

Operating Procedure XIV - Sustainability

Mission Statement

Increasingly the world is significantly impacted by global issues, whether they be economic, social or environmental. In Canada we consume a disproportionate amount of the global resources with serious ecological and social consequences. Consequently, the Mount Allison University Students' Administrative Council will "think globally, act locally". The SAC will strive to reduce the ecological and social impact of all aspects of its work, and inspire others to do the same.

1. The SAC will minimize/eliminate its ecological footprint wherever possible by:
 - 1.1 minimizing its energy consumption;
 - 1.2 promoting, supporting, and initiating renewable energy projects on campus;
 - 1.3 reducing its consumption of paper products while seeking out paper products with high post-consumer recycled fibre content;
 - 1.4 striving to create sources of carbon absorption to equal to the amount of carbon produced through its consumption of energy and paper (i.e., planting trees);
 - 1.5 actively lobbying and working with the University to minimize its ecological impact;
 - 1.6 maximizing the use and support of public transport; and
 - 1.7 considering environmental issues in all of its purchasing decisions, including purchasing certified organic products wherever possible.

2. The SAC will address the social impact of its activities wherever possible by:
 - 2.1 considering social issues in all of its purchasing decisions, including purchasing fair trade and organic products wherever possible;
 - 2.2 avoiding business relationships with companies with poor social or environmental reputations (see Shopping With a Conscience);
 - 2.3 conducting financial transactions in an ethical manner, including choosing ethically-screened investment alternatives wherever possible;
 - 2.4 actively lobbying and working with the University to improve its social responsibility;
 - 2.5 supporting the students' right to education globally.

3. The SAC will educate the student body on social and environmental issues wherever possible through:
 - 3.1 Green Orientation;
 - 3.2 messages in publications;
 - 3.3 addressing justifiable environmental and social concerns that are either brought forward by the student body or are relevant to the operation of the SAC; and
 - 3.4 ensuring that SAC activities set a positive example for the University and the student body.

4. The SAC will monitor its social and environmental impact by conducting an audit a minimum of every two years. This will include:
 - 4.1 comparison of ten key indicators;
 - 4.2 an ecological footprint analysis;
 - 4.3 a social audit of business dealings; and
 - 4.4 a general audit.