



Bishop's University Student Representative Council Environmental Policy

1. PREAMBLE

The Bishop's University Student Representative Council (SRC) is committed to improving the state of its operations and achieving a more environmentally friendly and sustainable community. The aim of this policy is to help the present and future SRC with this commitment through adaptable, realistic and measurable goals.

This document is an adaptation of the Bishop's University Environmental Policy prepared and approved by the Sustainable Development and Land Use Committee (SDLU) in 2003. It is meant to maintain and promote the mission, policy areas and target goals set by the SDLU, while catering specifically to the operations of the SRC in a focused manner.

1.1 Mission

In representing the Bishop's University Student body and the B.U. community, the SRC has a certain responsibility to lead by example. This involves taking action in the promotion and implementation of sustainable initiatives as well as the improvement of the environmental state of our campus.

1.2 Coverage

The environmental policy applies to all present and future SRC operations, including The Gait, Doolittles, all SRC offices and facilities and all SRC run/ sanctioned events.

1.3 Goal

The Bishop's University SRC seeks to minimize its impact on the environment while setting an example for the B.U. community through the continuous promotion of sustainable practices. This goal entails the establishment and implementation of a feasible and comprehensive environmental policy with measurable targets.

2. POLICY AREAS

There are four main areas outlined in the policy: Environmental Awareness, Energy Efficiency, Waste Reduction and Purchasing.

2.1 Environmental Awareness

The SRC will endeavor to increase the awareness of environmental projects and activities on and off campus. This includes supporting the work of the Bishop's

University Environmental Club (BUEC) and The Sustainable Development Action Group (SDAG).

2.2 Energy Efficiency

The SRC will try to actively minimize its energy consumption, reduce emissions and reduce the consumption of non-renewable energy resources.

2.3 Waste Reduction

The SRC, in conjunction with the Bishop's University Facilities Department, will attempt to minimize solid and organic wastes produced by their operations through recycling, composting and any other implemented waste management programs.

2.4 Purchasing

The SRC will endeavor to make responsible purchases for all operations and events. This means choosing a more sustainably viable option when it is economically feasible; and purchasing services and products that are most likely to lower ecological impacts.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

The Environmental Officer position was created in 2009. It is a crucial position for the management and subsequent success of current and future environmental initiatives. The duties and basic job description associated with this position need to be clearly defined so that future holders may perform accordingly.

3.1 Position Description

The Environmental Officer is hired from within the SRC, and is a non-voting member of the council. The job is reposted every year and applications are accepted from any Bishop's University student who wishes to apply. Applicants should have a background in sustainable development and a general knowledge of environmental issues. The main concerns of the Environmental Officer are to act as a liaison between groups such as the BUEC, SDAG and the SRC, so as to ensure executive members' support for ongoing sustainable and environmental initiatives on campus.

3.2 Duties

The duties of the Environmental Officer include attending weekly BUEC meetings and bi-monthly SRC meetings. The Environmental Officer is also a co-chair and voting member of SDAG, and therefore must attend all SDAG meetings. The Environmental Officer should host bi-semesterly subcommittee meetings with respective SRC members, to be laid out in the next section of this policy. The Environmental Officer is a resource aide to the Sustainable Development Intern. The Environmental Officer must approve incoming Green Levy projects and be available to make recommendations to ensure the success of such projects. Finally, the Environmental Officer should work with other members of the SRC in order to create

events that minimize ecological and environmental impacts and promote sustainability.

4. SUB-COMMITTEE

This committee, consisting mostly of SRC members will be created to monitor the Environmental Policy and to hear recommendations of the Environmental Officer. The committee also evaluates the performance of the Environmental Officer and the success of ongoing initiatives. It is suggested that the sub-committee meet bi-semesterly.

Members:

- Environmental Officer
- Sustainable Development Intern
- SRC President
- SRC Director of Finances
- SRC Manager
- VP Student Affairs
- VP Social
- VP Academic

5. TARGET GOALS

These goals should be constantly updated and continuously evolving as progress is made within the SRC to attain each target. This can be done through an audit of the SRC operations that could be completed by the Environmental Officer every two years. These goals can be represented by a series of recommendations as laid out below.

5.1 Environmental Awareness

- Have one SRC event each semester that incorporates sustainability into a theme, raises environmental awareness, or actively promotes a sustainable practice.
- Have the Environmental Officer, Clean Community Officer and VP Social work together regularly on SRC events.

5.2 Energy Efficiency

- Turn out all lights in SRC offices and facilities when they are not in use.
- Shut down computers overnight.
- Actively look for new ways to save energy from day to day (Environmental Audit).

5.3 Waste Reduction

- Continue to recycle in SRC offices.
- Start a composting program for SRC offices.
- Look for ways to reduce excess waste from operations like the Gait and Doolittles (Environmental Audit).

5.4 Purchasing

- Evaluate the purchasing of Doolittles and the Gait to determine if there are better options (Environmental Audit).