

University Sustainability Committee (A Committee Reporting to Vice Presidents' Council)

Terms of Reference

Revised August 6, 2013

Purpose

The University Sustainability Committee ("the Committee"), a Committee reporting to Vice Presidents' Council, will demonstrate the university's commitment to sustainability by implementing the mandate of the Memorial University Sustainability Declaration:

To promote a community committed to sustainability within and beyond the university, Memorial will develop a comprehensive and collaborative action plan with measurable outcomes. Goals are:

- *to measure and assess the university's environmental impacts and establish specific targets to reduce them*
- *to integrate sustainable policies and systems into university governance and operations*
- *to encourage academic curriculum, research and outreach on sustainability*
- *to create sustainable working and living environments across all campuses*

The Committee will integrate sustainable practices into the governance and operations of the University through a high level, university-wide approach.

Structure and Governance

The University Sustainability Committee is a strategic advisory group reporting to the Vice-Presidents' Council (VPC), with representatives from senior university administration and students' unions. Ad hoc committees may be formed as required. The three campus-specific sustainability committees (Marine Institute, Grenfell Campus and St. John's Campus) and ad hoc committees will report and make recommendations to the Committee.

Membership*

Associate Vice-President (Administration and Finance), Grenfell Campus
Director, Corporate Affairs and External Relations, Marine Institute
Associate Vice-President (Research)
One Associate Vice-President (Academic) to be appointed by the Provost
Associate Vice-President (Facilities)
Director, Office of the Vice-President (Administration and Finance)
Executive Director, Marketing and Communications
Graduate Students' Union representative
Grenfell Campus Student Union representative
Marine Institute Students' Union representative
Memorial University Students' Union representative
Sustainability Co-ordinator (non-voting)

* **Chair to be appointed by VPC from the membership**

Meetings

Frequency: quarterly

Responsibilities

The Committee will:

- i. oversee the development and implementation of Memorial's Sustainability Action Plan as outlined in the Memorial University Sustainability Declaration
- ii. monitor progress made in achieving the goals of the action plan
- iii. make recommendations to the Vice-Presidents' Council on university-wide initiatives and policies related to sustainability
- iv. establish ad-hoc committees as needed
- v. report to the Vice-Presidents' Council (VPC)
- vi. receive reports and recommendations from its ad-hoc committees and the campus specific sustainability committees.

Special Note:

As the Committee focuses on encouraging sustainability, its operations should exemplify best practices. For example, videoconferencing should be encouraged over traveling to meetings, and paper use and disposable products should be eliminated whenever possible.