Ho if there was just one we should focus on, perhaps the SDG Goals because they are quite comprehensive. This is a wonderful inventory of how wide and deep KPU's activities go.

Dr. Ho noted that CiCan advised that we are one of two institutions in BC (the other is Selkirk) that is doing that.

Dr. Ho said she is biased toward the SDG accord as the 17 SDGs permeate all areas. However, singing all of these is not a bad idea. In addition to reputation, it shows we are taking action towards these things. If looking for a recommendation, Dr. Ho noted in future on whether to sign and commit, come back and look at this report to see where we are. This project is a celebration of what we are doing. We want to eliminate as many silos as possible.

Dr. Ho will attend and present with a couple other team members at CICan's World Congress Conference for Polytechs in Montreal in April. Dr. Davis and Diane Purvey will also be there.

Thank you to Rebecca and the team; on the SDG website, there is a video of the interview with Sustainable Agriculture faculty and students highlighting their amazing work on how they are advancing the SDGs at KPU.

Next week posters will go up around KPU celebrating the five Ps (People, Planet, Partnership and Prosperity), which interconnect like the SDGs.

4. Campus and Community Planning

B. Elliott advised that CCP's new Sustainability Specialist, Alicia Gowan, is working on the STARS submission/application. Alicia is currently reaching out and tapping into many departments and faculties to collect data to pull together KPU's first submission.

Alicia is also building an accountability matrix/report to present KPU's progress in implementing the sustainability plan. Alicia will bring an early framework to an upcoming Environmental Sustainability Committee to discuss and set priorities.

5. Procurement Update

K. Terblanche's updates:

- CAUBO will be hosting a webinar for Sustainability: Ideas, Action, and Success Through Procurement on Tuesday, 7 March, if anyone is interested in attending.
 Speakers/Presenters comprised of representatives from BCNET, UVIC, BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food and a supplier (Reeves Consulting).
- Procurement is currently supporting various ENTA (Centre of Entertainment Arts)
 procurement workstreams. The prime consultants managing the renovation design and construction incorporates sustainability principles in the design process.

T. Kwadzovia's update: The Ministry communicated to the post-secondary sector that they will be providing various resources to the sector to support the development of SDG objectives. 6. KSA Update H. Sran provided an update: Westerman Garden Plots: Going to be doing a clean-up and hoping to have them ready for staff and student use. SDG Week - Working with Lindsay and presenting at SDG week. 7. Facilities Update The following projects are part of our campus infrastructure improvements and Ministry-funded Capital Renewal Program. These projects represent the major renewal projects that have a sustainability component: KPU-S Cedar AHU Replacement Project: Tender has been awarded for replacing outdated gas-fired rooftop units with a modern strategy that reduces carbon input through electrification and leverages a central boiler/ chiller plant efficiency slated for potential future electrification. KPU-S Main Electrical Vault Refurbishment and Upgrade: Design is underway for the Surrey campus, which requires a major refurbishment and upgrade of the main electrical service to ensure the campus has the capacity to support campus decarbonization, infrastructure growth and EV Charging initiatives. Richmond Main Bldg. BMS Modernization: Outdated automated building controls (1990s technology) are in the design phase to align the Richmond campus with the sophistication we have at all other campuses for industry-leading building operations. Richmond Campus: Bldg. Envelope: Major building envelope upgrades are in progress to meet modern climate resilience planning needs for our region; roof replacement is complete, and the next phases will involve a replacement of all exterior building glazing (windows and atrium skylights). Langley Campus Hort Center: Work continues to add electrical heating to the outdoor Header house shop and to upgrade the greenhouse center with more efficient LED lighting replacements. KPU Exterior Lighting Project: A major Ministry funding certificate is funding a joint Campus Safety & Security/Facilities Services Security upgrade. The tender is out for an all-campus exterior campus lighting upgrade that will enhance safety and replace outdated non-LED lighting technology with brighter, modern, and higher efficiency. KPU Farm Schools/ Institute for Sustainable Agriculture: Per the above-noted ministry funding as well as separate grant funding, Facilities is working closely with both academic areas to create the infrastructure they require to establish teaching excellence and program delivery in sustainable agriculture in partnership with the City of Richmond as well as the Tsawwassen First Nation. Interior Lighting All campuses: Surrey campus classrooms & conference center saw a major replacement of less efficient lighting to more modern and high-efficiency products. A tender was awarded for auditing all campuses and developing a comprehensive multi-year replacement strategy following the same principles. Langley ISH Research Lab: Chiller Capacity: An extensive redesign of the research lab's cooling capacity has resulted in expanded cooling capacity to meet stringent lab temperature control needs, provided redundancy during extremer weather events, and reduced or eliminated dependency on the main campuses major central main chiller plant for support. KPU Libraries Indoor Air Quality: Facilities and the Library Services teams worked closely to recognize and respond to poor air quality issues at the Langley, Surrey, and Richmond campuses for interior teaching areas. Significant mechanical system upgrades were

completed at Langley and Richmond to enhance fresh air delivery; Surrey campus upgrades are designed and underway.

The following consultations are underway or complete to support the long-term development of KPU's Strategic Carbon Reduction Pathway. Facilities Services has enjoyed a very close partnership with Campus & Community Planning in these efforts together:

Several studies have been completed in support of a Net Zero Carbon Reduction Strategy:

<u>Carbon Reduction Pathway</u>: A major engineering review to align campus infrastructure, indepth evaluations and recommendations on viable carbon reduction strategies at a campus-specific based approach, and strategic costs and timeline considerations.

<u>Renewable Natural Gas White Paper</u>: Supportive study to objectively assess a provincially recognized carbon reduction initiative.

<u>Emerging Technologies Study</u>: Supportive study to provide a broader understanding of the future of carbon reduction infrastructure potentials

<u>All Campus Future Electrical Load Capacity:</u> Supportive study to assess each campus's ability to meet future projected electrical growth needs, including decarbonization, building expansion, EV charging needs, and others.

<u>Climate Adaptation Study</u>: Supportive preliminary study and working group to develop a first-step understanding of the considerations required to adapt infrastructure needs to future climate change; the hope is to expand this work to a broader academic and student engagement.

<u>EV Charging Infrastructure:</u> Working group active with consultants to develop a first target 2030 EV Charging phased infrastructure approach for all campuses.

<u>Detailed Infrastructure Renewal Assessments</u>: Support study about to launch to reassess core utility-impacted building infrastructure with the true end-of-life predictions in support of a long-term carbon reduction equipment replacement plan

<u>Fortis Energy Specialist Funding</u>: Funding received in support of a specialist to assist natural gas reduction and decarbonization strategies.

Our Central Office:

- <u>The Team Dynamix (TDx)</u>: Central work request software has continued to showcase sustainable, responsive, and accountable service delivery through paperless, streamlined process flow, instant updates to clients, and accountable back-end reporting. Closely partnered with IT and the steering committee, Facilities is showing the power of the platform as an enterprise-level opportunity.

Campus Operations:

- KPU-S Tree Maintenance Project: Close planning and partnership with KPU's Natural Spaces Advisory Committee, The Kwantlen First Nation (esp. Elder Lekeyten and Cheryl Gabriel) have contained a scope of work that focuses on campus safety, appropriate risk considerations, and future teaching and research perspectives. The City of Surrey has defined the permit stage; KPU communications and NSAC/ KFN coordination will guide the work next.
- <u>Drinking Fountains/Waterfilz:</u> Facilities Operations partnered with the KSA to upgrade broken vending style Waterfillz stations to update all drinking fountains to modern and barrier stations that act as bottler filler stations as well as drinking fountains; close consultation occurred with KPU's Disabilities Inclusivity Group (DIG) for final product selection. Dave would like this to be the next step to stop buying water in vending machines to reduce plastic waste.
- <u>Washroom Paper Towel Composting</u>: Facilities Operations, with support from our custodial services provider, has implemented composting of all washroom hand towels. Estimates

suggest this initiative will redirect 13700lbs/6217kg of discarded paper towels and 25,000 garbage bags annually from local landfills. Space Planning Discussion Paper: Many offices and spaces are not being used. This discussion paper is a good start in the conversation on how we can be more efficient and be able to work at home and work in a different way on campus and have a better space when we are here. It will be provided to G7 to read and provide direction going forward on how the space should look going forward. 8. Ancillary **Food Services** Services Update We continue to partner with Chartwells and FeedBC to leverage local food sources. Another Pitch & Plate event was hosted at SFU in Feb. Pitch & Plates allows local producers to showcase their products and hone their sales/marketing skills. There is also a Traditional Indigenous Foods webinar scheduled this month. Chartwells and KPU Ancillary Services staff attend all events. Chartwells has recently partnered with Legends Haul, a local food distributor. This new relationship should improve the uptake of local products as the supply chain has been a significant limitation to this point. Chartwells is still in the process of adopting biodegradable/compostable food packaging and utensils. All packaging has transitioned, and plastic cutlery will be replaced with woodbased utensils as inventories are drawn down. Catering continues to utilize reusable products. **Print Services & Logistics** Empty printing toner and waste cartridges are returned to and recycled by Print Services. Print Services continues to utilize sugar sheet and high recycled content paper products wherever possible. All paper products are also SFP certified. Receiving re-uses product packaging as much as possible when re-packaging items for intercampus transport. Bookstore The bookstore is developing reusable bags made of recycled products. Product plug! – Be Kind pink t-shirts are still available for purchase. Fleet

We've received funding approval for a replacement shared fleet vehicle and will investigate HEV/EV options pending cost and availability that meet our functional needs.

9. Other Business

Dave provided the territorial acknowledgement. The meeting was adjourned at 2:04

10. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2023, at 1:00 pm.