

AMS Environmental Sustainability Strategy

Passed: January 24, 2007

Preamble

Whereas the AMS has long been a leader in environmentally sound practices at UBC, including:

- The U-Pass program, which has resulted in a reduction in greenhouse gas pollution of over 16,000 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per year.
- Selling only organic, bird friendly coffee.
- Providing discounts for students who bring their own mugs to AMS coffee outlets; and

Whereas the Alma Mater Society has long fulfilled the role of holding the University to account on behalf of the students of UBC for issues important to students, including environmental responsibility; and

Whereas the AMS does not yet have a sustainability policy or strategy to guide and provide continuity to our sustainability initiatives,

Therefore be it resolved that Council adopt the following Environmental Sustainability Vision and Purpose, which will guide subsequent strategy and targets:

Vision

The AMS recognizes the ecological crisis humanity faces and the special responsibility universities, and university students, have in finding and implementing solutions. We acknowledge our obligations as global citizens and strive to create a sustainable and equitable future for all.

The AMS will be a leader in reducing the university campus's ecological footprint to sustainable levels and in fostering environmental justice in our own operations and through our relationships with the University community and the broader community. The AMS will be an engine for new ideas and innovation, and will be a model for the University and for other student organizations to follow.

Purpose

- To work towards environmental sustainability independently and in cooperation with organizations such as UBC, other students' organizations, and relevant governmental bodies.
- To maintain and enhance the AMS's leadership role in promoting environmental sustainability on and off campus.
- To showcase the AMS's leadership in order to distinguish the AMS and our businesses from the University as a whole and other businesses on campus.
- To guide the AMS's work to areas where we can have the greatest effect, directly through AMS operations and through interaction with other organizations.

- To establish the Impacts Committee as the body responsible for overseeing the Sustainability Strategy and presenting an annual progress report, including new or updated targets, to Council by October 30 of each year.
- To set a manageable number of goals and timelines (in consultation with staff and other interested parties), and assign responsibilities to pertinent persons and departments for achieving them.
- To establish procedures for monitoring and reporting on progress. Procedures for updating and adjusting targets will also be part of the Strategy.