

**HOSPITALITY SERVICES**

**2016  
SUSTAINABILITY  
ACTION PLAN**

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## **SUSTAINABILITY MISSION STATEMENT**

Hospitality Services is committed to creating, producing, and improving the sustainable culture within the Western community.

### **SUSTAINABILITY GOAL**

To champion sustainability initiatives that involve waste reduction and diversion, responsible sourcing, healthy eating and community and stakeholder engagement.

### **GOAL OF THE 2016 SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN**

- To champion sustainability initiatives that involve waste reduction and diversion, responsible sourcing, healthy eating and community and stakeholder engagement.
- To align all initiatives and actions with the Environment & Sustainability Policy outline in Western's Manual of Administrative Policies and Procedures.
- To work collaboratively with the goals of PACES in "Creating a Sustainable Western Experience"
- To address sustainability in the following target areas:
  - **Waste** (Waste reduction, Recycling, Composting)
  - **Responsible Sourcing**
  - **Community** (Education, Office Practices)

### **PACES**

The President's Advisory Committee on Environment & Sustainability (PACES) has been tasked with developing and recommending strategic plans to put into practice the principles of sustainability in the Western Community

### **From Western's Environment and Sustainability Policy:**

A sustainable campus is one that promotes the smallest possible ecological footprint by promoting a healthy ecosystem and supporting the values of conservation.

# WASTE REDUCTION

## Current Status

- 2016: UCC has a waste diversion rate of 56% (Facilities Management)
  - Signage at UCC Sustainability Central is ineffective, much of the organics waste is contaminated with landfill waste
- 2015-2016: 86.5% participation in “Choose2Reuse” reusable take-out container program in Residence Dining Halls
- 2015 – 2016: 3% of coffee purchases are in a reusable travel mug
- Participated in EnviroWestern’s “Refill-to-Win” travel mug contest

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
<b>Increase effectiveness of UCC Sustainability Central</b>	Update signage and communication strategy	90% diversion by 2022
<b>Staff training</b>	Ensure all staff have adequate training and access to compost and recycling	Include recycling and compost sorting in official training and workplace protocols
<b>Decrease use of take-out containers in Residence Dining</b>	Increase and track participation in “Choose2Reuse” program	>90% participation in “Choose-to-Reuse” program
<b>Reduce waste at Great Hall Catering</b>	Transition to reusable coffee cups for coffee services (from recyclable)	60% of events are zero-waste
	Transition to re-usable food delivery containers (from recyclable/compostable)	Offer zero-waste events
<b>Increase travel mug usage</b>	Track and increase usage to 10%	Increase usage to 20%
<b>Zero-waste across all operations</b>	70% waste diversion by 2017	90% waste diversion by 2022

## Alignment with PACES:

**Goal 9:** *Western will minimize its ecological footprint while enhancing ecosystem services on campus*

- A campus-wide effort for the achievement of zero waste status is initiated

# COMPOSTING

## Current Status

- 2015-2016: \$74,000 for composting removal services by Harvest Power
  - Financial demand is slowing the expansion of the current composting program
- 2014: 26% of landfill waste is compostable (Facilities Management)
- Back of House: Residence Dining Halls, Green Leaf Café, Great Hall Catering
- Front of House: UCC Centre Spot, Support Services Building, Spencer Engineering Building
- Coffee grounds composted at Spencer Engineering Building

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
<b>Back-of-house composting at Campus Eateries</b>	Coffee grounds composted at all locations	Consider composting spatial requirements when planning renovations
	Develop standardized protocol and communicate to supervisors and staff through formal training	Organic waste composted at all locations
<b>Front-of-house composting</b>	Composting at Great Hall Catering events with 100% guest participation	Composting at all Campus Eateries Composting at stadium concessions
<b>Composting across all operations (front- and back-of house)</b>	Work with Facilities Management to research alternative composting options	Composting across all operations (90% organics diversion by April 2022)
	Conduct extensive waste audit across all operations	

## Alignment with PACES:

**Goal 9:** *Western will minimize its ecological footprint while enhancing ecosystem services on campus*

- A campus-wide effort for the achievement of zero waste status is initiated
- Opportunities are explored to increase the number of projects that provide cost-savings by reducing Western’s overall environmental impact

# RECYCLING

## Current Status

- 2014: 27% of landfill waste is recyclable (2014 waste audit by Facilities Management)
- BOH and FOH recycling at all operations
- Plastics # 1-7 and disposable coffee cups accepted
  - General public confusion about what is 'recyclable'

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
Return Coca-Cola plastic recycling	All Campus Eateries know about the return program	All Campus Eateries are participating in the return program
Campus Eateries: back-of-house & front-of-house	Up-to-date signage	
Increase effectiveness of communication strategy	Hold observational and written surveys at UCC Sustainability Center to determine what aspects are confusing	

## Alignment with PACES:

*Goal 9: Western will minimize its ecological footprint while enhancing ecosystem services on campus*

- A campus-wide effort for the achievement of zero waste status is initiated

# RESPONSIBLE SOURCING

## Current Status

- Challenges exist in ensuring local procurement and communicating information along the supply-chain
- 2016: Residence Dining Hall options are 50% vegetarian, 25% vegan, primarily responsibly sourced seafood (from High Liner – 99% sustainable)
- 2015: Fair Trade Campus certification
- 2012: Request for Proposal to produce distributors indicates preference for local sourcing
- 2012: 43% of food purchases by Hospitality Services are local (produced, manufactured or processed in Ontario)

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
<b>Procure locally</b>	Implement policy to identify local foods	Install and use produce processing room to preserve seasonal foods for off-season months
	Procure 100% local apples (Sept 2016)	
	Label local meat products	50% local by end of 2022
<b>Procure Fairtrade</b>	Continue to expand Fairtrade options	Encourage franchises to offer a Fairtrade option
<b>Procure sustainable seafood</b>	Obtain Marine Stewardship Council certification	>95% seafood responsibly sourced
<b>Responsible sourcing at Campus Eateries</b>	Perform audit of food availability at Campus Eateries (local, vegetarian, etc.)	Responsibly sourced options are included in contract with new franchises
<b>Honey at Great Hall Catering</b>	Bottle honey for sale	Use exclusively Western honey at Green Leaf Café
	Expand the number of hives	

## Alignment with PACES:

**Goal 9:** Western will minimize its ecological footprint while enhancing ecosystem services on campus

- Access to healthy, local, organic and fair trade food with vegan and vegetarian options are widely available throughout campus

**Goal 10:** Western will endeavor to purchase products and services that meet a comprehensive range of sustainability criteria

- Sustainability in procurement will be heightened as campus requisitioners build sustainability into their purchasing decisions and policies

# EDUCATION

## Current Status

- 2016: Fifth year of Western’s Farmers’ Market
- 2016: Hosted Western’s third annual “Our Green Campus” lecture series in collaboration with Facilities Management
- 2015-2016 Residence events: Apple Week, Fair Trade Week, My Fair Valentine, World Food Day, Free Cone Day, Rez Powers Down
- Sustainability messaging on Residence Dining Hall tables
- Development of “Guide to Sustainable Foods in Ontario; Labels and Definitions”

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
<b>Host and promote sustainability events</b>	Continue annual Farmers’ Market Continue Residence events annually	5+ sustainability focused events each semester
<b>Promotion of sustainability issues in Residence Dining Halls</b>	Monthly rotation of messaging on Residence Dining Hall tables All sustainability events have corresponding information playing on boards during and leading up to event	All new initiatives by Hospitality Services are accompanied by informative and educational messaging There is a focus on different sustainability issues that cycle with the meal rotation
<b>Communicate progress to Western community</b>	Annual revision of the Sustainability Action Plan Semi-annual revision of the Sustainability Report	Present sustainability initiatives to other Canadian Universities

## Alignment with PACES:

**Goal 2:** *The profile of sustainability will be elevated on campus, inviting campus-wide collaboration and engagement.*

# LAMBTON HALL OFFICE PRACTICES

## Current Status

- Hospitality Services Sustainability Committee meets monthly
- Holds 'Silver' status for Western's Green Office Program
- Regularly hires a Masters of Environment & Sustainability co-op student (2012, 2014, 2015, 2016)
- Sustainability Action Plan becomes lower priority during main school semesters (Sept-April)

Action	Short term goal (1-5 years)	Long term goal (5-10 years)
<b>Green Office Program</b>	Actively work towards obtaining 'Gold' status	Lambton Hall continues to innovate and expand its sustainability practices
	Employ a full-time sustainability coordinator	Lambton Hall is a model of sustainability to other Western office
<b>Incorporate sustainability into administrative operations</b>	Discuss sustainability at all meetings	Sustainability is considered and prioritized within all actions and decision-making processes
	Ensure that actions and decisions align with the goals outlined in the Sustainability Action Plan	

## Alignment with PACES:

**Goal 1:** *Every member of the Western community – including students, faculty and staff – will have opportunity for a sustainable working, living and learning environment*

**Goal 9:** *Western will minimize its ecological footprint while enhancing ecosystem services on campus*