
SUBJECT	Sustainability July Report
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MOTION	FOR INFORMATION SUBMISSION
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DOCUMENTS	1. Sustainability July Report

DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE	N/A
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BENEFITS Reputational, Financial, Sustainable, Social	N/A
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RISKS Financial, Operational, Reputational	N/A
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COSTS Financial, Resources, Lifecycle	N/A
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TIMELINE Implementation Timeline	N/A
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CONSULTATION Internal & External Groups	N/A
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ATTACHMENT #1 – AMS Sustainability July Report



ams SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability Priorities June 2020 Update

July 15, 2020

Prepared by:

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Claire Ewing, Sustainability Projects Coordinator

Introduction

AMS Sustainability is excited to be able to present to you our initial vision for AMS Sustainability for the 2020/21 year. We've been working incredibly hard on identifying priorities for the AMS, as well as setting the stage to continue ensuring that the AMS is a leader when it comes to sustainable practices.

For the 2020-21 year, AMS Sustainability plans on focusing on six key target areas which are identified and defined within the newly implemented AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP). Each target area is supported with several action items for each to ensure AMS provides the greatest potential for meaningful and sustainable impact.

Facilities Operations

- SEEDS Sustainability Projects
- AMS Net Zero Framework

Business Operations

- AMS Zero Waste Food Ware Strategy
- Sustainable Investment

Advocacy & Leadership

- AMS Sustainability Symposiums
- Climate Justice Collaborative
- Open Education Resources

Student Services

- AMS Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC)
- AMS Thingery
- UBC Food Security Initiative

Campus Coordination

- AMS Sustainability Communications
- UBC Sustainability Ambassadors Conference

Indigenous Coordination

- AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP) 2.0

Action Items

SEEDS Sustainability Projects

ASAP GOAL # 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 1.12, 1.13, 1.14, 1.15, 2.4, 2.11, 5.2

Overseen by the AMS Sustainability Projects Coordinator, AMS Sustainability has a memorandum of understanding with the UBC SEEDS (Social Ecological Economic Development Studies) Program where we collaborate on a variety of AMS Sustainability Projects. They are first proposed as ideas and then brought to life through the AMS Sustainability Projects Fund.

A list of projects we are hoping to work on this year are as follows:

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status + Next Steps
U-Square Mobile	<p>An interactive wind turbine that educates students on renewable energy sources.</p> <p>In 2019, we worked on phase 3 of the project which was the internal wirings and installation outside of the Nest ground level. This was accomplished through a Capstone Project in the Electrical Engineering Program.</p>	<p>Project Status: Installation Needed</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Project Coordinator will coordinate with students from the ECE Capstone Project to retrieve the physical prototype and finish installation.</p>
Waste Scale	<p>A previous SEEDS project that allows AMS Nest to track daily waste output. The purpose of reinstalling the Waste Scale is to track the Nest waste output for the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP).</p>	<p>Project Status: Installation Needed</p> <p>Reinstall the Waste Scale and get it running. There is a delay in reinstalling due to zero funding or procedure to old projects out of commission.</p>
Revolving Gardens	<p>A sustainable art piece near the Great Hall in the Nest. The gears fell off the railing and required a lift and a technician to fix it.</p>	<p>Project Status: Maintenance Needed</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will follow up on the lift and posting for outsource work on the maintenance.</p>

<p>Runoff</p>	<p>A sustainable art piece near the Pie R Squared. in the Nest. The gears fell off the railing and required a lift and a technician to fix it.</p>	<p>Project Status: Maintenance Needed</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will follow up on the lift and posting for outsource work on the maintenance.</p>
<p>Dashboard</p>	<p>The Dashboard is meant to be an interactive tech piece for students to interact with. It is connected to sensors in the AMS to display input and output information.</p>	<p>Project Status: Installation Needed</p> <p>The Dashboard is currently disconnected and will be implemented in the Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC) and the AMS Sustainability Website.</p>
<p>Waste Hub</p>	<p>A Waste Hub within the Nest has been a strongly desired project by the UBC community. The Hub allows the public to recycle hard-to-recycle materials such as e-waste, batteries, soft plastics, etc.</p>	<p>Project Status: In Proposal Stages</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will pitch this idea to the SEEDS team to begin collaboration and discussion on this project.</p>
<p>Supply Chain Audit</p>	<p>Analysis of AMS suppliers, in order to decide if we need to pressure them to change their practices/production or seek alternatives to that supplier entirely. A concurrent or subsequent project to this could be researching higher quality, available, economically-feasible alternatives to those suppliers that do not align with our sustainability goals.</p>	<p>Project Status: In Proposal Stages</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will follow up with SEEDS regarding classes and specific projects.</p>
<p>Social Sustainability at the AMS</p>	<p>Analyses at intersections of social and ecological wellbeing:</p> <p><u>SOCI/PSYC</u>: surveys - loneliness/isolation/mental health, inclusion - making sure services are meeting needs of the community around social sustainability;</p>	<p>Project Status: In Proposal Stages</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will follow up with SEEDS regarding classes and specific projects.</p>

	<u>VISA/SALA</u> - art/demonstrative projects	
Climate Justice	<p>Projects centered around food insecurity, land use and public realm around space designation.</p> <p>Build off initial community input and work from CJRC, CCUB, FSI, and Climate Emergency Declaration - interim CE dialogues Report.</p>	<p>Project Status: In Proposal Stages</p> <p>The AMS Sustainable Projects Coordinator will collaborate with community partners, the VP AUA and External offices in seeking possible projects for SEEDS to run.</p>

AMS Net Zero Framework

ASAP GOAL # 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, 2.13

This will be an additional guideline roadmap that would be added to the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP). Net Zero’s definition is given to a zero-energy building, where the facility has zero net energy consumption, meaning the total amount of energy used by the building on an annual basis is equal to the amount of renewable energy created on-site.

Although AMS Nest is already LEED Platinum Certified, AMS Sustainability believes in further reducing the Nest’s environmental impact by pushing the boundaries of innovation at UBC. AMS Sustainability currently sits on the UBC Climate Action Plan 2030 committee. Our AMS Net Zero strategic guideline would path specific AMS action items within ASAP in the span of the next 10 years to ensure that AMS reaches the 1.5° UN Paris Climate Agreement.

AMS Net Zero objectives include:

1. Define additional targets and actions for GHG reductions from 2020-2030
 - a. Invest in large-scale renewable energy capital projects
 - b. Conduct annual reports on AMS carbon emissions
 - c. Collaborate with SEEDs on further student-led research projects
 - i. These may include projects researching and/or addressing the carbon in AMS’ supply chain, decision-making processes (environmental costing analysis), waste sources, energy and water usage, etc.

2. Widen AMS Sustainability's scope to include areas of influence extending beyond AMS operations, such as commuting, food, waste, material, and paper
3. Map out a process and pathway to achieve 2030+ goals and targets
 - a. AMS processes and pathways can follow the larger UBC Climate Action Plan 2030 mechanisms, wherein we consider our operational, extended, and community impacts, and our external collective influence as an organization
 - b. Categories of addressment could include: behavior change, supply chain management, energy, water, waste systems, heating/cooling

AMS Zero Waste Foodware Strategy

ASAP GOAL # 1.12, 1.13, 1.14, 1.15, 2.6, 2.7, 2.10

Aligning with the UBC Sustainability strategy, Zero Waste and Foodware Innovation is a guideline within the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP). The implementation plan aims to support AMS Business Operations transition away from single-use items and towards reusables to support a circular economy.

Our Zero Waste and Foodware Innovation goals include:

1. Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, we seek to balance public health concerns with plans to reinstate reusable foodware. We will adhere to the advice of government officials and health professionals before introducing or reintroducing zero waste foodware strategies. The following action items are to occur after it is safe to proceed:
 - a. Reimplement mugshare (discontinued due to product error)
 - b. Collaborate in a campus-wide containershare program with the UBC Food Systems Project
 - c. Implement \$0.10 fee for single-use cutlery in 2021
 - d. Implement custom ChopValue chopstick collection bins in the AMS Nest
 - e. Look into Drinkfill, a zero waste beverage station that students use to refill their reusable containers with upscale beverages such as kombucha, nitro cold-brew coffee.



Sustainable Investing

ASAP GOAL# 2.5, 2.15, 3.10

The AMS Investment Policy (policy number: I-8) invests in equity securities of companies that align with our vision of ethical considerations, including but not limited to environmental sustainability, social justice, human rights and good governance.

Our investments are “fossil fuel free” where Funds will use an exclusion list based on the Carbon Underground 200 list. Any company included in the Carbon Underground 200 report would be ineligible for the Fund. The Carbon Underground 200 report identifies the top 100 public coal and oil/gas companies globally, ranked by the potential carbon emissions of their reported reserves. The VP Finance portfolio will be reaching out to our investment manager to explore additional ways the AMS can invest more sustainably.

AMS Sustainability Symposiums

ASAP GOAL # 2.9, 3.1, 3.6, 3.8, 3.14, 5.3

While the AMS has taken great strides in its efforts to promote sustainability at UBC, my team and I are committed to building new avenues by which more members of the UBC community can engage in discussions regarding our AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP).

By developing ways in which clubs, constituencies and students can voice their concerns regarding the AMS’s sustainability strategy and are held accountable to the goals outlined in ASAP, the AMS can ensure a more unified front in addressing sustainability across campus.

Our AMS Sustainability Symposium goals include:

- Establishment of AMS Sustainability Symposiums beginning in September 2020: these monthly meetings will involve AMS Sustainability sub-committee members, representatives from AMS Clubs and Constituencies, and general UBC students, and will be open to the public
- The Symposiums will foster a greater dialogue between the AMS, the student body and the general public on AMS Sustainability goals, action items and monthly progress, as well as creating a forum by which the AMS can learn about the general public’s sustainability concerns

- The Symposiums will result in the development of resources and guidelines for AMS clubs and constituencies that ensure that these groups are accountable to the commitments outlined in ASAP

Climate Justice Collaborative

ASAP GOAL # 1.10, 2.5, 2.9, 3.1, 3.2, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13

The AMS strives to hold UBC accountable to divestment and the 2030 Climate Action Plan. As we focus on climate justice, the Academic and University Affairs Office is taking a collective responsibility to divestment, as well as implementation of the recommendations from the Climate Emergency Community Engagement sessions.

The External Affairs Office will continue to be committed to adequate climate action advocacy through working with the provincial government to ensure that the infusion of the provincial government's Budget 2020 investment of \$106 million into capital funding to promote clean energy is properly allocated. Additionally, they will be advocating for students to be consulted, educated and briefed on the Labour Readiness Program (LRP) to prepare students and their families to enter a CleanBC economy.

Our Climate Justice goals include:

- Actively participate in the Climate Emergency Task Force, as well as the Teaching and Learning Committee, Climate Justice Committee, and Accountability Committee
- Holding the AMS and UBC accountable towards the principles of being Carbon Neutral and Zero Waste by upholding of the Carbon Neutral Action Plan and Zero Waste Action Plan
- Assuring transparency of the AMS and UBC's position in the status of the UBC Wellbeing Strategic Plan
- Meeting with student activist groups such as UBCC350, XR, Women's Centre, Social Justice Centre, Amnesty International by August (more meetings if required)
- Advocate for increased student consultation by CleanBC with regards to the Labour Readiness Program throughout the months of January, February, and March
- Work with students to participate in consultations as to the progress made by the provincial government with regards to the CleanBC plan

- Expand advocacy by working with the members of the Undergraduates of Canadian Research-Intensive Universities (UCRU) towards the federal government and their commitment towards emission reduction targets by working with student unions across Canada and British Columbia.

Open Education Resources

ASAP GOAL # 2.9, 3.1, 3.5, 3.7, 3.9, 3.10, 3.12, 3.17

Open Education Resources (OERs) play a major role in contributing towards a sustainable future. These online and widely accessible learning materials ensure that a future paperless academic environment is possible. The VP External Affairs office has been lobbying the provincial government to invest an additional \$5 million into BC Campus to ensure that more learning materials are being produced. Furthermore, they plan on working with student unions to include this recommendation as a part of their 2021 Budget Consultation Submission.

Our Sustainability Advocacy goals include:

- Working with student unions across BC as well as federal unions such as UCRU in support of fair use with regards to the Copyright Act
- Form a comprehensive recommendation in the AMS Budget 2021 Consultation Submission which proves that OERs yield positive rates of return and therefore should be granted an extension of funding

AMS Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC)

ASAP GOAL # 2.9, 3.6, 3.8, 3.9, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5

With the replacement of the space occupied by the Student Life Sustainability Centre by the Clubs Resource Centre, the AMS currently lacks a concrete venue for collaboration on ASAP. Since January 2020, discussions, consultation and planning for a new sustainability centre - the AMS Interactive Sustainability Centre (ISC) - has been taking place amongst various stakeholders. The ISC is a hub for students to foster sustainability.



Our Interactive Sustainability Center goals include:

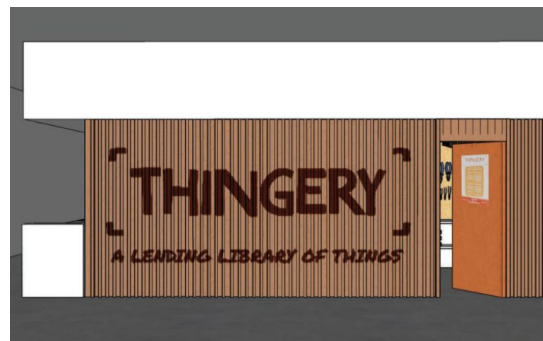
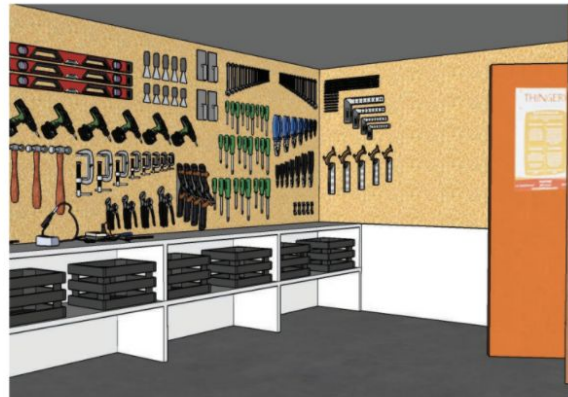
- Engaging in consultation with various sustainability-focused groups in order to determine what kind of programming could take place in the ISC
- Finalizing a design for the ISC that best suits the programming which will take place in the space
- Beginning construction on the ISC in the LIFE Building (Room 0017), with the goal of completing and opening the space by January 2021

AMS Thingery

ASAP GOAL # 2.6, 2.8, 2.10

Proposed to open beside the AMS Interactive Sustainability Center, AMS Thingery is a community owned lending library of things. Acting similar to a library, the Thingery is a self-service resource where students can check things in and out at their convenience. Possible inventory can include: recreation equipment, woodworking tools, event & entertainment decor, household appliances, and musical instruments.

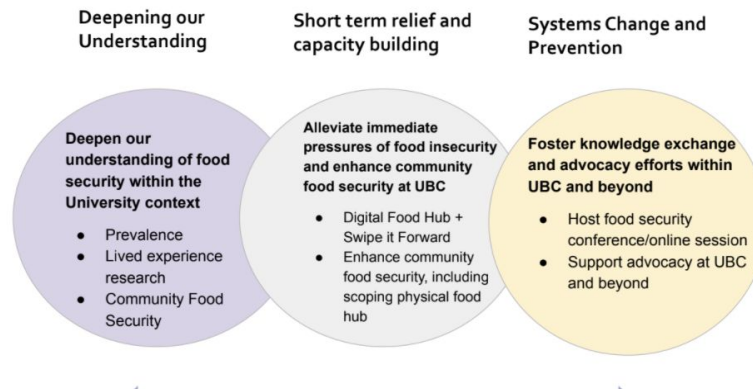
AMS Thingery offers a simple and convenient way to start a lending library of things in the UBC community. We hope the Thingery can promote the act of reusing, avoiding the life cycle emissions and avoiding waste in our communities.



UBC Food Security Initiative

ASAP GOAL # 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.14, 3.2, 3.4. 4.1, 4.2

In partnership with the VP AUA and External office, AMS Sustainability collaborates with the UBC Food Security Initiative where we promote food security solutions through cross-campus, regional, and national collaboration and inclusive, student and faculty-led research opportunities. Our partnership aims to create sustainable solutions to further policy and advocacy work and practices as part of our effort to transform food and social systems here at the AMS.



This year we would like to establish a Food Security guideline within the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP) to support the reduction of food insecurity at UBC by 2025. The goals that outline this guideline include:

1. Deepen our understanding of food security within the University context
2. Alleviate immediate pressures of food security and enhance community food security at UBC (e.g. AMS Food Bank)
3. Foster knowledge exchange and advocacy efforts within AMS and beyond

AMS Sustainability Communications

ASAP GOAL # 3.9, 3.18, 5.1, 5.5

There has been a lack of communication, marketing, and digital communication between AMS Sustainability and the student body. This year we hope to revamp the AMS Sustainability website to be a digital resource hub for students to visit. Being more interactive, the website will also see new additions including a list of AMS Sustainability clubs and constituencies, on-campus opportunities, and an overview of the AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP).

We are currently in discussion on the possibility of opening up a respective AMS Sustainability Facebook page and Instagram account. Having specific social media pages for AMS Sustainability allows us to share our current projects and progress on a frequent basis. Furthermore we are able to share the projects of AMS Sustainability clubs and constituencies to encourage participation within our student body.

UBC Sustainability Ambassadors Conference

ASAP GOAL # 2.9, 3.6, 3.9

An AMS Sustainability Conference was proposed last year as an alternative to the Climate Art Competition. This year we will be collaborating with the UBC Sustainability Ambassadors with their annual Sustainability Ambassadors Hackathon. Our participation includes funding, judging, and providing resources to the Ambassadors. Last year, the proposed case was to create a program that could track the Nest's data to improve metrics and goals which we hope to continue with moving forward.

AMS Sustainable Action Plan 2.0

ASAP GOAL # 2.5, 2.9, 4.9, 5.6

Although the policy is set to be reviewed in 2023, our team believes that a few additions are necessary moving forward. Proposed additions set for 2021 implementation includes:

- The introduction of a completed Indigenous Coordination section, as well as better addressing and recognizing the Sustainable Development Goals Framework and its roots in the promotion of a colonial system
- Inclusion of a detailed overview of the Student Driven Sustainability Strategy (SDSS) and Lighter Footprint Strategy (LFS), both of which are previous sustainability policies
- Introducing hyperlinks which may be accessed by the general public to find resources listed throughout the action plan
- Including Food Security and Net Zero guidelines, to be implemented as a part of ASAP