



SUBJECT	SUSTAINABILITY OCTOBER UPDATE
MEETING DATE	OCTOBER 23, 2019
MOTION	FOR INFORMATION SUBMISSION
PREPARED BY	Cole Evans, VP Administration Dani Stancer, AVP Sustainability Ian Lin, Sustainability Projects Coordinator
DOCUMENTS	1. AMS Sustainability Priorities October 2019 Update

DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE	Code mandates that the VP Administration coordinates an October update on the sustainability priorities outlined in the June Report.
------------------------------------	--

BENEFITS Reputational, Financial, Sustainable, Social	N/A
---	-----

RISKS Financial, Operational, Reputational	N/A
--	-----

COSTS N/A
Financial,
Resources, Lifecycle

TIMELINE N/A
Implementation
Timeline

CONSULTATION N/A
Internal & External
Groups



ams
SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability Priorities October 2019 Update

October 23, 2019

Prepared by

Dani Stancer, Associate Vice President Sustainability
Ian Lin, Sustainability Projects Coordinator

Introduction

As outlined in our [June report](#) to Council, the following are our priorities for the year:

1. Restructuring AMS Sustainability to create sustainable, long-lasting actions/measurements/initiatives that keep the department thriving.
 - a. AMS Sustainable Action Plan
 - b. New Sustainable Resource Document
 - c. Rewritten definition of sustainability for the AMS.
2. Focus on becoming an extension of the AMS to support student-led initiatives through increased partnerships.
 - a. Internal in the AMS
 - b. External with campus groups
 - c. External with key organizations
3. Build upon previous projects.
 - a. SEEDS Projects
 - b. Climate Change Art Competition
 - c. Interactive Sustainability Centre

The remainder of this document will provide an update on the current status of our priorities and an updated timeline for the year.

Restructuring AMS Sustainability to create sustainable, long-lasting actions/measurements/initiatives that keep the department thriving.

As stated in the June report, the main focus points for this priority are the creation of the Sustainable Action Plan, the Sustainability Resources Document, and a rewritten definition of sustainability for the AMS. These focus points are what we feel are key to the longevity of the Sustainability portfolio because they are setting up the AMS with documents that can be used for many years and provide a better foundation to build upon.

AMS Sustainable Action Plan (SAP)

Currently, the preliminary drafting for the SAP has been started with various things to look into, such as metrics to measure and previous documents created for inspiration. The metrics we are looking at are waste, GHG emissions, and the data collected by the Dashboard - water, electricity, gas, district energy, and solar heat. Additionally, the Sustainability Subcommittee will be providing input and insight into the creation of this and the AMS Zero Waste Food Ware Strategy Implementation Plan will be cited. The next steps for the SAP are to measure the metrics mentioned previously, as well as any brought up by the Subcommittee. After this, the AVP Sustainability will meet with the Executives, Food and Beverage, Catering and Conferences, AMS Events, and any other key players within the AMS to discuss what their sustainability goals are and how sustainability, and its practices, can be identified within their areas. The hope is to have the final draft done by the first week of January.

New Sustainable Resource Document

At the moment, the VP Administration is a client for the SOCI 380 Sociological Methods: Survey Research course where students will be designing a survey on the perceived support student groups receive. Part of the survey will include a section on how students want to be supported with sustainability, whether that's with event planning documents, information on recycling and e-waste recycling spaces on campus, or sustainable catering options. We will be working on this throughout second term.

Rewritten definition of sustainability for the AMS

We now have new branding and are currently working with the AMS Communications team to redevelop our page on the website and to develop a few creative pieces on

sustainability. As we progress through the coming six months, our understanding and definition of sustainability will change but we are aiming to have our page updated by the end of term two, once the SAP and Resource Document are complete and we have a better idea of how students perceive sustainability.

Focus on becoming an extension of the AMS to support student-led initiatives through increased partnerships.

Internal in the AMS

As part of the SAP, we will be meeting with various key players in the AMS to see how sustainability can be best implemented within their areas. We are working closely with Food and Beverage and Procurement to see how we can shift our buying practices to reflect the AMS Zero Waste Food Ware Strategy Implementation Plan and on the UBC Healthy Beverage Initiative.

External with campus groups

As part of the Sustainable Resource Document, the aim is to include student input into this document because it is for and will be used by the students. We need their input on what they believe they benefit from with a Sustainable Resource Document. At the moment, we are also working with Common Energy to re-evaluate the current MoU we have with them and to create a new one that benefits both parties better. Lastly, we have just met with SEEDS to update each other on our progress and goals for the rest of the year, as outlined in the MoU we have with them.

External with key organizations

We now have Chopvalue chopstick collection bins beside the sorting stations near Honour Roll and GNE, as well as one inside GNE. We will be following up with them at the end of the term to see how the collection has been going since the bins have been in place since the beginning of September. Following this, we may look into acquiring custom bins designed with recycled chopsticks. Lastly, we have met with Scrapless, a web app started by UBC Engineers Without Borders, whose aim is to reduce food waste and alleviate food insecurity. We have connected them to the AMS Foodbank as well as Roots on the Roof and are working on setting up a meeting between Food and Beverage, Catering and Conferences, and Scrapless.

Build upon previous projects

SEEDS Projects

Over the years, we have been collaborating with SEEDS to create various student capstone projects. Currently there are two things we are working on. First, is the maintenance of past projects. Mainly the Waste Scale, Runoff and Revolving Gardens. Waste Scale is on the top of our list to repair, as it can help provide better data for the SAP and allow the opportunity for students to use the data for research and educational purposes. Runoff and Revolving are one of the sustainable centrepieces within our Nest. We hope to inspire future students

Climate Change Art Competition

This competition was hosted 2018-2019 to promote sustainability awareness by creating an art piece through a creative medium. We have been contacting the students in charge but are still waiting on an official reply to continue building the project. The next plan of action if there are no responses, would be to collaborate SEEDS and find a suitable student group to work on it. Moving forward, we are looking into the option of hosting a case competition instead. The planning and preliminary brainstorming have only just begun and we hope to have more information soon.

Interactive Sustainability Centre (ISC)

The Interactive Sustainability Centre will become the successor to the Student Life and Sustainability Centre. We are currently working with Design AMS and SEEDS to create a project proposal, for the development of the ISC, by November 1st. The concept of the ISC is to become a blend of both a student lounge and a hub for AMS Sustainability. We hope to somehow incorporate past and current SEEDS projects and our LEEDS Platinum Plaque. The concept is in its preliminary stage but the sustainability team working hard to create a concrete development plan.