**Environment Committee Meeting Minutes**
**Date:** February 20th, 2025
**Time:** 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**1. Call to Order**
The meeting was called to order at 6:11 PM.

**2. New Member Welcomes and Roundtable Introductions**
17 members were in attendance throughout the call.

**3. Terms of Reference**

The committee reviewed the Terms of Reference update that was sent ahead of the meeting

**Proposed Language update**
In the event the Chair does not sit on the Executive Board, an appointed Committee Liaison will be responsible for providing updates to the Executive Board and elected officials on behalf of the Committee.

* + - Moved: Alycia Seconded: Kim Carried unanimously.

The Environment Committee terms of reference has been updated.

**4. Calendar with Environmental Dates**

The committee reviewed the calendar of environmental events to chat about events upcoming in March. March 3rd is World Wildlife day, March 21st is International Day of Forests, March 22nd is both World Water day and the Earth Hour Challenge, March 23rd is World Climate day, and March 30th is International Day of Zero Waste.

We will have 2 articles written in March - Kelly will write one on rainwater collection strategies, and Shona will write one for international day of forests.

We will have a contest in March that combines both Earth hour and World Water Day. The contest will be for members to submit a screenshot of their BC Hydro meter usage drop during earth hour and/or give an hour to the earth (in nature/exhibit with a reusable water bottle [during earth hour] - for world water day). The winner will receive a $100 gift card for a nursery in their area.

Committee also discussed the potential for monthly email blasts from the Environment committee with environmental dates, events, etc. Tabled for now as we will push the contest this month.

**M/S/C**

**5. Certification**

Discussion on what Climate Smart is, and what we can do in place of Climate Smart. Environmental audits are mostly for compliance or target measuring. Are there other unions that have done audits or have suggestions of what kind of audit can we do?

Discussion led to agreement that MoveUP offices are already above and beyond where most unions are in terms of environmentalism. The MoveUP office has motion sensor lighting, high efficiency appliances, and efforts should be put towards the workplaces we represent - through collective bargaining.

Committee recommendation to the Executive Board is to cease subscription to Climate Smart, and use the same funding for research into how our union can push for “just transition” language in our bargaining. Kim offers to speak on the committee’s behalf at the next board meeting.

**6. Environmental Stewardship Course JS Seminar 2026**

How can we get a course together for JS seminar 2026? Curriculum development

March’s meeting will be a special meeting for curriculum development for Job Steward seminar 2026. The environment committee will draft the curriculum to be sent to the education committee for consideration.

**7. Common Terms list**

Co-chairs will take the list away to make baseline definitions to present to committee. List includes:

 GreenHouse Gas Emissions, Carbon Credits, Sustainability, climate change, ocean acidification, greenwashing, Zero waste, net zero, biodiversity, upcycle, fast fashion

**8. New Business**

Discussion about greenwashing examples: Seaspiracy, Earth Rangers, etc.

Good alternatives: Poshmark

Recycling union wear update: the Table officers don't mind if our union merch ends up donated. So, when we organize a swag swap, we can donate the remaining clothing or upcycle the remaining into a quilt after.

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

**Next Meeting:**
March 20, 2025, at 6:00 PM. \*Special meeting for JS course development curriculum\*