

**ENVIRONMENTAL ORIENTATION:**

**PROVOKE SUSTAINABLE THOUGHT**



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# Executive Summary

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Our planet is currently facing many environmental challenges. If these are not addressed in a significant way in the near future, the negative effects may be exacerbated. There is an overwhelming need for change; however, change will not occur overnight. Only through education and responsible actions can significant progress be made. One way to educate current university students about the environment and how they can help implement change is through an environmental orientation program.

This report contains an outline of events which we propose take place during a new environmental orientation for Orientation Week. The orientation is geared towards first year University of Toronto Mississauga (UTM) students and will occur on the UTM campus. The purpose is to familiarize participants with campus-based and community-based environmental organizations. Through a team-based approach, students will be actively participating in fun events while learning sustainable practises.

The methods we used to gather data were both quantitative and qualitative. Both primary and secondary sources were included. For our primary research, we conducted three separate key informant interviews. In terms of secondary research, we sifted through scholarly articles, attended an environmental stewardship forum at UTM as well as gathered information from various other sources.

We hope that our proposed orientation will be adopted by the UTMSU. If so, we anticipate improving the environmental awareness of first year students as well as encouraging the adoption of environmentally sustainable actions.

# Introduction

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Many of the activities that we perform in our everyday life present negative consequences for the environment. These negative and unsustainable impacts are a concern that must be addressed.

There are currently several organisations in the Mississauga area that promote sustainability. The problem our project addresses is the fact that many students at the University of Toronto

Mississauga (UTM) are unaware of the environmental organisations on and around campus.

Through the use of our new environmental orientation events, we ultimately hope to increase student awareness of environmental organizations at UTM.

One reason that students are unaware of issues involving sustainability may be due to the lack of education about environmental impacts (Kollmuss 241). Students are in different programs and not everyone has the opportunity to expand on their knowledge of environmental issues.

Previous studies have shown that students have demonstrated a more positive response in environmental practices after environmental education was included in their school curriculum (Dhavse 1). By providing an orientation designed to inform students of environmental organizations on campus, we hope to encourage students to also actively become involved with organizations that promote sustainability.

# Background Information

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## *The world's current environmental situation:*

The world's population is growing at an exponential rate and it is putting a lot of pressure on our planet. The Earth provides us with the resources needed to survive; however, it may no longer be able to accommodate our needs if environmentally unsustainable practices continue at their current rate.

Mississauga, Ontario is experiencing the negative effects of urbanization. For example, the Credit River Watershed is undergoing ecological challenges such as declining water quality, an increase in water demand, ecosystem disruption and extirpation of species (Credit Valley Conservation, 2009). These challenges cause problems for the wellbeing of ecosystems which are due to anthropogenic activities. The Credit River is nationally recognized for its migratory routes of trout and salmon and it is important to maintain the rivers' integrity.

In conclusion, anthropogenic impacts are causing damage to the planet. As population increases exponentially, these problems are only exacerbated. We live in a world of many interconnected cycles. If a cycle is negatively effected, there are consequences which will effect other cycles on Earth. It is important that we limit anthropogenic influences on the environment in order to ensure that our future is not compromised. Understanding global environmental issues may lead to local action.

Our proposed orientation will promote sustainable actions. If a greater proportion of the population would adopt these sustainable practices, perhaps we may be able to limit our negative anthropogenic impacts on the planet.

***Focus of our orientation's content:***

Our proposed orientation will focus on environmental organisations relating to four specific categories. These four categories have particular resonance with many members of the university; transportation, energy efficiency and conservation, sustainable food and waste management. These categories were selected because they directly apply to students' daily lives.

Transportation has become a key issue on campus. Due to recent events relating to a diminishing number of total parking spaces available to students, this has become a topic of heated debate. Organizations such as *Bike Share* currently promote sustainable transportation alternatives to driving personal vehicles. *Bike Share* is a UTM on-campus organization that provides free bike rentals and repairs for faculty and students.

In terms of energy efficiency and conservation, programs at the University of Toronto (St. George campus) such as the *Rewire* promote sustainable energy consumption. The *Rewire* team was able to change the behaviours of many students which ultimately lead to financial savings of approximately \$22 000 to \$26 000 throughout seven residences. They were also able to raise awareness in an effective way through their events which eventually lead to positive results.

The University of Toronto Mississauga student population has grown considerably in the past decade. The quantity of physical waste generated over this period has also increased at a rapid pace. It is important to ensure that the university has the logistical capabilities to deal with the waste that is being generated in an environmentally responsible way. Currently, the Green Team has various campaigns running, including the anti-litter and battery recycling initiatives.

The City of Mississauga has several parks and natural green spaces, as well as one of the Great Lakes within a few kilometres from campus. Multiple organizations and programs exist, such as

the *Credit Valley Conservation Authority*, who supports the promotion and well being of parks and green space in Mississauga.

## Methods

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We have conducted several purposive interviews to provide us with the necessary information to plan our environmental orientation. Initially, we hoped to identify the methods that would be the most effective at teaching and engaging students to participate with environmental organisations. Therefore, an interview was performed with Barbara Murck, a UTM Senior professor and program advisor in the geography department. She was selected to participate in our interview due to her experience in educating first year students in environmental sciences.

Tyler Hunt, the project coordinator for *Moving Out: Start Green* at the University of Toronto St. George sustainability office has also been interviewed. This program monitors student energy reduction behaviours in off-campus housing. This interview was conducted in order to provide insight on pertinent environmental sustainability issues and how successful various programs/organizations are with informing students of their initiatives.

Another interview has been conducted with Grayce Yuen, University of Toronto Mississauga Students' Union VP University Affairs & Academics. This interview's purpose was to determine what methods of funding would be available for our environmental orientation. We also gathered information about the logistical organization required for such a large scale event.

Other data included information regarding *Bike Share* and determining the availability of bikes during our orientation. This information was collected from Mark Vas, *Bike Share* Coordinator, by email. Questions regarding the organization were asked and they agreed to assist us in our

orientation event. Furthermore, a unique forum was attended at UTM on October 16<sup>th</sup> hosted by the *Credit Valley Conservation Authority*, a prominent environmental organization in Mississauga. By attending this event, we were able to see many of the environmentally friendly projects and locations on campus.

Secondary research data was sought in order to improve our understanding of the four major topics we would like to highlight during our orientation. The majority of this information has been acquired by analysing brochures which were acquired during environmental week at the UTM campus. Lester R. Brown's *Plan B 4.0: Mobilizing to save Civilisation* was analysed to find background information on the major environmental concerns in the world today. This was done in order to place our orientation within a larger perspective. Further textual analysis has been made relating to the understanding of how to educate students on environmental issues.

In order to provide a clear financial estimate for our orientation's budget, we began to determine the costs of the event's supplies and rental fees. We went to stores such as *Tim Horton's* and *Home Depot* for quotes on the prices of the orientation supplies. The rental fees associated with our event have also been taken into consideration.

## Findings

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The orientation information presented in this section will be elaborated on in the "Prospective Orientation Events" section. The interview with Barbara Murck provided us with some information about how to present our orientation. Murck believes that lecturing students about environmental issues is ineffective and may even discourage them from participating in future activities throughout the day. She believes that if students are engaged in environmental activities directly, they may be encouraged to take part in future events and programs that

promote sustainable behaviour. She stated during the interview that, “If students are having fun during these activities, they’ll automatically want to participate in ‘green’ programs, rather than if you talk at them and get them bored or even more discouraged about environmental situations.” (Murck, 2010)

Professor Murck also suggested different ideas to get students excited about the event. She proposed the idea of a scavenger hunt in which students receive a small leaflet including different areas in the campus they must visit in order to come to a “sustainable lunch” event. Murck encouraged the use of prizes during our orientation; she suggested that winning teams should receive prizes, such as T-shirts.

The interview with Tyler Hunt informed us about how to logistically organize an orientation event. Hunt stressed the need to obtain large volunteer personnel for the event. He has pointed out that there may be a risk by relying on volunteers due to the fact that they may not always show up. As a precaution, Hunt proposed that we include more volunteers than necessary in order to compensate for any possible absences. Hunt also provided us with advice on how to properly advertise our proposed orientation. Email communications and web-based advertisements were strongly encouraged to promote the events.

Grayce Yuen’s interview provided us with the logistical information we required in order to plan this project. If our proposed orientation occurs during Orientation Week (first week of September), she indicated that the UTMSU would have access to subsidized facility rental fees, and a budget of \$500 is available. To secure further funding, she provided us with information on applying for *Green Grants*; money that is given to groups at UTM who are planning an environmental-related event. Equipment, such as tables and chairs, can be obtained for free via a

work order request submitted through the UTMSU. Volunteers are also crucial to the actual running of the orientation.

As the event is proposed for Orientation Week, Yuen told us that we will have access to fifty volunteers and approximately 800 attendees. In order to promote this event, she suggested that an informative brochure be included in the Frosh Package which students receive upon registration. She also mentioned that we consider partnering with environmental clubs on campus to promote our orientation.

During environmental week (October X to X, 2010), much of our information gathering regarding environmental organizations on campus was completed. We collected informative brochures and booklets from a variety of environmental organizations. The brochures consisted of programs that students could volunteer for such as naturalization and stewardship activities, basic information on how to compost and how to recycle, local farmer's markets and recipes as well as bike trails in Mississauga. This information will be shared with the participants in our environmental orientation program. We also attended the Environmental Sustainability Stewardship Forum, hosted by the *Credit Valley Conservation*. The forum presented us with several organizations in the Mississauga area that promote sustainability. Many of these organizations will be invited to present themselves at kiosks during our intermediate event. The events outlined above are all explained in the "Prospective Orientation Events" section.

*Bike Share* has provided us with information about the organization as well as the availability of bikes for our environmental orientation. They have agreed to support our orientation by providing the necessary arrangements for a larger fleet of bikes to be available. There will be 25 bikes available during our orientation which is a sufficient quantity for our proposed relay race.

We have found several articles relating to how to improve environmental awareness.<sup>3</sup> Anja Kollmuss and Julian Agyeman's article: "*Mind the Gap: Why do people act environmentally and what are the barriers to pro-environmental behaviour?*" outlines the obstacles that limit people's enthusiasm when it comes to environmental activities. Kollmuss and Agyeman (2002) were able to explain that pro-environmental actions do not always come from more education about the environment. The article also presents solutions to overcome these barriers and maximize pro-environmental activities. Conclusively, direct active experiences have a stronger influence on people's behaviour rather than indirect experience.

In *An Empirical Study of Environmental Awareness and Practices in SMEs*, David, L. et. al. (2009) demonstrated how knowledge about environmental issues increases the participation of environmental management practices. The results of this article show that the methods used to educate the public influence their actions. In conclusion, education if delivered in an active participatory way, leads to pro-environmental action.

Taking into consideration all of the information we gathered, a budget for our orientation has been prepared. In terms of supplies, we initially determined the cost of our first relay event. Station one will require 20 *Tim Horton's* coffee cups and 20 cardboard serving trays. The cups and trays will cost \$0.25 each and \$11.30 total (including HST).

Station two will require 80 light bulbs as well as 20 lamp holders. At *Home Depot*, incandescent light bulbs produced by *DuraMax* are found in packs of four for \$2.78. Energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs, produced by *Philips*, are found in packs of six for \$9.98. Although we would only require a total of 40 light bulbs, we will encourage the purchase of extra replacement bulbs in order to account for any damage during the events. Both types of light bulbs are 60

Watts and in terms of energy efficiency, the incandescent light bulbs last one year whereas the fluorescent bulbs last 9 years. *Levton* keyless residential lamp holders may be purchased for \$1.59. Therefore, the total cost of Station two's activities would be \$146.29 (including HST). There are no costs associated with station three and four. There are also no costs associated with the Green Scavenger Hunt.

In terms of financing prizes for our event, we would like to purchase 40 reusable aluminium water bottles. These will be awarded to each member of the two winning teams during the relay event. Those 40 students may also receive an energy efficient light bulb which was used during the second stage of the relay event. The reusable water containers may be purchased through *Maraca Canada* for approximately \$125. Two additional prizes will be purchased in order to present awards to the two winners of the raffle. Two \$50 gift cards for the University of Toronto book store will provide an incentive to visit as many kiosks as possible.

Although, Grace Yuen has assured us that we would be able to make use of the RAWC and South Field with out incurring any fees, the option of making use of a "Green Grant" may be considered if we are needed to rent them. Fees associated with the renting of campus location are found in Appendix D. Our total budget for this event is \$382.59.

### Environmental Sustainability Orientation

	Budget 2010	
Capital	\$ 500.00	
Cups/Trays		11.30
Lightbulbs/sockets		146.29
Reusable Water Bottles		125.00
Gift Certificates		100.00
Totals	\$ 500.00	382.59
<b>Budget Surplus</b>		<b><u><u>\$ 117.41</u></u></b>

## Prospective Orientation Events

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Our proposed frosh events were planned while taking into consideration all of the data that we have gathered. In order to promote student participation for our event, we will include a leaflet inside of the frosh package. This leaflet (found in Appendix E) will include recommendations for students to participate in the orientation.

### *Time Table of our event:*

The following is a proposed timetable for our orientation events:

Time	Event	Description
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Gathering and Registration in RAWC Gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mississauga and UTM based environmental organizations will set up tables for students to browse.</li> </ul>
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	The Sustainability Relay and The Green Scavenger Hunt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group one will begin with the Sustainability Relay</li> <li>- Group two will begin with the Green Scavenger Hunt</li> <li>- The RAWC Gym will be open in between the two activities.</li> <li>- Students who have completed the relay will visit the kiosks while they wait for the scavenger hunt to be completed.</li> <li>- When the scavenger hunt is complete, group one will begin the Green Scavenger Hunt and group two will begin the Sustainable Relay</li> </ul>
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Kiosk and Raffle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Students who wish to have a chance of winning a raffle prize at the end of the orientation can hand in their raffle ballots</li> <li>- Prizes for relay winners will also be awarded</li> </ul>

*\*This time table contains only minimal information regarding the orientations schedule; please refer to the following sections for more information.*

### **Registration**

Students attending this orientation will rendezvous at the RAWC gymnasium, as directed by the informative leaflet included in the package they receive upon signing up for Frosh Week.

Arriving at the gym entrance, ten frosh volunteers will assist in directing attendees to a block of twenty tables to register their names in one of the forty groups. Volunteers will monitor the registration tables and answer any questions students may have. Each table will include two

signup sheets with twenty name-slots available on each sheet. Groups are organised numerically as 1 – 40 inclusively and students may select the group they wish in a first come – first serve basis. Once a team sheet has been signed by 20 students, the frosh leader will remove the sheet from the table and lead his group of students into the gym. By removing the sheet, frosh leaders will limit student confusion as to what groups are still available to sign up for.

At each sign-up table, there will be a piece of paper that each participant must take. One side will contain a map of UTM's campus with ten numbered locations (See Appendix I) pointing out the ten sites for the *Green Scavenger Hunt*. The other side of the paper will contain specific directions for each group to follow during the hunt. It will indicate what location they will begin at as well as what location they will go to next. This will avoid possible confusion that may arise if multiple groups decide to go to any given location at once. While students are waiting for their fellow participants to finish registering, they can socialize and browse kiosks located in the RAWC gym.

Once registration is finished, students will be formally welcomed to the environmental orientation and given further instruction as to the proceedings of the event. A simple public announcement system will be set-up in the RAWC in order to properly address the participants. The forty groups will then be divided into two larger groups for the two main events. Groups 1 – 20 will be assigned to begin with the *Sustainable Relay Race* and groups 21 – 40 will begin with the *Green Scavenger Hunt*. Breaking the total number of attendees into two groups, and running two simultaneous events is more logistically manageable and will provide a better overall experience for the participants. We do not want to create a crowded environment that could discourage participation. The timing of each event is crucial in order for the orientation to run smoothly without having any awkward bumps. Therefore, we have allotted one hour and thirty

minutes for each of the main events, the *Sustainability Relay Race* and the *Green Scavenger Hunt*.

### ***Sustainability Relay Race***

One of the two main events organized is the *Sustainability Relay Race*. The purpose of this event is to test each participant's current sustainability knowledge with 'everyday' style-tasks. The goal of this event is to teach them environmentally sustainable actions by physically getting them to complete tasks correctly.

When arriving at the South field, volunteers will assist in getting each of the twenty groups to line up behind a different relay row. There will be twenty identical rows consisting of four stations each. The use of two megaphones will help project instructions to students on how the relay works. At each of the stations, participants must complete a specific task; each station will have a different theme.

The first station, "*Sort em out!*", will encourage participants to properly identify and dispose of everyday items into garbage and recycling bins. Subtle tricks will be used to force the participant to think about what is actually recyclable and what is garbage. For example, plastic water bottles are recyclable but the cap is not; it should be put in the garbage. Should the participant make a mistake, the Frosh leader (that will follow the student to each station) will point out their mistake. Once completed, the participant will move as fast as possible to the next station.

The second station is called *The Green Twist*. The participant must identify which light bulb is the most energy efficient and install it into the light socket provided. This will enforce student recognition of energy efficient light bulbs, if not known already. Once participants unscrew the

light bulb and place it back in the tray they initially took it from, they must move on to the next station.

To highlight the *Bike Share* program as an environmental friendly transportation alternative, station three requires that the participant to ride a bicycle to the final station. If the participant is unable to ride a bike, they may run to the final station.

*Quiz!* is the final station of the relay race. Participants are to correctly answer a question relating to environmental sustainability. Example questions are located in Appendix H. The purpose of the question is not to stump the participant, but to provide them with a tangible fact. These questions will help students understand the importance of sustainable actions and their benefits to the environment. After answering the question correctly, the participant is to ride the bicycle back to station three to return the bike, and then run back to the start to tag the next participant in their group.

This relay is completed by each team member while being monitored by the frosh leaders who ensure that students properly complete the tasks at each station. The group that finishes the relay the first will win a prize package. Each group team member will receive one compact fluorescent light bulb as well as a reusable water bottle.

We anticipate fifteen minutes for the groups to make their way from the RAWC to the South Field, line up behind a relay row and have the instructions provided to them. Furthermore, we expect an average time of two minutes for each participant to complete the relay. Once the relay race is finished, groups 1-20 will make their way back to the RAWC where they will visit the kiosk displays of community-based environmental organizations for the remaining thirty

minutes. This aspect will be explained in an upcoming section. Overall, the Sustainable Relay Race will take one hour and a half to complete, including the intermediate display event.

### ***The Green Scavenger Hunt***

The second main event planned for our environmental sustainability orientation is *The Green Scavenger Hunt*. The purpose of this event is to make the participants familiar with the campus as well as educate them about many of the environmentally sustainable initiatives/projects at the university.

At the Environmental Stewardship Forum, which was organized by the *Credit Valley Conservation* held at UTM, we participated in a campus walking tour that highlighted many environmental projects and locations. The proposed scavenger hunt event is a version of the walking tour. Based on valuable information gathered from the tour, we identified ten locations around campus that groups will visit and learn about the sustainable aspects of each location. Each participant will have the map they picked up upon registration so they can see where each location is relative to the campus. Also, the directions for each group are on the reverse side of the map, so they will be able to properly navigate to the next site.

The following is a list of the proposed locations and a brief outline of their sustainable endeavours.

- RAWC

- Green roof

- Old Field

- native plant species

- research site for UTM professors/students

- Engineering Buildings

- Evaporative Cooling Tower

- extracts cooled air from falling water

- supplies the South Building with air conditioning
  - Micro turbines
    - provides the South Building with energy
    - generates roughly 10% of campus energy\*
  - Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (Library)
    - LEED certified
    - optical lighting systems
    - locally sourced and recycled building materials used
    - compactable stacks (space conservation)
    - built on land previously used as parking lot
    - green roof
  - Instructional Centre (under construction)
    - LEED certified
    - geothermal heating/cooling (116 boreholes under North field\*)
    - locally sourced and recycled building materials used
    - built on land previously used as parking lot
    - green roof
  - Bike Share*
    - provides free bicycle rentals to UTM students for a 24-hour period
  - Oscar Peterson Hall
    - sustainable and local food available
  - Wilson's Pond
    - a natural wetland (acts as a sponge/natural environmental filter)
  - South Building Solar Panels
    - 35 panels capable of producing 155 watts/hour each\*
    - energy supplied to the South Building
  - Storm Water Management Pond
    - collects and filters rainwater and runoff from UTM
    - 3 stage filtering process
    - discharges filtered water into the Credit River
- \*These facts/statistics obtained from the walking tour leader, Nadine.

Since there are only ten locations and twenty groups participating in the scavenger hunt, two groups will join together to make a single group of forty. The increased group sizes will still be manageable for the volunteers, with one posted to each of the ten locations. These stationed volunteers will be talking about the sustainable initiatives at each location. In addition, there will be one volunteer with each group of forty to aid with traveling to each site in a timely manner.

We have strategically accounted for the groups to spend an average of eight minutes per location, which includes travel time to the next site. With an extra five minutes granted for travel to the starting location, and five minutes to return to the South field, the Green Scavenger Hunt will take approximately one hour and a half. Groups will be directed, by the frosh volunteer to the South Field after they have found the last location for a debriefing period and prize give-away session.

### ***Intermediate RAWC Event/Raffle Entry***

This particular aspect of our orientation will complement the Sustainability Relay Race event. Since the relay race will occupy only one hour of time, there is an additional thirty minutes before those participating in the scavenger hunt are finished. During this time, the groups who finished the relay race will walk back to the RAWC where a number of community-based environmentally focused organizations will have displays set up. We recommend the *Credit Valley Conservation*, *EcoSource* and the *Sierra Club (Peel Region)* will be selected as community-based organizations. We would also like campus-based environmental organizations such as the Green Team to be part of this orientation.

In order to encourage prospective UTM students to visit the displays and learn about these organizations, we are going to implement a raffle that directly ties participation to the number of ballot entries. A participant may earn a stamp (to be marked on their map) by engaging themselves with the material presented.

Respective members of the organizations will award the stamps as they see fit. Each stamp is equivalent to one ballot entry in the raffle. There will be a bank of table's set-up in the RAWC

where participants will go to enter themselves into the raffle. Volunteers will be in charge of verifying each participant's entry.

Due to the high number of participants expected, we are allotting an additional hour after the two main events (from 4:00pm to 5:00pm) to give participants more time to visit the displays and enter into the raffle. This will also provide those who express interest in these organizations, to gain more 'face time' and look into possible volunteer opportunities. The two prizes up-for-grabs in the raffle are \$50 gift credits to the UTM book store. The winners will be announced by email at a later date.

## Alternative Orientations

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### *Alternative Orientation through expanded advertising*

Other than our orientation event, there are many alternative orientations that could potentially be carried out in the long term. These will also promote student awareness regarding environmental issues. One method discussed during the interview with Tyler Hunt, is to expand the advertising methods of the environmental events on campus. We've realized that many students in other disciplines and programs (such as Humanities, or Commerce) are not aware of the various programs and workshops provided by the Geography Department. A way to communicate this information more effectively would be to expand web-based advertising methods. We suggest that a small statement is placed on the UTM webpage or mass emails should be sent to students informing them of the different environmental events held throughout the year. Having more announcements about seminars and environmental workshops on blackboard or the UTM website will promote awareness as students are often visiting these websites.

### ***Integrating environmental orientations within existing programs on-campus***

Environmental workshops are an excellent way to orient students throughout the academic year. By participation in hands on workshops, such as tree planting exercises, students may better appreciate the relevance of promoting environmentally friendly behaviour. These workshops can be held by different on-campus programs such as the Green Team to orient students about sustainable behaviour.

Other methods may include introducing sustainable foods and produce during events held at UTM. One potential example is “stress busters week” held by the UTM Health & Counselling Centre. Currently once a year, healthy foods are provided to students during exam week. Integrating organic food products into the “Stress Busters” week will not only be beneficial for the health of students but also increase environmental awareness.

### ***Alternative Visual Orientation***

An alternative visual orientation could be to build a sign post (see Appendix G) consisting of directions to point students towards environmentally-friendly programs and parks on and off campus. Some examples include Credit Valley River, *Bike Share*, Lake Ontario, and Erindale Park. The distance from the campus should also be included in kilometers so that students understand the proximity of these environmentally significant locations respective to the campus. This post will be placed in an open area so that it can be easily accessible to students. This will help students and faculty members teach themselves about the different environmental benefits that surround the campus. Since the sign will remain accessible for a long period of time, there will be a greater chance for students to gain access to it. This method has been applied at the

University of Tillburg in the Netherlands, in order to orientate students and navigate them within the campus. Similar signs have been designed, and erected for costs covered by the general facilities in the University. (Tilburg University, 2010)

## Recommendations

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We recommend that the UTMSU takes on this project because we believe that it will present them with several benefits. Our budget is affordable given the level of available funding. All of the event planning and organization is already prepared and presented in this project. The events do not take very long to complete and are all optional to attend. This allows for the orientation coordinator to easily schedule them during Orientation Week. Our orientation will also promote a good first impression of UTM as being a “green” and sustainable school engaged in environmental practices. Finally, we believe that our proposed orientation will be a popular event among students. This popularity may enhance students to become interested in the services provided by the UTMSU.

We propose that the orientation coordinator who takes on this project present student recommendations to all first year UTM students by means of email. Many of the same recommendations will be available in the leaflet. This information will provide students with incentives to join the orientation. The email sent to students should include the following recommendations:

- Students will have the chance to familiarize themselves to the campus.
- Environmentally friendly products will be given away as prizes.

- Time would be saved by having this orientation's information provided in one day's events instead of having to search for it. ("One-stop shop")
- Every student present will have a chance to participate in all of the available activities. This will allow socialization among students.
- Students can be introduced to new people with similar interests and meet new friends.

## Conclusion

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We would like to reach a new audience of students in order to improve the environmental awareness of the student body. We hope to reach that audience by having the UTMSU adopt our proposed orientation. It will connect new students to many environmental services and organizations in a sustainable way. This would ultimately result in a positive response from the students at UTM by supporting a more sustainable campus environment. We also hope that students will gain a greater appreciation for our environment. If these kinds of environmentally sustainable trends are promoted, perhaps we will be able to limit our negative anthropogenic impacts on our planet.

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# Appendix

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## A) *Interview Questions for Barbara Murck*

1. For teaching ENV100 several times, what do you find first year students are most aware about and what do they pay most attention to about our environmental issues today?
2. If there could be an environmental orientation during frosh week for the first year students, what kind of activities and addressing what issues would you like to see?
3. What kind of teaching methods do you use to keep students positive about our global environmental changes to engage them to do something about it?
4. What do you believe are some key issues in our environment today that you think should be highly addressed to first year students on campus?

\*This interview took on a free flowing conversational tone, questions are not indicative of the interview results.

## B) *Interview Questions for Tyler Hunt*

1. What kinds of programs/ orientation events were you a part of? Tell me a bit about that.
2. How did you/ what kind of events did you orientate?
3. What kinds of communications methods did you use to promote your program?
4. How successful are your orientations?

\*This interview took on a free flowing conversational tone, questions are not indicative of the interview results.

C) *Interview Questions for Grace Yuen*

1. How do students apply for frosh week?
2. How many students attend frosh week events?
3. How do you encourage participation for frosh week events?
4. Are there events that take place during the week that have mandatory attendance?
5. What kinds of events have been successful at entertaining students in the past?
6. Have previous frosh weeks incorporated educational themes?
7. How have previous frosh week events been funded?
8. What kind of funding might we expect for a proposed environmental orientation that would take place during frosh week?
9. How have past frosh week events been promoted?
10. What are some of the restrictions that are applicable to preparing frosh week events?
11. Would the CCIT lecture hall be available for a presentation during our orientation?
12. What kind of campus equipment is available for large scale orientation activities (ei: chairs, tables ect...)?
13. Are we able to make use of the North and South fields on campus for two hours in order to host orientation activities?

D) *Facilities Rental Fees Outline (Athletics Department)*

University of Toronto  
Department of Athletics  
Facility Rental Fees Outline (per hour)

Fees Valid from June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2010 – April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2011 & subject to HST unless otherwise noted			
Facilities Available	Community	Non Profit/Youth Sport Organization	UTM recognized student organization *
<b>INDOOR SPACE</b>			
Gym A or B or C (booked Individually) (September 1 <sup>st</sup> – April 30 <sup>th</sup> )	\$60.00/hr	\$55.00/hr	\$38.00/hr
Gym A or B or C (booked Individually) (May 1 <sup>st</sup> – August 31 <sup>st</sup> )	\$57.00/hr	\$52.00/hr	\$38.00/hr
Gym A + B (booked together) (September 1 <sup>st</sup> – April 30 <sup>th</sup> )	\$112.00/hr	\$103.00/hr	\$76.00/hr
Gym A + B (booked together) (May 1 <sup>st</sup> – August 31 <sup>st</sup> )	\$110.00/hr	\$89.00/hr	\$76.00/hr
Multi-Purpose Room A (rubber floor mirrored studio)	\$27.00/hr	\$25.00/hr	\$20.00/hr
Multi-Purpose Room B (rubber floor studio)	\$20.00/hr	\$17.00/hr	\$10.00/hr
Multi-Purpose Room A + B (rubber floor mirrored studio)	\$35.00/hr	\$30.00/hr	\$24.00/hr
Dance Studio (wooden floor, mirrored walls, dance bar)	\$27.00/hr	\$25.00/hr	\$20.00/hr
Fitness Studio (mondo sports flooring)	\$27.00/hr	\$25.00/hr	\$20.00/hr
Team Meeting Room (small classroom with desk/seats for 21)	\$15.00/hr	\$15.00/hr	\$10.00/hr
<b>OUTDOOR SPACE</b>			
Beach Volleyball (2 courts)	\$25.00/hr	\$20.00/hr	\$15.00/hr
Mini Field (beside North field)	\$25.00/hr	\$20.00/hr	\$15.00/hr
North Field (to be lined for soccer only)	\$40.00/hr	\$36.00/hr	\$30.00/hr
South Field (to be lined for football only)	\$40.00/hr	\$36.00/hr	\$30.00/hr

**NOTE: Special events may be entitled to a discount. Please contact for more information.**

University of Toronto  
Department of Athletics  
Facility Rental Fees Outline (per hour)

Fees Valid from June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2010 – April 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2011 & subject to HST unless otherwise noted			
Facilities Available	Community	Non Profit/Youth Sport Organization	UTM recognized student organization *
<b>AQUATIC FACILITIES</b>			
Pool (Full Pool for practices 8L 25M)	\$70.00/hr	\$70.00/hr	\$55.00/hr
Pool (1/2 Pool for practices 4L 25M or Shallow/Deep)	\$38.00/hr	\$38.00/hr	\$30.00/hr
Pool (Full Pool for Special Event)	\$70.00/hr (plus caretaking **)	\$70.00/hr (plus caretaking**)	\$55.00/hr (plus caretaking**)
<b>ADDITIONAL FEES (determined on an individual basis and not subject to HST)</b>			
South Field Lighting	Additional \$45.00 /hr		
North Field Lining	Additional \$42.00 for Soccer		
<b>ADDITIONAL STAFFING COSTS: The following fees apply if the requested rental will take place outside of normal operating hours AND with rentals exceeding 200 participants. (not subject to HST)</b>			
Facility Supervisor	\$25.00/hr		
Pool Supervisor	\$25.00/hr		
Lifeguard	\$20.00/hr		
**Caretaking (minimum 4 hour shift per day)	\$45.00/hr		
Gymnasium Set-up (for rentals requiring floor covers)	\$105.00 for set-up and \$105.00 for takedown per Gym (A, B or C.)		

\* UTM – recognized student organizations are listed online at [www.utm.utoronto.ca/groups](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/groups). Booking request must be made by the organizations Public Contact and authorized by the organizations President.

E) Leaflet to be included in the Frosh Orientation Package



F) *Work Plan*

<b>Project Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date of Completion</b>	<b>Task Assignment</b>
Parks and Rec– Information Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected information on parks and recreational activities in Mississauga</li> <li>Analyzed space available for possible ‘orientation day’ activities</li> </ul>	Friday September 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina</li> </ul>
Sustainable foods– Information Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visited Oscar Peterson and gathered information on sustainable produce given to students on campus</li> <li>Visited local food markets and analyzed the different methods they used to share sustainable tips to the community</li> </ul>	Friday September 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina</li> </ul>
Food Inc. Movie Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Watch movie and see if it’s engaging enough to include in our orientation</li> <li>Also view film for Informative purposes</li> </ul>	Wednesday September 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Green Team – Information Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit the Green Team office to gather information about environmental and sustainable programs and initiatives that exist on campus</li> </ul>	Monday October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel</li> </ul>
Bike Share – Information Gathering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather general information regarding the programme on campus</li> <li>Inquire about the possible availability of bicycles during the “planned” orientation day</li> </ul>	Tuesday October 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Francesco</li> </ul>
Data Gathering #1– Interview: Program Coordinators at the Sustainability Office (UofT-St. George)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interview will acquire information on how to create a successful orientation</li> <li>Particular interest will be paid to the methods and techniques that were successfully made use of by various sustainable programs</li> </ul>	Friday October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanni</li> </ul>
Data Gathering #2– Interview: Barbara Murck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine the best methods to present environmental issues to students</li> </ul>	Tuesday October 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina and Tanni</li> </ul>

<b>Data Gathering</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All collected data will be submitted</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
<i>Peer Evaluation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform a peer evaluation of the group members</li> </ul>	<i>Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Environmental Stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Friends of the Credit" forum located at UTM</li> <li>Gain information regarding environmental sustainability on the Credit River Watershed</li> <li>Meet groups that are involved in the community and network with volunteer groups</li> </ul>	Saturday October 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be attended by Alina, Francesco and Daniel</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce a presentation outline</li> </ul>	Sunday October 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina</li> </ul>
Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin to write the progress report outline</li> </ul>	Monday October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice and finalise the presentation format</li> </ul>	Monday October 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start to produce a paragraphed document form of the outline</li> </ul>	Tuesday October 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina, Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform final edits of the progress report</li> </ul>	Wednesday October 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
<b>Progress Report/Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit progress report</li> <li>Perform a presentation of our project</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organize and compile gathered data</li> </ul>	Monday October 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanni</li> </ul>
Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyze data to deduce common ideas/themes that will be used in the orientation</li> </ul>	Thursday October 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>

Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce individual data analysis in paragraphed form</li> </ul>	Monday November 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Done individually by each group member</li> </ul>
Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather all individual data analyses to put into single document</li> </ul>	Tuesday November 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina</li> </ul>
Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final edit of data report</li> </ul>	Wednesday November 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
<b>Data Analysis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Submit the final data report</b></li> </ul>	<b>Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>All group members</b></li> </ul>
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce ideas for recommendations from project data</li> </ul>	Friday November 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Francesco</li> </ul>
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce written draft document of the recommendations</li> </ul>	Monday November 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tanni</li> </ul>
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce and edit final recommendations document</li> </ul>	Wednesday November 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Submit our group's recommendations</b></li> </ul>	<b>Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>All group members</b></li> </ul>
<i>Peer Evaluation</i>	<i>Perform a peer evaluation of the group members</i>	<i>Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>All group members</i></li> </ul>
Report Draft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin to produce the report draft by preparing its outline</li> </ul>	Friday November 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare a general presentation outline</li> </ul>	Friday November 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare to assemble presentation material</li> <li>This includes the production of posters and pamphlets</li> </ul>	Monday November 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alina and Tanni</li> </ul>

Report Draft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Produce a final edit of the report draft</li> </ul>	Wednesday November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
Report Draft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit final report draft copy</li> </ul>	Thursday November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a final presentation outline (PowerPoint)</li> <li>Revise material that will be presented (make any last minute corrections)</li> </ul>	Thursday November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Practice our presentation together as a group</li> </ul>	Monday, November 22 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final project presentation practice in front of practice audience</li> </ul>	Wednesday, November 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform our presentation in front of our clients and other faculty members</li> </ul>	Thursday November 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Final Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Begin to edit report draft</li> <li>Make all necessary corrections that were outlined by team members and professors</li> </ul>	Friday November 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
Final Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final editing of the report draft</li> </ul>	Saturday November 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Daniel and Francesco</li> </ul>
Final Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A team reading session of our project in order to produce any necessary last minute changes to the final project</li> </ul>	Sunday, November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Final Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand in the final copy of the report.</li> </ul>	Monday November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All group members</li> </ul>
Project completion date: Monday November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2010		Monday November 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2010	

G) *Sign Post*



H) Questions for Quiz (Relay- Activity 4)

1. What campus-based organization provided you with the bike you just rode?

*Answer: Bikeshare*

*Hint: The answer ends with “share”*

2. Why did you have to separate the plastic bottle from the cap in Activity 2?

*Answer: Cap is not recyclable*

*Hint: One part is not recyclable..which one?*

3. Why use the fluorescent light bulb?

*Answer: more energy efficient*

*Hint: it saves \_\_\_\_\_*

4. How much carbon emissions are involved when using a bike?

*Answer: ZERO*

*Hint: It's the lowest number possible (not a negative number)*

5. Name an organization you noticed at the RAWC today?

*Answer: CVC, EcoSource, Green Team, Bikeshare, etc. (open answer)*

*Hint: Could be anything you noticed. It's an open answer.*

6. Name a sustainable practice/action?

*Answer: Open (ex: recycling, energy efficient light bulbs, etc.)*

7. Which part of a *Tim Horton's* coffee cup is NOT recyclable?

*Answer: the cup, (without the cap/top part)*

*Hint: It's not the cap*

8. What is the use of the Green bin in your home, (what kind of products go in there?)

*Answer: Organic material*

*Hint: If you can eat it, so can the green bin!*

9. What kind of products go in blue bin?

*Answer: plastics*

*Hint: the material that a water bottle is made of (non-reusable)*

10. Name a sustainable recreational activity.

*Answer: riding a bike, jogging, playing sports (open answer)*

*Hint: You just did this to get to station 4!*

I) *Map for Green Scavenger Hunt*

