



University of Alberta Students' Union

## SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

**25 November 2021**  
**3:00pm**  
**Google Meet/In-Person**

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

### **ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT (Y/N)
Andrew Batycki, chair		Y
Akanksha Yeola		N
Talia Dixon		Y
Aadhavya Sivakumaran		Y
Megan Uglem		Y
Milan Regmi		Y
Rucha Patel		Y
Courtney Graham		N/A

### **MINUTES (SUSC 2021-07)**

**2021-07/1**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

**2021-07/1a**

#### **Call to Order**

BATYCKI: Called the meeting to order at 3:02 P.M.

**2021-07/1b**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

PATEL/REGMI MOVE TO approve the minutes from last meeting.  
CARRIED

**2021-07/1c**

#### **Approval of Agenda**

REGMI/UGLEM MOVE TO approve the agenda.  
CARRIED

**2021-07/1d**

**Chair's Business**

**2021-07/2**

**QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2021-07/3**

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2021-07/3a**

**Social Sustainability EDI Draft Recommendations**

BATYCKI: Vision impaired concerns were merged with accessibility concerns.

REGMI: Agrees.

BATYCKI: Notes that, to make the policy more inclusive, specific buildings should not be mentioned.

REGMI: States that certain buildings were singled out regarding EDI recommendations because those buildings had gender neutral washrooms.

BATYCKI: Declares that the university provided information regarding gender neutral washrooms is very inaccurate. Suggests to replace the mention of specific buildings with specific campuses.

REGMI: Agrees.

BATYCKI: Questions if professors need to go through a vulnerable sector check.

REGMI: Responds in the negative.

BATYCKI: Dixon would know more about this.

BATYCKI: Questions if everybody is clear what happens when Sustainability Committee finishes all recommendations.

SIVAKUMARAN: Is uncertain.

BATYCKI: States that the goal of the committee is to provide sustainable recommendations (environmental, social and economic) to Students' Council. Then have the recommendations consulted by student groups and the university, before re-presenting to Students' Council for approval.

**2021-7/3b**

**Economic Sustainability**

BATYCKI: Economic sustainability is the last pillar of sustainability that the committee will look at. Economic sustainability is typically a byproduct of environmental and social sustainability movements/investments and infrastructure.

The committee will brainstorm ideas about how the university can be more economically sustainable.

Provides the example that the SU is very reliant on volunteers. However, volunteer

workload is very intense which prevents volunteers from returning year-to-year.

UGLEM: Questions if volunteer workload increases each year.

BATYCKI: Clarifies that volunteer workload isn't necessarily increasing every year but, rather, the workload is so intense that volunteers do not return.

Further states that SU businesses could be more economically sustainable. States that Dewey's loses money every year.

SIVAKUMARAN: Suggests that the quality of food and service at Dewey's has been consistently downtrending.

BATYCKI: Further states that, because of COVID-19, people may not be spending as much time on campus and, therefore, may not be spending as much time at SU businesses such as Dewey's.

UGLEM: States that trivia night always brings people to Dewey's, but is not always advertised well.

BATYCKI: Questions if anybody in the committee knows where Dinwoodie Lounge is located.

COMMITTEE: Responds in the negative.

BATYCKI: States that Dinwoodie Lounge is located on the second floor of SUB. Dinwoodie is not utilized often, partly because it is so expensive for student groups to book.

SIVAKUMARAN: Clarifies that Week of Welcome is the only time that Dinwoodie is utilized frequently.

PATEL: Suggests turning Dinwoodie into a study space.

BATYCKI: Poses how the SU could better use their resources, increase sponsorships, fundraise and provide more scholarships.

Groups for economic sustainability will be focused around such things as: Dinwoode/RATT, Fundraising/Sponsorships and etc.

A form will be sent out to committee members to sign up for specific economic sustainability recommendations.

**2021-07/4**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2021-07/5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

BATYCKI: Adjourned the meeting at 3:41 P.M.