

**UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA**  
**CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Minutes of Meeting: April 19, 2022**  
**9:00am – 10:30am**

**Zoom Online Meeting**

<b>Membership</b>			
	<b>Voting:</b>		<b>Ex-Officio:</b>
√	Susan Lewis, Acting Co-Chair	√	Ron Proulx
√	Kristi Simpson, Acting Co-Chair	R	Julie Potter
√	Lisa Kalynchuk	R	Denise Helm
R	Chris Horbachewski	R	Tony Eder
√	Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey	R	Andrew Coward
R	Saul Klein	R	Jennifer Vornbrock
R	Andrew Rowe		<b>Committee Resources:</b>
√	Kara Shaw	√	Adam Taylor
R	Ryan Khan	√	Lorne Mack
√	Cliff Haman	√	Mike Wilson
√	Helga Hallgrimsdottir	R	Melanie Groves
R	Lesley Patten		<b>Guests:</b>
R	Nigel Bisnar	√	Juliet Van Vliet
		√	Pat Seward
		√	Susan Kerr
		√	Mina Hoorfar
		√	Robin Hicks
√ = In Attendance    R = Regrets Noted			

# AGENDA

## 1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, seconded by Helga Hallgrimsdottir—**Carried**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – November 8th, 2021 (attached)

Moved by Elizabeth Adjin-Tettey, seconded by Helga Hallgrimsdottir—**Carried**

## 2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE

## 5. REGULAR BUSINESS

### a. **Climate and Sustainability Action Plan 2030 – For Recommendation**

Presented by Mike Wilson

Mike Wilson introduced Robin Hicks, co-chair of the project, and Susan Kerr. Due to the terms of reference this project has two committees, and the Campus Planning Committee is responsible for the operations aspect of the project. We might reconsider terms in the future.

Wilson reported on the progress of the cross-portfolio Action Plan, stating it responds to strategy 5.2 of the Strategic Framework by moving towards a comprehensive and integrated approach to address climate change with measurable goals. The steering committee drafted the Action Plan in two sections: strategy and actions. These documents went through broad consultation. This Action Plan centres itself on Indigenous world views and these documents are finalized for engagement with Indigenous groups and Elders. Diverse voices were built into this document, recognizing that shifting cultural norms is more difficult with marginalized communities.

This plan sets new long-term GHG reduction targets: building off our existing 30% GHG reduction target over 2010 levels in 2020, the plan commits to 50% reduction by 2030 and net zero by 2040. To meet our goals requires an integrated and collaborative response, and we are working close with the community on campus as a living lab and campus and sustainability “hub.”

A large part of meeting these targets is the district energy sector with heating and hot water. Getting to net zero requires addressing residual emissions from already low carbon systems. The IPCC report last week stated that overshooting 1.5% is inevitable and carbon capture technology is required to make this overshoot temporary, so there is an opportunity here for us to test these new technologies on campus. We are aiming for Stars platinum rating (88 points) by 2026. We received 3 gold ratings in the last 9 years and in 2020 we got 80 points, so we think this is an achievable goal.

Four main themes:

1. Sacred Earth—a separate, all Indigenous task force group led by Jeff Corntassel shaped this part of the plan. The goals of this theme are aimed at centering Indigenous worldviews to combat globalization and climate change.
2. Innovator and Partner—advancing climate and sustainability research and partner relationships with businesses to help mobilize and disseminate information quickly.
3. Educator and learner—continue integrating climate and sustainability into UVic curriculum.
4. Climate Solutions and Sustainability leader—university operations to support climate mitigation, adaptation, and sustainability through acquisition and management decisions and tracking baseline carbon (reporting commuting, embodied carbon in new buildings, etc.).

After the brief overview of the plan, Mike Wilson is seeking the support of the committee in principle and welcomed any feedback.

Mina Hoorfar mentioned that buildings constitute 40% of GHG. Wilson responded that Ron Proulx has been working on this huge task to decarbonize our building systems for a decade. District Energy is ran on natural gas boilers, and we are moving away from this to biomass, electrical, or other environmentally friendly energy sources.

Kara Shaw acknowledged the hard work put into this plan but put forward three concerns: it lacks a baseline, has no clear diagnosis of problems, and lacks adequate focus to inspire or motivate strong action. Lisa Kalynchuk said there was a lot of great thinking on this bold and ambitious plan but shared some of Shaw's concerns. Kalynchuk was concerned that VP Research and Innovation cannot deliver on all the actions in the Innovation section, specifically directing all research chairs to work on climate action and sustainability, providing staff with dedicated assistants as not every faculty can have this support, and the cost of \$100M needed to do this plan. Kalynchuk stated that this plan requires more work and toning down. Shaw said we need more specific commitments that we can deliver on. Elizabeth Adjin-Tetty had similar concerns regarding the Educator and Learner aspects (Goal 7).

There was also concern that the campus community will react to the fact that this Action Plan is not aligned with aspiration 2030. Robin Hicks said that it is good to strive for cohesion, but new ideas and plans come from different directions so this is not necessarily a bad thing, though it poses a challenge for high-level decision making.

When the Campus Planning Committee was finished discussing, quorum was lost and so a vote will be conducted via email on whether or not the committee supports in principle the operations aspect of this plan.

#### **b. Campus Transportation Survey – For Information**

Presentation by Mike Wilson

Wilson introduced Parking and Transportation Manager Pat Seward and presented on the transportation survey that was conducted last fall. The 2020 survey was delayed due to COVID and so the previous survey was conducted in 2018. The survey indicates that 70% of all transportation to and from UVic is by sustainable means, with an overall increase in mode share and a decrease in vehicle use. This year is the highest we have ever recorded for pedestrians. The next survey will be in 2024.

We worked with security to implement changes to incentivise sustainable transportation, including decreasing the cost of employee bus passes from \$85 to \$35/month, discontinuing the annual parking pass in favour of more flexible monthly or flex pass, and an infrastructure upgrade with new paving, Ring Road transit stops, and new shelters.

The committee asked if electric vehicle use is tracked. This has not been done because it is difficult to track this metric, but we can look into including this information on parking pass applications.

**c. Capital Projects Update**

Presented by Lorne Mack

**i. Student Dining & Housing**

Lorne Mack reported on the progress of the Student Dining & Housing, noting the mineral wool insulation on the exterior of the building and identifying units on the roof that handle all the building's heating and heat recovery from its commercial kitchens. The dining hall will seat 600 with a panoramic view, with steel holding up mass timbre beams and a wood slat ceiling in a conk curve.

Commercial kitchen equipment is beginning to arrive. Insulation, sheetrock, and a fire sprinkler system have been installed but final flooring is still needed. Mack showed images of communal kitchen spaces and a dormitory room with clean and modern finishes. A similar wood slat ceiling to the dining hall has been brought up to communal spaces in higher floors.

Building 1 has over 300 labourers to deliver the project on schedule, with a handover date of July 29. We will use the month of August to transition so it will be fully operational at the beginning of the year. Building 2 continues to be built and is scheduled for completion spring 2023.

**ii. Engineering Precinct Expansion**

The Engineering and computer Science Expansion is a six-story building designed to be beyond gold standard. To combat escalating costs of construction, we changed flat paneling to steel folded plate similar to the student housing project, saving over \$300,000. Mass timbre is the main structure of assembly.

A land blessing was conducted, and we are in the pre-qualification process right now. Construction will begin this July with completion scheduled for July 2024.

**iii. National Centre for Indigenous Laws**

The National Centre for Indigenous Laws will be located on McGill and Ring Road with construction scheduled from summer 2022 to fall 2024. The project will be delivered through the construction manager, with the first packages for deep utilities going out in spring and summer. The following year, a major package will go out for a new energy plant with an air-source electric heat pump.

Kalynchuk gave kudos for the good work, congratulating Mike, Lorne, and everyone who worked on the project.

## **6. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **a. Capital Development Policy – For Feedback and Comments**

Presented by Ron Proulx

Ron Proulx presented on suggested changes to the capital development policy, a document outlining the procedures for projects \$5M and above, stating that the suggested changes would bring the policy in line with current construction practices and procedures.

As there were no immediate comments, Ron gave the committee until 4pm April 27<sup>th</sup> to email any feedback.

### **b. Community Liaison**

Verbal report by Jennifer Vornbrock

A memo of understanding to three mayors is in its final draft. This is a high-level document capturing the work we are doing with three municipalities to formalize our relationship.

Jennifer Vornbrock gave an update on the Community Liaison Committee, which had its last meeting at the end of March. There were updates on Cedar Hill Corner, Harrow Woods, Campus Greenway, National Centre for Indigenous Laws, and the computer science building. This is an important group to continue engaging with and informing. Attorney General David Eby hosted the first town hall event, and it was great to hear from the Minister around housing in the region. We are looking to do another town hall, likely on the economic plan.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

## **8. NEXT MEETING: TBD**