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**AMS Sustainability October Update**

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**FOOD & BEVERAGE**

Status	Project	Notes
Completed	<u>SEEDS food outlet practices study (4.5)</u> : Coordinate a study on reducing single use items and increasing diversion rates in back of house waste bins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Final Report is on the SEEDS website.</a></li> <li>● The project produced an overview of food service ware items in AMS Food &amp; Beverage outlets and provided recommendations for reducing waste produced by the outlets.</li> </ul>
In Progress	<u>Establish a Mugshare program at Blue Chip Cafe (4.1 and 4.2)</u> : Work with the AVP Sustainability and UBC stakeholder groups to ensure success and expansion of this program. Develop a system to monitor the program and ensure its long-term sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Successful pilot started in July 2018 with ~150 blue cups.</li> <li>● From July 11 to Sep 30, Mugshare cups were signed out 409 times.</li> <li>● The MugShare team is comprised of students from Common Energy, Melt Collective and AMS Sustainability. The team is currently working on phase two of the program, involving an order of 2000 new branded cups to be distributed to JJ Bean, Blue Chip, UBC Food Services, Boulevard Cafe and Agora. Phase two is expected to launch in January, with a potential soft launch later this fall.</li> </ul>
	<u>UBC single use strategy (4.5)</u> : Attend UBC single use strategy meetings and support their development of a single use policy for UBC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● In light of the City of Vancouver's new <a href="#">Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy</a>, UBC is developing its own single use strategy. We are involved in the development of the strategy and in ensuring AMS outlets and lessees comply.</li> <li>● As a first step, UBC has phased out plastic straws and cutlery.</li> </ul>
	<u>Food service ware (4):*</u> Make changes to ensure that all AMS business food service ware is recyclable or compostable. Food service ware that should be changed includes the wrappers at Iwanatoco/Porch, the bowls at Grand Noodle Emporium, the window bags at Blue Chip, straws and plastic cutlery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The window bags at Blue Chip have been replaced with fully compostable bags.</li> <li>● We are investigating new compostable wrappers and bowls. Procurement is ordering samples and comparing prices.</li> <li>● Plastic straws have been phased out and replaced with paper straws everywhere except PhTea.</li> <li>● Food &amp; Beverage is committed to phasing out plastic cutlery; however due to price barriers, this may take some time. There are also issues with the functionality of current compostable cutlery options.</li> </ul>

Upcoming	<u>Fair trade products (1.4):</u> Work with the Food & Beverage manager to incorporate fair trade ingredients and snacks into AMS Food & Beverage outlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All coffee and chocolate used in Food &amp; Beverage outlets is already fair trade.</li> <li>Food &amp; Beverage has asked the AMS produce supplier to provide information on fair trade produce options, such as bananas. We will compare pricing and consider procuring those products.</li> </ul>
	<u>Healthy Beverage Initiative (4.3):*</u> Support the implementation of the Healthy Beverage Initiative at AMS Food & Beverage outlets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The AMS has signed on as a stakeholder in <a href="#">UBC's Healthy Beverage Initiative</a>.</li> <li>Food &amp; Beverage will implement the Healthy Beverage Initiative at Porch next semester, and at other outlets over the next few years.</li> <li>Food &amp; Beverage will also review drink advertisements and contracts.</li> </ul>
	<u>Lessees (2.1 and 2.2):*</u> Enshrine sustainability terms in agreements with lessees, including terms around food service ware.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of UBC's upcoming single use strategy, sustainability standards will be incorporated into leases across campus to ensure compliance.</li> <li>We will start by meeting with lessees to understand their perspectives and potential concerns around adopting sustainability practices.</li> <li>When leases expire in 3 years, we will consider incorporating sustainability requirements.</li> </ul>
	<u>Procurement policy (1.4):*</u> Review sustainable purchasing policy and track AMS compliance. The policy should mandate food service ware-related changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">AMS Ethical and Sustainable Purchasing Policy</a> is out of date. We will review it and look into options for implementing and monitoring sustainable procurement practices.</li> </ul>

## BUILDING OPERATIONS

Status	Project	Notes
Upcoming	<u>SEEDS non-traditional waste streams project (1.4):</u> Work with a SEEDS team to establish stations for recycling of e-waste and other non-traditional waste streams (e.g. stationery, soft plastics, toxic waste, etc.) in the Nest. Work with either the SLSC or the Student Environment Centre. Develop a communications strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are starting to develop this project, including reaching out to stakeholders and finding a location in the Nest. UBC is interested in collaborating.</li> <li>This will not be a SEEDS project, but will be coordinated by the Sustainability Projects Coordinator.</li> </ul>

	<u>Waste audits (1.1)</u> : Support Common Energy's Annual Waste Audit of the Nest and use the audit's findings to inform AMS Sustainability on the Nest's waste diversion rates.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Common Energy's waste audit will be held next semester.</li> </ul>
On Hold	<u>Food &amp; Beverage outlet waste audits (1.1)</u> : Conduct audits of back of house sorting in all food and beverage outlets and support outlets in making improvements, including installing coloured bags and bins and facilitating waste training for kitchen staff. Expand to tenants if possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have determined that back of house sorting, including sorting bins and training, is already relatively good and thus this project is not needed at this time.</li> <li>Coloured bags and bins are too expensive to implement into back of house sorting, but UBC Custodial Services will implement these in public sorting stations to aid custodians in proper sorting.</li> </ul>

## COMMUNICATIONS

Status	Project	Notes
Completed	<u>Orientations (Imagine/Jumpstart) (1.1)</u> : Have a presence during orientation events, including Imagine, Jumpstart and AMS Firstweek. Promote ways to get involved with sustainability on campus and increase the presence of AMS Sustainability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sustainability Outreach Coordinator spoke to clubs on Imagine Day about the AMS Sustainability team and our services.</li> <li>The UBC Zero Waste Squad ensured proper sorting at Imagine Day and Jumpstart.</li> </ul>
In Progress	<u>Sustainability constituency strategies (1.3)</u> : Support constituencies in developing 3-year sustainability strategies that are tailored to each constituency's structure, events and processes. Work with the VP Admin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are supporting LFSUS, FUS, KUS, CUS and VSEUS in developing constituency sustainability strategies. We have met with all the constituencies and are currently conducting research and drafting recommendations.</li> <li>Next semester, we are supporting a SEEDS project to develop strategies for AUS, SUS and EUS, since these constituencies are larger and have a student centre building.</li> </ul>
	<u>Website (3.2)</u> : Update the AMS Sustainability website to contain our current resources, team, sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almost complete.</li> </ul>

	initiatives, volunteer opportunities, SDSS outline, and SPF information.	
	<u>Dashboard (3.6):</u> Develop a plan for the future of AMS Sustainability's Dashboard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT, Building Design and Sustainability Projects Coordinator are working on fixing the dashboard.</li> </ul>
Ongoing	<u>Social media (3.2):</u> Maintain the Instagram account and leverage external social media accounts such as UBC Sustainability. Increase awareness of the SPF and other AMS Sustainability resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Instagram followers went up 30%.</li> </ul>
	<u>Events (1.2):</u> Support AMS events and other on-campus events in making their events sustainable. Have a presence at on campus events, alongside other student organizations such as the Zero Waste Squad. Receive feedback on the operations of the AMS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The UBC Sustainability Ambassadors are providing sustainability consulting services to AMS Events.</li> <li>We worked with the Zero Waste Squad Coordinator to draft ideas for events that could be made more sustainable.</li> </ul>
On Hold	<u>Sustainability training (1.1):</u> Develop sustainability training for food service staff (kitchen and front of house). Pass a sustainability training policy through council to ensure training happens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are investigating the current state of training and whether there is a need for such a policy.</li> </ul>

## BIODIVERSITY & CLIMATE

Status	Project	Notes
Completed	<u>Sustainable investing (3.1):</u> Work with the VP Finance and Sustainability Funds Administrator to develop a more sustainable investment policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The AMS divested its \$16 million portfolio from fossil fuels and revised the <a href="#">Investment Policy</a> to mandate fossil free and ESG principles.</li> <li><a href="#">The AMS's statement is available here.</a></li> <li>Two Ubysey articles communicated the decision: one on <a href="#">Aug 2nd</a> and one on <a href="#">Sep 9th</a>.</li> </ul>
	<u>UBC divestment external policy (3.2):</u> Work with the VP Academic and University Affairs to update the existing policy and ensure the AMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The fossil fuel divestment policy was updated and incorporated into the new <a href="#">Environment &amp; Climate Change Advocacy policy</a>.</li> </ul>

	holds the University accountable to its related commitments.	
	<u>Climate change advocacy external policy (4.1)</u> : Work with the VP Academic and University Affairs and the VP External to develop a climate change advocacy policy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AMS Council passed a new <a href="#">Environment &amp; Climate Change Advocacy policy</a> that outlines the AMS's positions on climate change and zero waste, at both the University and governmental levels.</li> </ul>
In Progress	<u>Climate Hub support (4.3)</u> : Support the Sustainability Collective in their efforts to establish a Climate Hub on campus.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The AMS is starting to negotiate an MOU with the newly established Climate Hub and investigating potential spaces for the Hub in the Nest.</li> <li>We are currently supporting the Climate Hub through promotions and room bookings.</li> </ul>
	<u>SEEDS climate project (4.3)</u> : Develop a SEEDS project focused around engaging users of the Nest in the urgency of climate change and the need for climate justice through a creative display of scientific and social data (4.3).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <a href="#">Climate Art Competition</a>, a collaboration with the UBC Sustainability Initiative and SEEDS program, is currently underway. One piece will be selected through audience vote and a panel for installation in the Nest.</li> </ul>
On Hold	<u>SEEDS biodiversity project (1.2)</u> : Develop a SEEDS project focused on increasing student engagement with biodiversity and local ecology in the Nest and surrounding area. Engage students with the importance of biodiversity, its relationship to our wellbeing and the dangers of biodiversity loss.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We do not have the capacity for another SEEDS project at this time.</li> </ul>

## PARTNERSHIPS

Status	Project	Notes
Completed	<u>SEEDS club sustainability project (3.1)</u> : Help oversee a SEEDS project to advise AMS clubs on ensuring sustainability in their operations, especially in terms of waste management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Final Report is on the SEEDS website.</a></li> <li>The report produced recommendations for two AMS clubs - the Pottery Club and PhotoSoc - to minimize their environmental impact in their new space in the Nest.</li> </ul>

	<u>Curriculum (1.3):</u> Work with Student Senators and the VP Academic and University Affairs to develop a policy to advocate for the inclusion of sustainability in curriculum.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new <a href="#">Environment &amp; Climate Change Advocacy policy</a> includes advocacy for environmental sustainability in teaching and curriculum.</li> <li>• The VPAUA office is supporting efforts to expand interdisciplinary and sustainability-related courses at UBC.</li> </ul>
In progress	<u>Sustainability events (2.1):</u> Partner with the Sustainability Ambassadors to plan the Sustainability Fair and Sustainability Storytelling Night.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <a href="#">Sustainability Storytelling Night</a> is on Nov 6th and the Sustainability Fair will be in February.</li> <li>• We are supporting these events through room bookings and promotion.</li> </ul>
Ongoing	<u>Meetings and collaboration with UBC sustainability staff (3.1):</u> Attend UBC committee meetings and meet with UBC Sustainability staff to discuss potential partnerships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are participating in UBC's Zero Waste Committee, Water Action Plan Committee and Food &amp; Nutrition Working Group. In these meetings we advocate for action that aligns with the Student Driven Sustainability Strategy and Environment &amp; Climate Change Advocacy Policy. We also ensure AMS and UBC sustainability initiatives are coordinated with each other.</li> </ul>
	<u>Sustainability Ambassadors collaboration (3.1):</u> Support the group of Sustainability Ambassadors to act as sustainability consultants for clubs & constituencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are promoting the sustainability consulting service that the Sustainability Ambassadors provide.</li> </ul>
	<u>Meetings and collaboration with student groups (3.1):</u> Create a network of student groups to foster partnerships and collaborations. Co-manage the Zero Waste Squad. Assist students involved in sustainability and promote their successes and events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are actively involved in the Sustainability Collective.</li> </ul>
Upcoming	<u>Formal partnerships (1.1):</u> Work with the VP Admin to create a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with SEEDS and/or Campus and Community Planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will explore MOUs with SEEDS, Campus and Community Planning, the Sustainability Ambassadors and the Climate Hub.</li> </ul>

	Investigate the possibility of also creating MOUs with student groups, such as the Sustainability Collective.	
	<u>Resource document (3.1):</u> Create and share resource documents that support sustainable club operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be completed next semester.</li> </ul>
On Hold	<u>Student volunteer opportunities (3.1):</u> Brainstorm and develop a strategy for possible collaboration with student groups and classes for low-barrier entry, small scale volunteering. Use the SDSS and past SEEDS projects to identify gaps in data and translate those needs into opportunities for student engagement and partnerships with campus groups as well as faculty. Investigate potential collaborations with the Sustainability Ambassadors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We explored this idea with the Sustainability Ambassadors and found there were not sufficient low-barrier entry and actionable opportunities for a volunteer program at this time. This idea will be revisited next year once we have made further progress on the SDSS and better understand gaps that need to be addressed.</li> <li>Whenever possible, we support student groups that are addressing gaps in the sustainability of the AMS. For example, we are supporting the Reuse it Market with their reusable item pop up shops, Project Imagine with their thrift shops and Common Energy with the MugShare program.</li> </ul>

## FINANCE AND TRANSPARENCY

Status	Project	Notes
Ongoing	<u>Student consultation (3.2):</u> Consult the Sustainability Collective, AMS Resource Groups and student clubs on all relevant sustainability projects and policies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We regularly consult on our priorities and initiatives with the Sustainability Collective and the student members of the Sustainability Subcommittee.</li> <li>We have also consulted with UBC's Sustainability Ambassadors and Student Sustainability Council.</li> </ul>
In Progress	<u>Project maintenance fund (2.1):</u> Work with the Sustainability Funds Administrator to create a Sustainability Project Maintenance Fund to ensure the continued use and benefit of past sustainability projects in the Nest, as	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be discussed with Finance Committee.</li> </ul>

	well as any operational systems needed to carry out the SDSS. Create a system to monitor and assess these projects, develop an efficient and effective application system for the fund and establish the fund as annually recurring to ensure these projects continue to benefit students and the Nest.	
	<u>Project maintenance (2.2)</u> : Get any projects relevant to the SDSS back up and running, or develop a plan for future use. This includes the composter, revolving gardens, waste scale and 3D bins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are working on maintenance for the composter, revolving gardens, run off display, solepower bike, dashboard, waste scale and 3D bins.</li> </ul>
	<u>SPF process (3.1)</u> : Make the SPF more accessible to students and revamp the application process to make it easier and more digestible to applicants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft revisions will come to Finance Committee soon.</li> </ul>

## SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY & WELLBEING

Status	Project	Notes
Completed	<u>Sustainability Subcommittee (2.1)</u> : Work with the VP Admin to create a sustainability subcommittee for oversight and implementation of the SDSS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <a href="#">Sustainability Subcommittee</a> under Operations Committee has been formalized. The subcommittee meets 1-2 times per month.</li> </ul>
Ongoing	<u>Equity and social justice (1.1)</u> : Engage in discussions with AMS executives, staff and councillors around how the AMS can better advance equity, especially in relation to Indigenous affairs, through its advocacy, services and structure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AVP Sustainability attends Advocacy Committee meetings and meets with the Social Justice Centre to help apply a social justice lens to the AMS's work.</li> </ul>
	<u>Integration across the AMS (2.2)</u> : Meet regularly with staff under each AMS portfolio to discuss options for incorporating sustainability into their work. Develop a document that outlines the relationship between sustainability and each other portfolio.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The AVP Sustainability has collaborated with the VP External, VP Academic and University Affairs and VP Finance offices on various projects and will continue to engage through meetings and regular communication.</li> </ul>

On Hold	<p><u>SEEDS reconciliation project (1.2):</u> Work with Indigenous groups, SEEDS, UBC faculty and AMS staff to explore what Indigenous reconciliation looks like for the AMS, specifically reconciliation in the AMS Nest due to its function as a 'hub' for students on campus. Ensure that the project involves proper consultation with Indigenous stakeholders and its outcome moves to centre Indigenous voices in a way that is meaningful to First Nations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We do not have the capacity for another SEEDS project at this time.</li> <li>● The new Indigenous Committee may provide direction for such a project.</li> </ul>
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\* These goals were not included in the original June AMS Sustainability Report, but have since become priorities.