

# Campus Sustainability Fund Final Report

## 1.0 - Project Report

### 1.1- Project Title:

**“Knowledge sharing and repairing: First Ever UVic Repair Café”**

### 1.2- Report Prepared by:

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### 1.3- Key Accomplishments:

Please describe your projects key accomplishments.

The Repair Café was held in the Boardroom at the Geography Department, on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00 to 5:00PM. Approximately 20 persons (students, faculty, staff) participated in the activity and some additional people dropped in very briefly. Four volunteers helped in the long-term preparation and to set up the space (poster and brochure display on issues related to waste, recycling, reuse and repair). While repairing some items brought in by participants (e.g. kettle, headphones, jacket, lamp, bicycle bag, and sewing), all participants engaged vividly in diverse discussions on topics related to repair, waste, consumption, sustainability, etc.

### 1.4- Student Learning:

Please describe how the expected student learning opportunities were realized.

Learning opportunities were created through the repair of items, either watching or actively participating. In addition, there was the opportunity for sharing knowledge during discussions on related issues. All participants engaged actively in these conversations.

### 1.5- Goal Acquisition:

Was the project goal achieved? In answering please describe how the project effected the relevant stakeholders and where the project is currently.

Yes, the primary project goal was achieved. We implemented the first Repair Café. We were able to have an in-depth discussion with the participants on issues related to sustainability. In these conversations, we also assessed how to give continuity to this event, and how to attract the attention of a larger public. We had exposure to the media through the UVic channels (Social Sciences Communication, The Ring, List serve, Facebook). The social media presence (Facebook), as well as emails turned out to be effective in reaching out to quite a lot of people. One attendee even had heard about the event by reading the “Ring”. The Facebook post was shown to approx. 5,200 people and was clicked by 280 people. The event presents an even more favorable outcome than originally expected. Instead of a high visitor-count, assuming that the only motivation would be a free repair, we observed a low visitor-count; but the people who came seemed to be interested in more than simply a free repair. We noted, that they were interested in strengthening ties or in initiating a new cooperation between departments, namely Geography, Business and Mechanical Engineering. Nevertheless, we would have liked to have attracted more students and faculty to the event.

### 1.6- Long Term Consequences:

How will this project be continued and its accomplishments carried forward?

There is a need to repeat this kind of event and to even establish regular repair cafes. The space of a repair café is very fertile in generating informal discussions of very relevant topics related to repair (from resource management, resource extraction to consumption and waste). In addition, the space is also a meeting place, where likeminded people can meet and engage in conversations or even build stronger ties. It would be great if the idea of “Repair Cafés” on campus could be carried on, either by students or by the CBRL. It might be worth trying to establish upcoming

events not only focused on repairing; but rather as a hub for connecting similar minded people, that wouldn't have met otherwise. Another possibility would be to integrate mechanical skill lessons into the Repair Café activity.

### 1.7- Lesson's learned:

What advice would you give others attempting similar projects through Sustainability Fund?

The organization of these events need a longer preparation time and more outreach into the community. A broader advertisement with posters hung up all around campus is a necessity in order to reach out to students/staff from more faculties. In addition, a different location could also help attracting a larger public. An alternative to the Geography Board Room might be the SUB.

### 1.8- Timeline:

Please provide the *actual* project start and end dates

Start Date	End Date
1.10.2017	28.02.2018

### 1.9- Feedback

Do you have any feedback for the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability or the Sustainability Fund Application Review Committee regarding your experience with the Fund?

The Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability was extremely flexible in the timing and very supportive in the submission process of the grant application. During the process of the project implementation the responsible employees from that office were extremely helpful in supporting the communication and dissemination of the information, making contacts and providing feedback.

## 2.0- Project Financials

### 2.1– Budget

Please provide a completed final budget describing how the budget provide was actually spent. Please provide receipts for any expenses that have not yet been claimed through the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability.

Honorarium for helpers: 400.-

Catering: 184.-

Printing of educational material: 250.-

Total: 834.-\$

