



University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

EFFECTIVE: undated

SUPERSEDES: none

AUTHORITY: Campus Issues Standing
Committee

RATIFIED BY: Council

Executive Council

PAGE | 1 of 3

1.00 DEFINITIONS:

1.01

2.00 APPLICATION

2.01 This Policy shall apply to all the members, volunteers, and employees of the:

(1) USC

(2) Constituency Students' Councils

(3) Clubs

(4) USC Services and Operations

2.02 The policy shall be considered during the planning and implementation of all activities, events and day-to-day operations.

3.00 GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

3.01 The USC acknowledges that a good quality of life cannot be sustained without a healthy natural environment.

3.02 The legacy the USC creates through environmental stewardship will greatly affect the members of the Western community in the future. Thus, as the largest students' council in Canada, it is in a position – and has a responsibility – to demonstrate environmental leadership at Western and within the London community.

3.03 Environmentally responsible management practices can often be cost effective, especially when considering the total system costs.

4.00 OBJECTIVE:

4.01 The intent of this Policy is not to impose financial burdens on those to whom it applies. The Policy will ensure due diligence process that is likely to uncover alternatives that meet both economic and environmental criteria.



University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

PAGE | 2 of 3

4.02 The objective of this Policy is not to impose financial burdens on those to whom it applies. As such, this Policy sets guidelines for environmental performance, and encourages collaboration in achieving those objectives, as well as overall awareness of the issues.

4.03 Through this Policy, the USC formalizes its commitment to the environment and strives to become accountable regarding the USC's commitment to environmental sustainability on behalf of all undergraduate students at Western.

5.00 POLICY:

5.01 Procurement

(1) In purchasing decisions the USC shall consider selecting the most environmentally friendly product or service that is economically viable.

i. Consideration shall be given to those products or services that:

- a. Contain reused and reusable materials;
- b. Are certified by recognized environmental organizations (e.g. Eco-Logo);
- c. Contain materials manufactured without toxic chemicals;
- d. Have minimal packaging;
- e. Contain materials that biodegrade naturally and rapidly; and/or,
- f. Contain recycled and post-consumer content.

5.02 Waste

(1) The USC shall remain cognizant of its resource consumption and attempt to reduce it whenever possible.

(2) The USC shall seek to reduce consumption by reusing products whenever possible.

(3) The USC shall ensure that recycling bins are present in all areas of, or adjacent to, its activities and operations.

(4) The USC shall seek to redesign or implement processes, where feasible, that close the material loop, generate minimum waste, and reduce energy consumption.

5.03 Training and Awareness



University Students' Council of the University of Western Ontario **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

PAGE | 3 of 3

- (1) All persons occupying management positions within the USC have a responsibility to make their members, volunteers and employees aware of the principles of this policy. These persons are also responsible for ensuring their members, volunteers, and employees adhere to and implement the principles of this Policy for all activities, events, and day-to-day operations. These persons include but are not limited to:
 - i. Managers of USC services and operations and their staff;
 - ii. USC Vice-President Student Events and Club Presidents;
 - iii. Club Presidents and their members;
 - iv. Executive Council and their Commissioners, Officers, Committees;
 - v. Commissioners, Officers, and their Committees;
 - vi. USC Councillors and their Constituency Councils;
 - vii. USC Orientation Coordinator, Orientation Staff, Head Sophs, and Sophs.