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| SUSTAINABILITY ACTION FUND:  FINAL PROJECT REPORT |  |

# Today`s Date: 13-11-2016 GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

**Project Name:** Waste Not, Want Not  
**Date Awarded Funding:** September 6th, 2016

**Please Indicate the length of your project including planning, implementation and follow-up:** 6 months **Please indicate total funding received:** $1000  
**Please indicate total funding spent:** $998.28

PROJECT REVIEW

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| **1. Please select the relevant sustainability categories covered by your project.** | ☐ Education & Research  ☐ Social Justice  ☐ Community  ☐ Waste  ☐ Food  ☐ Health & Well Being  ☐ Energy, Resources & Technology ☐ Other |
| **2. Please indicate all sustainability issues your project addressed.** | ☐ Biodiversity Loss  ☐ Habitat Preservation  ☐ Land Degradation/Contamination  ☐ Pollution (Air, Water, Light, Noise, etc.)  ☐ Poverty  ☐ Public Education  ☐ Resource Depletion  ☐ Resource Waste  ☐ Wellness & Nutrition  ☐ Climate Change (Global Warming)  ☐ Community Development (and Engagement)  ☐ Economic Development  ☐ Environmental Health  ☐ Environmental Justice  ☐ Fair Wages  ☐ Future Generations |
| **3. Briefly explain if you met your project goals, and how. (See your application for specific project goals).** | Yes, we did meet our goals. Infrastructure improvement have been established such as an expansion in number of compost bins in public areas. Public consultation for on-campus composting is scheduled for the first week of December hosted by facilities and EH&S. We have brought the entire Concordia community together to shine light on food waste. Most student associations (GSA, ASFA, FASA, and ENCS) have participated in our campaign by ensuring compost bins and our volunteers in their orientation events. Similarly, orientation organized by the university’s student success center collaborated with us. They along with professors, students, staff, and university administrators (President, provost, VP services, the four faculty deans, the dean of school of graduate students, and dean of students) participated in our social media campaign. A 5-day successful food festival was also organized. We collaborated with Concordia Creative Reuse Center that facilitated for our students to use art supplies diverted from landfills to make signs as a social activity during our volunteer training. We collaborated with the library “science literacy” week and hosted a session on compost. |
| **4. Briefly describe what happened with your project. How was it different from what you planned?** | Our events were catered by the hive. We were hoping to showcase other food groups but time and logistics prevented us. We are planning to repeat the campaign next fall; hopefully, with much of the ground work and experience now exist, we can include more food groups.  We had booths that showcase different sustainability student groups, research centers, and local organizations. Not all the booths were as dynamic as we would have liked. Originally, we were planning to video tape demonstrations by these booths. Next year we will be working with the organizers of those booths more closely to ensure dynamic presentations. |
| **5. Lessons of failure: Please identify any issues faced or problems and the lessons you learned from them.** | Two things we could have done better: 1) volunteer training should have been done much earlier- so that we can have better scheduling.  2) Invite volunteers of other associations in our training for their orientation events |
| **6. Transferrable lessons: Please pass along any advice to future projects!** | Flexibility is key. Have crystal clear goals but a flexible path.  Prioritize t-shirts, printed materials, and volunteer training. Do them well in advance! |
| **7. What are the next steps for this project? Is there possibility for project continuation or self-sufficiency?** | The project is part of a two year CCSL grant via the big hairy idea competition. We have thus far only spent half of that grant. Therefore, we are on budget for another repeat of the campaign during fall of next year. While, we should be self sufficient for this year, the continued support of SAF will make the campaign even more credible and demonstrate to the administration that the community is fully committed and invested, and that they must match such engagement with concrete compost infrastructure investments. A priority for the remaining year is establishing a way for this campaign to continue to be self sufficient for years to come. Perhaps a collaboration could be established between a student association and EH&S to co-fund and co-organize such campaign annually. |

# PROJECT IMPACTS METRICS

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| Please insert all final project metrics outlined in your project **application form & contract** (please refer back to these documents to ensure you have listed all your metrics). Feel free to include any other relevant metrics that may have emerged during your project’s lifespan.   **EXAMPLES (please delete these examples when filling in your actual metrics):**   1. **Number of Volunteers:**   Signed up to volunteer: 62 students, 47 staff, and 20 professors. Students help in orientation and food festival events, and inform the community of how to compost on campus. Staff (including security) have small signs on their desks encouraging people to compost. Professors made class presentations.  Some professors and staff actually volunteered in our events and helped set up and talk to students.  In reality, 30 students showed up to volunteer. All staff signs were distributed (others showed interest during distribution so more was given out). 7 professors emailed that they have made compost presentations to all their classes.   1. **Number of booths**   7 booths were integrated in our food festival: JSEC, David O’brien Center for Sustainable Enterprise, Collaboratoire, Greenhouse, PERFORM, Eco-Quartier NDG, and the dish project.   1. **Number of social media pictures:**   94 social media pictures. 50 were released.   1. **Number of community members reached**   Based on food, about 1500 per day in SGW days (3) and 500 per day Loyola days (2) in our food festival alone. Numbers are not available in orientation events that we were present in.   1. **Number of compost bins added**   The number of compost bins in public areas went up to 27 from the 13 that existed before our campaign. Further expansion stages are planned.   1. **% of surplus food**   We have often ran out of food before the end of our planned events. Except for the last day, perhaps portions for 100 people remained. |

# WEBSITE INFORMATION

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| **Project Contact: Keroles Riad**  Mobile: 514 298 7997  Email: k\_riad@encs.concordia.ca |

**Project Abstract (to be posted on our website) (250 – 500 word max)**  
Composting is an important aspect of Concordia’s sustainability efforts. The rainbow unicorn of a complete compost cycle builds on Concordia’s surging sustainability momentum and is finally at our fingertips. We propose a 3-track approach to establishing a complete compost cycle at Concordia:

1. Access to suitable composters (and qualified personnel to operate them) either on one campus, both campuses, or in collaboration with the city of Montreal;
2. Implementing a complete bin system across all of Concordia; and
3. Initial and long-term educational campaigns.

SAF funded only c), the educational campaign. Actions a and b will be conducted in collaboration with EH&S with whom we work very closely in the context of our winning “big hairy idea” competition project. In fact, a composting system is only as good as the human behavior that accompanies it. In Concordia, many compost bins sit empty or are contaminated with inappropriate litter. Implementing a complete bin system and accessing suitable composters will have limited benefits if not accompanied by an extensive education campaign across the university.

Only a collaborative comprehensive approach can be effective. This is a multi-stakeholder project that involves the student community, the university administration, staff and faculty. The administration is committed to providing the infrastructure on both campuses (a and b). Faculty is committed to educating the community on proper waste triaging (c). Students are committed to leading and volunteering with enthusiasm to become the beating heart of this initiative (c).

Updates on the three tracks:

1. Number of public compost bins has more than doubled with more expansions planned.
2. Public consultation for on-campus composting is planned for the first week of December hosted by facilities and EH&S.
3. An educational campaign was conducted as summarized earlier with enough CCSL funding remaining to repeat the campaign during the orientation of next fall.

# FINANCIAL REPORTING

The whole $1000 of SAF funding was used in one payment for the hive catering our event. The exact amount was $998.28. No plans to use the remaining $1.72.

# AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Our project was featured on Now: <http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/main/stories/2016/05/18/big-hairy-ideas-winners.html>

<http://www.concordia.ca/cunews/main/stories/2016/08/03/waste-not-want-not-new-composting-campaign-concordia.html>

and the Link: <http://thelinknewspaper.ca/article/waste-not-want-not>

However, they were all before our SAF funding was approved so it was not mentioned. Having said that, we plan to write an opinion piece in the Concordian next week and SAF will be mentioned.

# SAF FEEDBACK

Please complete the SAF feedback survey provided to you on your Google Drive.

# SUBMISSION

Please **rename** this document as [YOURPROJECTNAME] SAF Final Report. **Upload** this document to your project’s Google Drive Folder > Reports > Final Report. Also **notify** SAF’s project coordinator at [safexternal@gmail.com](mailto:safexternal@gmail.com) once you have completed and uploaded the report.