RCE Saskatchewan Mobilization through Virtual Communication and Policy Platforms

Margret Asmuss, Jill Forrester and Dr. Roger Petry

9th RCE Virtual Conference of the Americas
Salisbury, Maryland
October 13-14, 2020
RCE Saskatchewan Region
Presentation Overview

- Virtual Recognition Event
- Local Action on SDGs
- Partnerships
- Web Site Renewal Project
12th RCE Saskatchewan Recognition Event – May 13, 2020

- Planned at First Nations University of Canada Regina Campus
- With COVID-19 moved to Zoom and streamed live to Facebook https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DvBVypkIlyg
- Supported by U of Regina IT Services and Faculty of Science
- Virtual participation by Lieutenant Governor https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XowHBWholiQc&feature=youtu.be
- 2 UNESCO Chairs, Provincial, City and University Officials
- 17 awards
RCE Annual Recognition Event: Use of Video

New “What is RCE Saskatchewan” video

• Help promote virtual event
• Educate about RCE
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UY-toPGjcro

Individualized “video segments” for each recipient in lieu of photographs
- Shared on facebook and twitter
SDG 15: Wetland Preservation and Water Management
Engaging Policy Makers

Working with Johnson-Shoyama School of Public Policy at the University of Regina and University of Saskatchewan
SDG 3: Advocacy for Strong Suicide Prevention Strategy for Indigenous Communities

Saskatchewan: highest suicide rate of any province in Canada

• suicides in Northern Saskatchewan 10 times higher for males 20-29 30 times higher for females 10-19 than southern communities

RCE SK letter to Ministry of Health (Sept. 15, 2020)

• SDG 3 Target 3.4: “By 2030, reduce by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.”

• suicide rate an indicator (SDG 3.4.2)

• 6 areas for investments in education

Tristen Durocher’s 639 km walk and 44 day fast called on Saskatchewan Government to improve its response to high suicide rates

Photo: Germain Wilson/CBC News
SDG 12: RCE Saskatchewan and Member Universities of SDG 12 Global Cluster
SDG 12: Participation in 2nd Global International Association of Universities Cluster on Responsible Consumption and Production August 2020

**TOPIC: Sustainable Consumption and production (SCP) and COVID - 19**

Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12) Team Member Panel of the International Association of Universities (IAU) Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD) Cluster for the UN SDGs

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What are the risks and opportunities - in both the short and long term - for the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that choose to focus on "frugal" or more traditional patterns of scholarship for rationing resources and survival?

2. How have recent changes with COVID-19 created potential opportunities in HEIs for new, more sustainable patterns of production and consumption of scholarly and other resources?

3. How will we have to shape the core tasks of HEIs (e.g., in research and teaching) in the future?

4. What role can the UN SDGs, especially SDG12 on Responsible Consumption and Production, play in shaping new collaborations within and between HEIs and the communities they serve to create HEIs for our times.
Service Club/Fraternal Organization Virtual Gathering
October 20, 2020 – “Sustaining our Future”

• Invite Service Clubs/Fraternal Organizations to (1) explore current challenges and coping strategies, (2) ways to assist community, and (3) opportunities for collaboration

• Presentations from University of Regina on sustainability innovations impacting community

• Sponsored by Centre for Continuing Education, Non-Profit and Voluntary Sector Studies Network, and RCE SK
University of Regina Strategic Plan

Alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

Through our commitment to the goals listed in this Strategic Plan, we are working toward the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. The table below outlines where we believe our actions will contribute to these SDGs by 2025.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UN SDGs</th>
<th>Discovery</th>
<th>Truth &amp; Reconciliation</th>
<th>Well-being &amp; Belonging</th>
<th>Environment &amp; Climate Action</th>
<th>Impact &amp; Identity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1: Poverty</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 2: Hunger</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 3: Health &amp; Well-being</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 4: Education</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 5: Gender Equality</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 6: Water &amp; Sanitation</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 7: Energy</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We aim to empower a better future by leading the rise of polytechnic education. Therefore, we work, live and learn in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.”

“We foster a sustainable future through effective stewardship of resources.”
nākatēyihtamowin | nakaatayihtaamoowin:

In Cree and Michif, the idea [Sustainability] is much bigger, extending to the attention we pay to protecting and honouring the wellness of all humanity and creation, the integrity of our cultural identities, and the stories embedded within language—the baskets of stories—our students, staff, faculty, and partners bring to our community.

For the University of Saskatchewan, Nākatēyihtamowin | Nakaatayihtaamoowin is a cultural and ecological touchstone.
Web Site Renewal Project – Planning Sept 2019

Audiences Identified:

• Local Sustainability Leaders
• RCE Sask working group/flagships
• Education and research community
• RCE Partner Organizations
• General Public & Politicians
• Other RCEs
• RCE Admin

Key Audience Needs:

• What value will they get?
• Key messages the website helps this group deliver?
• What will they see?
• What can they do?

* Updated to latest version of Drupal
RCE Web Site Renewal - People Centred Design Course
May – June 2020

Dr. Tim Maciag, Software Systems Engineering, U. of Regina “Researching People-Centred Design” Class (ENSE 471/871)

• May 11: RCE presents overview to students
• May 25: Students present analysis of current issues and user requirements
• June 15: 6 teams presented design proposals including interactive design prototypes
  • reviewed other RCE web sites globally
• $5000 Funding for Student Hire (Fall 2020) – work underway!
Thank you