

# **PACS Thematic Working Group on Waste**

President's Advisory Committee on Sustainability

Leads – Ray Konecsni, Director of Client Services (IS)

Dr. Stephanie Young, Professor of Environmental Systems  
Engineering

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University  
of Regina

# Purpose of Working Groups

- Focus on gathering of information to feed into the development of the 2021-2026 Sustainability Action Plan
- There are 9 Thematic Groups
  - Climate Action: Janis Dale
  - [Energy](#): Neil Paskewitz and Janis Dale
  - [Education](#): Jocelyn Crivea, Roger Petry, and Gurjinder Singh Lehal
  - [Land Use](#): Neil Paskewitz
  - [Research](#): Kathy McNutt and Supriya Bhat
  - [Transportation](#): Darren Cherwaty and Neil Middlemiss
  - [Waste](#): Ray Konecsni, Stephanie Young and Kishore Bommavaram
  - Leadership: david Gregory and Carol Reyda
  - [Engagement & Communication](#): Erin Limacher and Brett Waytuck

# Strategic Plan Goals from 2015-2020

- Incorporate waste minimization goals and best practices in all forms of University of Regina purchasing and operations (Avoid-Reduce-Reuse-Recycle-Recover-Dispose).
- Design, operate, and promote campus-wide recycling programs that include plastic, coffee cups, paper, batteries, and electronics.
- Design and operate a pilot composting system.
- Develop and implement a waste measurement.
- Assess student, faculty, and staff knowledge of and satisfaction with recycling options/waste minimization systems.
- Explore and implement practices that reduce fresh water consumption and wastewater discharge, including reuse the reclaimed stormwater and greywater on campus for toilet flushing and irrigation.



# Your Role

- Enhance campus engagement in the research, background information gathering, and innovation of each topic.
- Participate in two to four working group meetings.
- Help create future goals for campus and ideate priority tasks while defining outcomes for a desired goal.
- Enhance your sustainability knowledge - of U of R sustainability activities, University sector best practices, and world wide practices - while making a difference by helping the University reach a sustainable future.

# Waste – what Is It?

- **Waste** – we will be mindful of all we use, decrease what we waste and initiate practices that avoid the waste stream altogether.
- Wiki definitions:
  - Verb “use or expend carelessly, extravagantly, or to no purpose.”
  - Adjective “(of a material, substance, or byproduct) eliminated or discarded as no longer useful or required after the completion of a process”
  - Noun “material that is not wanted; the unusable remains or byproducts of something.”

# Waste – Common Types

## 1. Biodegradable Waste:

- Food and Kitchen
- Garden and Yard

## 2. Recyclable Waste

- Plastics
- Aluminum and Metals
- Paper and Cardstock
- Glass



# Waste – Types of Waste

## 3. Universal and Electronic Waste:

- Batteries
- Electric and Electronic Devices
- Lightbulbs

## 4. Hazardous Waste

- Paint and Chemicals
- Tires

## 5. Biohazard Wastes

- Medical (tissue, etc.)
- Needles, sharps, other disposables



# Waste – Types of Waste

## 7. Water

- Stormwater
- Greywater (from dishwashers, laundry machines, handwashing sinks and bathroom tubs)
- Blackwater (sewage)
- Industrial wastewaters





# University Wastes

In 2018-2019, the University of Regina consumed the followings:

- Water - 254,254.7 m<sup>3</sup> (or 55,936,034 imperial gallons)
  - Central Heating Plan 28,120.3 m<sup>3</sup>, (6.18 million gallons)
  - Irrigation = 47,051 m<sup>3</sup> (10.35 million gallons)
- Landfill waste - 945.64 tonnes or 857,870.18 kgs
- Recyclables – 388 tonnes or 351,988 kgs
- Paper consumption (through Print Optimization) –  
33.2 tonnes
- Paper consumption (Printing Services) – 18.63 tonnes

# What Activities on Campus Generate Waste?

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1UDkHuQJyJfor9jTCCKa0tEKb6peSG7bvIzB\\_CQ-dzwwg/edit?usp=sharing](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1UDkHuQJyJfor9jTCCKa0tEKb6peSG7bvIzB_CQ-dzwwg/edit?usp=sharing)



**How can we reduce waste generation  
in the activities listed above?**



**Are there alternate activities we could be doing instead of the ones you listed?**



# How can we treat and reuse the wastes produced on Campus?



# How does this issue(s) relate to our Strategic Plan?

How would you rate the University's performance in managing the different types of waste on a scale of 1-10 with 10 being excellent and 1 being poor?



**What has the UR done?**

**What programs/policies/are in place already to address waste reduction?**





**What challenges may prevent us from solving the problem?**

**How do you see the campus managing waste in each of those categories in the next three years, five years and ten years.**

# What's Next?

- **June, July, August:** Thematic Working Groups report their information to PACS for review
- **August, September:** The 2021-2026 Sustainability Action Plan comes together
- **September/October:** The 2021-2026 Sustainability Action Plan is launched

# Questions?

# Thank you!