

**FACULTY OF COMMUNITY
SERVICES SOCIETY**

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

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Amended September 22



The Faculty of Community Services Society Board of Directors
amended this policy on September 22nd, 2023.

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Preamble:

The Faculty of Community Services Society (FCSS) Sustainability Policy shall guide the student society into following eco-friendly practices, reduce the waste at events or initiatives in the FCSS umbrella, educating the Community Services student body on sustainability, 3R's, waste management, and how to improve eachothers lifestyles in the 21st Century.

1.0 | Mission, Goals & Values

1.1 | Mission

The Faculty of Community Services Society is striving to achieve a high level of sustainability when it comes to lowering waste, changing student body habits, advancing green initiatives, among everything the student society does.

1.2 | Goals

The Faculty of Community Services Societysustainability goals are what we are striving to achieve.

- 1.2.1. Reuse, Reduce, and Recycle
- 1.2.2. Compost given to the TorontoMet Urban Farm
- 1.2.3. Compost used on SHE soil gardens
- 1.2.4. Lower litter
- 1.2.5. Educate student body
- 1.2.6. One Resource with Lables in Box

1.3 | Values

- 1.3.1. Maintain and use existing products to its fullest potential
- 1.3.2. Solidarity and Action with Environmental Recism
- 1.3.3. Respect for Nature and Community
- 1.3.4. Shared Responsibility

2.0 | Sustainable Development Goals

2.2 | Life On Land

The Faculty of Community Services Society understands the full impact humans have had on this planet. Reversing man-made deforestation and desertification to sustain all life on earth.

Efforts can be made by purchasing recycled, fair trade, re-purposed, and re-used furniture, and equipment.

2.3 | Life Below Water

The Faculty of Community Services Society understands the full impact humans have had on our Oceans, Lakes, waterways, and eco-systems. Conservation, promoting marine diversity and regulating fishing practices. Efforts can be made by fundraising for local waterwork projects, and working with conservation authorities on opportunities to educate, and take action in our community.

2.4 | Sustainable Consumption And Production

The Faculty of Community Services Society understands the full impact humans have had on creating vicious cycles, where we use more than what our planet may create in a year. Reversing current consumption trends and promoting a more sustainable future. Efforts can be made by re-using, and re-purposing decorations, items, and equipment.

2.5 | Sustainable Cities And Communities

The Faculty of Community Services Society understands the full impact humans have had on ruining our communities post Colonialism, and World War II. Making cities safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. The Faculty of Community Services Society will be creating and incubating opportunities to undo the past, deconstruct, reconstruct and create a more sustainable future for all Community Services students, our communities, and our professional fields.

3.0 | Sustainability Commissioner

3.1 | Positions Role

The Sustainability Commissioner's role is to plan and execute one sustainability advocacy campaign each semester, and present to the Board of Directors regarding FCSS' sustainability progress for the last fiscal year before the Annual General Meeting.

3.2 | Responsibilities

3.2.1. Shall operate under the purview of the Executive Director, Administration & Operations.

3.2.2. The Sustainability Commissioner's duties include but are not limited to those listed below. The Sustainability Commissioner shall:

3.2.3. Act as liaison to FCSS Sustainability Council by attending their meetings and events;

3.2.4. Communicate and establish relationships regarding sustainability with organizations that included but not limited to Dean's Office Manager of Operations, Toronto Metropolitan University's Facilities Management and Development, TorontoMet Sustainability Office, Centre for Urban Energy Toronto Metropolitan University, Toronto Metropolitan Students Unions' Sustainability Committee and the Sustainability Coordinators from other Faculty Student Societies on campus or other Faculty Student Society's Sustainability Student Groups;

3.2.5. Attend regular board meetings, and assist FCSS Board of Director, and FCSS committees in making their events and initiatives more sustainable;

3.2.6. Attend FCSS committee meetings when invited by their respective executives as necessary;

3.2.7. Assist the Executive Director, Administration & Operations in making the FCSS office more sustainable.

3.2.8. The Sustainability Commissioner shall be selected and appointed by the Board of Directors.

3.2.9. The Sustainability Commissioner shall sit as an ex-officio, non-voting member on the Board of Directors.

3.2.10. The Sustainability Commissioner shall not be a sitting Board Member and shall be selected from outside the FCSS Board of Directors.

3.3 | Sustainability Council

The Sustainability Commissioner shall lead and chair the Sustainability Council under the FCSS Umbrella.

3.3.1. The Sustainability Commissioner shall recruit Faculty of Community Services students to sit on the FCSS Sustainability Council.

3.3.2. The Sustainability Commissioner shall follow the FCSS Sustainability Council's Constitution and Strategic Plan while leading the council.

4.0 | Sustainability Council

4.1 | Mandate

As a student-led association, the FCSS Sustainability Council strives to uphold the University's values on equality, diversity, and anti-discrimination. The main goal of this Council is to act as a leader in promoting sustainability throughout the Faculty by organizing events that will increase

awareness towards sustainable practices. Furthermore, the Council strives to potentially strengthen areas lacking in sustainability.

The purpose of the Toronto Metropolitan University Faculty of Community Services (or FCSS) Sustainability Council is to explore and promote sustainable practices through various student-led initiatives. This will be achieved by encouraging collaboration and engagement among the faculty and other sustainable organizations. The FCSS Sustainability Council wishes to educate and spread awareness of sustainable initiatives and practices in order to create a more sustainable faculty.

4.2 | Educational Campaigns

4.2.1. Focuses on one main educational campaign per semester. These education campaigns may focus in one of these six areas;

- 4.2.1.1. Faculty of Community Services undergraduate community improvement
- 4.2.1.2. TorontoMet Community Improvements
- 4.2.1.3. Toronto Area Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.4. Provincial Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.5. Country-wide Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.6. International Conservation Efforts

4.3 | Initiatives

4.3.1. Focuses on one to two main initiatives per semester. These initiatives may focus in one of these six ecological areas;

- 4.2.1.1. Faculty of Community Services undergraduate community improvement
- 4.2.1.2. TorontoMet Community Improvements
- 4.2.1.3. Toronto Area Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.4. Provincial Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.5. Country-wide Conservation Efforts
- 4.2.1.6. International Conservation Efforts

4.3.2. Creating a Report Card of how the Faculty of Community Services Society undergraduate community did in an annual semester waste audit.

4.4 | Events

4.4.1. Events the FCSS Sustainability Council puts on must be in line with the FCSS Mandate, and this Sustainability Policy.

- 4.4.1.1. Waste Audit
- 4.4.1.2. Maintaing the Gardens
- 4.4.1.3. Tabling in DCC, SHE
- 4.4.1.4. Tree Planting
- 4.4.1.5. Farmers Market and Vintage Clothing Swap
- 4.4.1.6. Lunch and Learns

- 4.4.1.7. Community Clean-up
- 4.4.1.8. DIY Art Projects
- 4.4.1.9. Contemporary Recycled Public Art Installation

5.0 | Reusable Water

5.1 | Facts About Water

5.1.1. Bottled water is bad for the environment. The production, transportation, and disposal of bottled water harms the environment by depleting local water sources, consuming massive amounts of energy, producing greenhouse gases, and creating waste.

5.1.2. Tap Water is Free, bottled water is 240 to 10,000 times more expensive than water from the tap, even though 25% of bottled water originates from tap water.

5.1.3. Tap water is tested more than bottled. The City of Toronto tests its water every 4 hours, in contrast to bottled water facilities that receive government inspections every 3-6 years.

5.1.4. Bottled water is misleading, bottled water marketing schemes undermine public faith in tap water and have us believe that our water is not fit to drink.

5.1.5. Water is a human right, clean, safe, and accessible water is a fundamental human right, not a commodity, and is accessible to all regardless of social class or wealth.

5.2 | Events

5.2.1. Purchase reusable 2L water containers and place one on each table.

5.2.2. Encourage participants to bring their own reusable bottle or purchase eco-friendly cups from the Student Society Office.

5.2.3. Purchase reusable water jugs and place them in a central location or where food is served for larger events. Jugs are typically 5-10 gallons each and can be purchased from most department stores.

5.2.4. FCSS Clubs, Course Unions, and Affiliated Groups have access to free water jugs for events on campus.

5.2.5. For outdoor events contact the City of Toronto to book a water truck that provides access to a portable water fountain. To make a booking, visit

www.toronto.ca/water/htotogo

5.3 | Education

FCSS Clubs and Course Unions may endorse reducing water by using this motion;

5.3.1. WHEREAS clean, safe, and accessible water is a fundamental human right, not a commodity; and

WHEREAS students at Toronto Metropolitan University are currently working with the Toronto Metropolitan University administration to progressively eliminate the sale of bottled water on campus and increase the restoration of water fountains; and

WHEREAS bottled water is 240-10,000 times more expensive than water from the tap, even though more than 25% of bottled water originates from municipal tap water; and

WHEREAS public tap water is safe and healthy, and significantly more accessible and environmentally sustainable than bottled water; and

WHEREAS water is a human right, but due to commercialisation, is being privatized, bottled and sold back to the people; and

WHEREAS it is often through leading by example that change can be achieved, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT (name of organization) endorse the Bottled Water Free campaign and make a commitment to go bottled water free; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (name of organization) join the call to progressively eliminate the sale of bottled water on campus while working to improve water fountain infrastructure; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (name of organization) make all efforts to provide tap water for consumption at its meetings, conferences, and events, and that the promotion of bottled water be halted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT (name of organization) takes steps in informing its members of its commitment to going bottle water free.

FCSS Clubs, students, and Course Unions may find more information at

5.3.2. #reThinkTap

Over and over we heard the same statement - tap water is GOOD and that the plastic water bottle industry is convincing us otherwise to increase sales. Why #DrinkTap? After successfully spearheading the plastic straw & cutlery ban in the City of Malibu it's time to tackle the massive plastic water bottle problem. We have been doing our research by talking to doctors, public works departments in various cities and testing our own tap water. Over and over we heard the same statement – tap water is GOOD and that the plastic water bottle industry is convincing us otherwise to increase sales. The marketing prowess of plastic water bottle companies have us drinking and discarding 1 million plastic bottles per minute, and 91% are not recycled. Instead, they make their way into the natural environment, namely our oceans, killing sea life or degrading into microplastics, which we then ingest.

6.0 | Re-usable Items, Props, and Miscellaneous

6.1 | What's considered 'reusable'

Outlined below is what the Faculty of Community Services Society shall deem considered 'reusable' in good standing, and safety.

- 6.1.1. A seasonal decoration that is in perfect, or decent condition.
- 6.1.2. An office supply that has been sitting sound for less than 5 years.
- 6.1.3. An event management supply that is in good condition
- 6.1.4. Cutlery boxes that are not used to its full usage.
- 6.1.5. Prizes that have not been given out
- 6.1.6. Old furniture, recyclable furniture, and pre-used furniture

6.2 | Storage

All items of the student society shall be stored in a large secure storage closet that's not a locker or cabinet, in boxes in alphabetical order of what they are. Example listed below of what it should be like.

- 6.2.1. Formal Decorations
- 6.2.2. Frosh Decorations
- 6.2.3. Gifts for Speakers
- 6.2.4. Hemp Workshop Equipment
- 6.2.5. Office Supplies

6.3 | Do not just give it out

All items the student society uses at an event shall not be given out to students if there is extra. These supplies may be used to save costs of the student society for future versions of the event in the years to come. These items include but are not limited to paint, canvases, paint brushes, pots, plants, merch, tie, dye, art supplies, prizes, yoga mats etc.

7.0 | Boomerang Lunches

7.1 | Reusable Lunch

A boomerang lunch is **a lunch that has every piece of it returned to its source, home!** In other words, everything for lunch goes back home at the end of the day. No matter if it is leftover food, containers, recyclables or garbage, it all goes back to be washed, recycled, or disposed of at home.

7.2 | Decrease Lunch waste

A waste-free lunch/snack contains no throwaway packaging and produces no food waste. Food and drinks are packed in reusable containers within a reusable lunch bag. A boomerang

lunch/snack means that any uneaten food and any waste material produced is returned home. For sanitary purposes, it is important that food and waste packaging be taken home in a resealable container or bag.

It is important that the Faculty of Community Services Society educates, and has on site garbage, recycling, and compost bins at events, tabling, and in our offices.

7.3 | Boomerang Lunches for Events/ Initiatives

Boomerang Lunches for events and initiatives are a way to cut costs, and save excessive food waste from going bad. The Faculty of Community Services Society will use boomerang lunches for events it deems its best suitable.

8.0 | Waste Audits

8.1 | Individual FCS Building Audits Events

A waste audit lets students investigate waste diversion practices and identify the gaps and opportunities in our faculty revealed through our faculty's waste streams. Waste is collected, weighed, and visually assessed by students, staff, and other helpers.

8.2 | Comparing Progress

A waste Audit must be done once in the fall, and once in the winter semesters to showcase the progress of the Community Services student bodies. A report card must be created that showcases each building, and grades ranging from A to F on how students or staff did for putting waste in the respective bins. This report card shall be presented at the SAGM and AGM of the Faculty of Community Services Society (FCSS).

8.3 | Educational Campaign

The FCSS Sustainability Commissioner shall create a presentation and with the Sustainability Council educate the student body throughout the year on where to put your waste in hopes to create healthy sustainable living habits through posters, tabling etc.

8.4 | Site Clean-ups

Litter takes years to break down. It releases pollutants into the air, water, and soil and can impact wildlife. A Faculty Grounds Clean Up campaign is an excellent way to educate students about the negative impacts of litter on the environment and how they can help to make a difference in their community. These clean ups should happen minimum once per academic year.