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<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>SUSTAINABILITY OCTOBER UPDATE</b>
<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>OCTOBER 21, 2020</b>
<b>MOTION</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION SUBMISSION</b>
<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Sylvester Mensah, VP Administration Jason Pang, AVP Sustainability Claire Ewing, Sustainability Projects Coordinator
<b>DOCUMENTS</b>	1. AMS Sustainability Priorities October 2020 Update

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<b>DESCRIPTION &amp; RATIONALE</b>	Code mandates that the VP Administration coordinates an October update on the sustainability priorities outlined in the June Report.
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<b>BENEFITS</b> Reputational, Financial, Sustainable, Social	N/A
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**RISKS** N/A  
Financial,  
Operational,  
Reputational

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**COSTS** N/A  
Financial,  
Resources, Lifecycle

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**TIMELINE** N/A  
Implementation  
Timeline

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**CONSULTATION** N/A  
Internal & External  
Groups

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**ATTACHMENT #1 – Sustainability Priorities October 2020 Update**



**ams**  
**SUSTAINABILITY**

**Sustainability Priorities October 2020 Update**

October 21, 2020

Prepared by

Jason Pang, Associate Vice President Sustainability  
Claire Ewing, Sustainability Projects Coordinator

## Introduction

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

### 1. Facilities Operations

- SEEDS Sustainability Projects
- AMS Net Zero Framework

### 2. Business Operations

- AMS Zero Waste Food Ware Strategy
- Sustainable Investment

### 3. Advocacy & Leadership

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

### 4. Student Services

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

### 5. Campus Coordination

- AMS Sustainability Communications
- UBC Sustainability Ambassadors Conference

### 6. Indigenous Coordination

- AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP) 2.0

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

## Facilities Operations

### SEEDS Sustainability Projects

Project Name	Project Status
<b>U-Square Mobile</b>	<b>Installation Needed</b>  SEEDS project charters for installation have been submitted and are slated for Term 2
<b>Waste Scale</b>	<b>Installation Needed/Impending</b>  Reinstall the Waste Scale and get it running. We will have a quote for the electricals needed by the end of October, after which we will submit an SPF application to get it fixed and installed. Our goal is to (re)introduce the Waste Scale, ISC, and Dashboard around the same time, since they will be working together.
<b>Runoff &amp; Revolving Gardens</b>	<b>Maintenance Underway</b>  Repairs were delayed due to the manufacturing of specialized gears for the runoff garden which is now complete and is pending completion from Smith Industries.
<b>Supply Chain Audit</b>	<b>In Proposal Stages</b>  Currently in discussion with SEEDS about a project auditing AMS' supply chain. We are deciding whether this should have more of a food-security or a carbon-emissions theme, which will determine the course of the project.
<b>Campus-wide Container Sharing Program</b>	<b>Proposals Under Review</b>  SEEDS project charters have been submitted and are slated for Term 2
<b>Waste Hub</b>	<b>In Proposal Stages</b>  Potential designs have been identified, location within the Nest/Life Building intersection has been selected.

<p><b>Equity-based Grants</b></p>	<p><b>In Proposal Stages</b></p> <p>Proposed by Saad Shoaib (AVP External Affairs) to SEEDS, project charter currently being created.</p>
<p><b>Dashboard</b></p>	<p><b>Installation Needed</b></p> <p>Currently disconnected and will be implemented in the Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC) and the AMS Sustainability Website (which is newly launched, but still needs to integrate the Dashboard component).</p>

**AMS Net Zero Framework**

The AMS has made it a priority to achieve net zero emissions by 2025 in order to honor the UN Paris Climate Agreement of 1.5° of warming and our students’ commitment to sustainability. Accordingly, we are first gathering data and strategies for **how and where** AMS can reduce emissions.

1. We have created a project charter with SEEDS, with the project slated to occur in Term 2, to calculate the Nest’s GHG emissions, GHG sources, and propose strategies for reduction. We hope to implement those recommendations in other SEEDS projects, capital projects, and more.
2. We have proposed another project with SEEDS that would involve a supply chain audit of AMS’s suppliers, examining their environmental impacts. If this project finds suppliers that do not align with our net zero goals, the AMS can choose to reevaluate our relationship with those suppliers, which can reduce the emissions for which we are responsible.



## Business Operations

### AMS Zero Waste Foodware Strategy

The AMS Zero Waste Foodware Strategy will be incorporated into a broader AMS Zero Waste Framework based on the new UBC Zero Waste Action Plan in 2021. The university updates their recycling and waste performance metrics every year, and the implementation of the AMS Zero Waste Framework can allow the AMS to meet the waste diversion targets as set by the university. We are currently building a Terms of Reference with UBC Campus + Community Planning to ensure proper alignment of our society's goals. Furthermore, we hope to discover opportunities to improve the amount of waste that is generated at the AMS Nest through the Waste Scale, Waste Hub, Campus-wide Container Sharing Program, and a Supply Chain Audit initiated through SEEDS.

Other Zero Waste updates include:

1. **Mugshare:**
2. **Food Services:** currently non-AMS affiliated food outlets in the Nest are not following protocols outlined by the AMS Zero Waste Foodware Strategy, hoping to implement \$0.10 fee for single-use cutlery in 2021
3. **Waste Display Cases:** ordered 10 3D Waste Display Cases for the waste bins located at the ground and 1st floor of the Nest through the SPF; estimated installation in late November

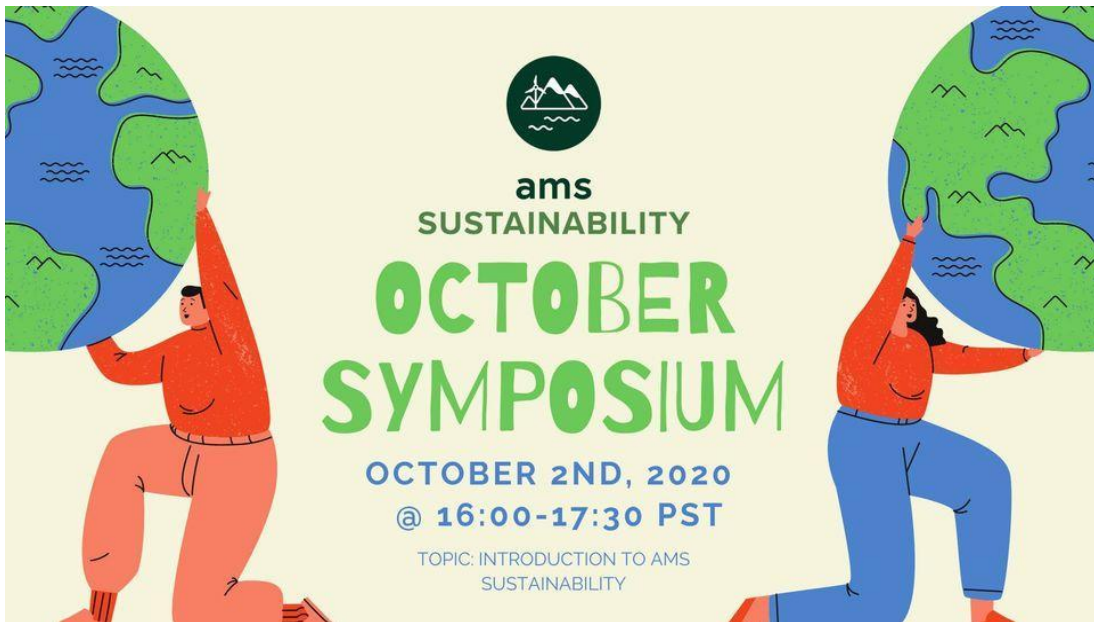


## **Advocacy and Leadership**

### **AMS Sustainability Symposium**

Our first AMS Sustainability Symposium was hosted on October 2nd from 4:00-5:30 PM PST through Zoom. We had 28 participants attend with representatives from 9 undergraduate societies and clubs. The October Symposium was themed Introduction to AMS Sustainability where attendees learned about the AMS Sustainable Action Plan, 2020 Sustainability Priorities, and opportunity updates from clubs. The next symposium will be on November 6th, themed Sustainability Projects Fund Orientation with speakers from the Student Environment Center, U-Town@UBC, and AMS's Sustainability Funds Administrator. The December Symposium will be hosted on December 4th.





### Climate Justice Collaborative

The VP AUA office has been working with Student Leaders from the Climate Hub and Climate Justice UBC on implementation and accountability. We have secured funding of \$1.5 mil for the implementation of “quick start” projects (projects that can be started within a year). These quick starts can stem from 6 key focus areas identified in the Climate Emergency interim report:

1. Teaching, learning, and research
2. Administration and investment
3. Community support and engagement
4. Campus Operations
5. Commuting
6. Advocacy and Partnerships

## Student Services

### Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC)

The Interactive Sustainability Center (ISC) is currently in the consultation phase with highly active clubs and organizations on campus that focus on sustainability issues. We conducted a survey in July, followed by a focus group of members from assorted clubs, both of which offered preliminary feedback on the space and its uses. In order to achieve more specific responses as to how the space will be used, what resources can be provided by clubs and organizations, and how it will be facilitated, we have conducted one-on-one consultations with members of clubs and organizations. Feedback from these three stages of consultation should

be synthesized by the end of October. We are expecting a January 2021 completion for the ISC.

### **AMS Thingery**

The AMS Thingery has received great feedback from students during the AMS Sustainability Symposium and the Zero Waste Action Plan team from Campus and Community Planning. Our engagement with the community has shown high interest in the campus-wide free store where students are able to lower their environmental footprint through borrowing items rather than purchasing new. This project will begin after the completion of the ISC.

### **UBC Food Security Initiative (FSI)**

We regularly work with and in the FSI on the social and ecological sustainability dimensions of food security. Recently, the imperative of the FSI has been emphasized by the financial stresses of COVID-19. Accordingly, the FSI is working on a variety of projects and initiatives, including:

1. Creating a physical and digital food hubs (which would contribute to food security by offering food education and food spaces on campus)
2. Working with the Greater Vancouver Foodbank to bring food to campus, alongside partnerships with grocers who donate recovered food to the AMS Foodbank
3. Meeting short-term COVID-related food insecurity, while advocating long-term support pieces with leadership, reaching beyond emergency food and emergency bursaries
4. Building a new food distribution system at Acadia Park, which is newly officially-sanctioned by the University

## **Campus Coordination**

### **AMS Sustainability Communications**

The new AMS Sustainability website is now live! The team will continue editing and refining the page to better reflect our goals and initiatives. Furthermore, we are also hoping to redo the Sustainability Projects Fund (SPF) page on the site for better accessibility for students when applying. We expect updates to be completed by the end of 2020.

We are also hoping to build an Instagram story takeover to better connect with students and to explain the process of applying for the SPF.

### **UBC Sustainability Ambassadors Case Competition**

Continuing the partnership between the AMS and UBC Sustainability, we will be partnering with the UBC Sustainability Ambassadors on a sustainability focused case competition in March. Last year's conference, Sustainability Hacks was postponed and will be the leading conference for this year. As one of the presenting cases, participants will be figuring out ways to improve the AMS's social, economic, and environmental initiatives on campus.

Furthermore, we are partnering with UBC undergraduate societies on an interfaculty case competition held from January 11th to 15th. The theme of the competition will be around the Campus Food Recovery Challenge as presented by the UBC Food Security Initiative.

## **Indigenous Coordination**

### **AMS Sustainable Action Plan (ASAP) 2.0**

We presented ASAP to the Indigenous Committee in September and have been in constant communication with the committee since. With our understanding of their capacity limitations, we have sought consultation from other groups in our community of which the SDG alliance and others have expressed willingness to contribute where appropriate. We recently got correspondence from Amplify Indigenous Voices, a third party organization with expertise in consultation , who will aid the work being done by the AMS and in conjunction with our on-campus Indigenous community.

Amplify Indigenous Voices works to educate non-Indigenous people about the lives, cultures, and challenges that Indigenous people face across the globe (through an SDG framework as well as a lens that extends beyond the SDGs), provides allies with resources towards action and positive change, as well as strengthen relationships between governments and Indigenous populaces through grassroots advocacy.