

McMaster Sustainability Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 16, 2023 | 2 – 3pm

Item	Lead	Time
1. Policy Update	Kate Whalen & Dave Cano	20 minutes
2. Sustainability Strategy & Report Updates	Kate Whalen & Dave Cano	20 minutes
3. Waste, Compost & Recycling Initiatives	Kate Whalen	5 minutes
4. Future of Access Tech	Kate Whalen	5 minutes

1. Policy Update

Has gone to Secretariat and have received feedback. Presenting at PRC on May 18, then BOG on June 8.

Preparing report for 2022-23 academic year (Spring 2022 to Summer 2023).

2. Sustainability Strategy & Report Updates

There are 4 areas of focus: Leadership & Vision, Communications, Strategic Partnerships & Continued Engagement and Learning & Development

Areas of Focus

Call-outs

Leadership and Vision



1. Environmentalist of the Year announcement
2. Refresh of Office of Sustainability

Communications



1. Update to the Sustainability Policy

Strategic Partnerships and Continued Engagement



1. SDG Pitch competition
2. Parks Canada supports protecting natural lands surrounding McMaster University

Learning and Development







1. Bring your Own Bottle

There are four strategic drivers: Culture Focused on Sustainability; Teaching, Learning & Research; Self-Sustaining Campus and Sites; and Operational Excellence.

Driver 1 – Culture Focused on Sustainability

Areas of Focus	Call-outs
Leadership and Vision 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmentalist of the Year announcement 2. Refresh of Office of Sustainability
Communications 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update to the Sustainability Policy
Strategic Partnerships and Continued Engagement 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SDG Pitch competition 2. Parks Canada supports protecting natural lands surrounding McMaster University
Learning and Development 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bring your Own Bottle

Driver 2 – Teaching, Learning & Research

Areas of Focus	Call-outs
Sustainable Research 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. McMaster Carbon Sink forest Grand Prize Finalist (David Suzuki Foundation)
Interdisciplinary Learning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. J.W. Hodgins Memorial Lecture 2. Sustainability students help McMaster buy better 3. Sustainable Chemistry Program 4. Wilson college announces new minor in Leadership and Civic Studies
Campus as a Living Laboratory 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. McMaster Carbon Sink Forest (focus story) 2. Students unearth ways to improve campus composting habits
Digital Learning and Environment 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students planting trees by searching the web

Driver 3 – Self-Sustaining Campus and Sites

Areas of Focus

Call-outs

Active and Alternative
Transportation



1. Facility services electric vans (new story)

Eco Parks and Greenspace



1. Carbon sink forest tree planting stories

Health and Wellbeing



1. Hospitality services sustainable procurement policy
2. Two McMaster student-led projects nominated to international round of global competition

Daily News stories on Campus Food Charter as well as HSR partnership renewal. Should we add an individual story for each call-out, or a larger story about everything? John and Dave to meet for more information.

Driver 4 – Operational Excellence

Areas of Focus

Call-outs

Sustainable Infrastructure,
Energy and Water



1. New geothermal energy system on campus
2. Campus Plan update (focus on sustainability features)
3. Carbon dispatch system and feasibility studies
4. MSUC cleaning program

Waste



1. Composting champions program

Responsible Investing and
Sustainable Procurement



1. McMaster fast tracking its commitments to reducing its environmental impact (investment pool)
2. McMaster continues to divest from fossil fuel investments

Metrics



- Update metrics for research papers

Can add feminine hygiene collection getting recycled as well as the period equity program.

Bins for batteries, phone cases, open library for community donations that are offered back to the community.

ACTION – send to Dave any stories that your department has been working on so he can add to the report

3. Waste, Compost & Recycling Initiatives

Kate's student looked into these initiatives and realized how big it is and how many parts of the University it hits. Previous working groups did a lot of work but COVID derailed most of it. Kate will circulate a proposed working group, some from this Committee, and others that are not. Carlos, Raquel, Lynne, Tracie, Liana, 2 day time custodial managers will be on the working group

Compost – Have an outside company to pick up the compost, but it is the most expensive thing we do for composting. Hospitality has a lot of compostables. But need something outside of these.

4. Future of Access Tech

Looking at some ways to get others involved, updates from the program.

5. Next Meeting – Monday, June 19 at 2pm