

Campus Sustainability Fund Progress Report – February 2023

1.1 - Project Title: Eco-Container Project

Eco-Container Project

1.2 - Report Prepared by:

Please indicate which leader is the main contact person

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1.3 - Key Accomplishments

Please describe your projects key accomplishments.

- Approximately 1960 memberships were given out to residence students on move-in week.
- 23% reduction in the procurement of cardboard take-out containers for the Cove.
- 81% of ECO-Boxes are accounted for at end of Term 1.
- Approximately 355 ECO-Boxes are returned daily to the Cove return station.
- 20% of purchases made at Stir-Fry use the Eco-Box (this kiosk provides data).
- \$54,900 in ECO Fee revenue in Term 1, this offsets a portion of labour costs of the program.
- Approximately 425 people bought ECO-Box memberships in Term 1.
- ECO-Box program was been introduced at Mystic Market at beginning of Term 2.

1.4 - Student Learning:

Please describe how the expected student learning opportunities were realized.

We believe that students who eat at the COVE are being prompted on several occasions to select options with varying degrees of environmental impact. The non-environmentally friendly options come at a cost and are therefore discouraged. These constant interactions educate, encourage and foster a culture of waste reduction throughout Food Services locations.

1.5 - Goal Acquisition:

Was the project goal achieved? In answering please describe the how the project effected the relevant stakeholders and where the project is currently.

Goal 1: Directly reduce takeout container waste

- 23% reduction in the procurement of cardboard take-out containers for the Cove suggests that the introduction of the ECO-Box and ECO-fees have been successful in removing takeout container waste and replacing it with either ECO-Box or china.

Goal 2: Test appetite for future waste reduction initiatives

- Approximately 425 people bought ECO-Box memberships in Term 1 which suggests that if we didn't give away a membership for free to each new dorm student that people would participate by their own accord.

Goal 3: Create turn key program for rollout to other outlets

- ECO-Box program was introduced at Mystic Market at beginning of Term 2, suggesting we are already successful at expanding the program across campus.

Goal 4: Foster culture of waste reduction within Food Services

- Approximately 355 ECO-Boxes are returned daily to the Cove return station and 20% of purchases made at Stir-Fry use the Eco-Box program. These are indicators that the students and staff have adopted the program and buy into the initiative.

Goal 5: Educate campus community on sustainability

- 33% of UNFS survey respondents participate in the ECO-Box program.
- 77% of UNFS survey respondents support ECO-Box program initiative.

1.6 - Long Term Consequences:

How will this project be continued and its accomplishments carried forward?

The project will continue for as long as we have containers and then we will reassess and repurchase more as needed. With the expansion into our retail outlets we will re assess the volumes required to sustain our entire campus operations.

1.7 - Lesson's learned:

What advice would you give others attempting similar projects through Sustainability Fund?

Be diligent in the initial planning stages to make baseline measurements to ensure the success of the program is quantifiable later on.

Ensure the process is not overly complicated or technical to allow energy to be focused on customer service and awareness.

1.8 - Timeline:

Please provide the *actual* project start and end dates



Start Date: July 2022

End Date: No end date planned, we will continue into the next school year.

1.9 - Feedback

Do you have any feedback for the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability or the Sustainability Fund Application Review Committee regarding your experience with the Fund?

No feedback for the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability or the Sustainability Fund Application Review Committee.

2.0 - Project Financials

2.1 – Budget

Please provide a completed final budget describing how the budget provide was actually spent. Please provide receipts for any expenses that have not yet been claimed through the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability.

\$29,764 - 6000 Eco-Boxes

\$2,215 – 6000 Eco Cards

\$50,000 – (approx. \$100,000 in Staffing Costs for full year)

\$1,500 – Build the Eco Booth and misc. signage

\$133,479 Total Costs in Term 1

Please submit completed forms electronically to sustcoord@uvic.ca