

YEAR PLAN

Sustainability Officer

Gagan Sekhon

McMaster Science Society

2023-2024

(submitted September 1, 2023)

**MCMASTER
SCIENCE
SOCIETY**



2023-2024 Year Plan

Letter from the Position

Hello MacSci!

I hope you're doing well. My name is Gagan Sekhon and I will be your Sustainability Officer for the 2023-2024 academic year! Within this role I will focus on putting sustainability at the forefront when planning/executing events. This will include reducing resource waste, ensuring resources are effectively used while developing additional sustainability practices that can be implemented. Based on the progress from last year, I hope to continue to collaborate with other portfolios in event planning alongside bringing about awareness regarding sustainability.

Through this position, I hope to address sustainability through an engaging lens whereby everyone is able to implement such practices. Additionally, building off the progress from last year I hope to continue to collaborate with local sustainable-focused stores within the community and use their services for MSS.

Overall, I hope to collaborate with the team especially for event planning to ensure MSS is keeping up to par with sustainability practices. By emphasizing the important role sustainability plays we will be able to grow as an organization on the whole.

Sincerely,

Gagan Sekhon
Sustainability Officer
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TIMELINE

Month	Objective/Project/Event/Goals
August	Events/Projects: 1. Sharing plans/ideas during training session Things to complete: 1. Discuss sustainability practices with portfolios alongside strategies that will be used to implement them
September	Events/projects: 1. Discuss plans for upcoming year with portfolios in regards to sustainability

	<p>Things to complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reach out to portfolios to discuss the timelines of their events alongside simply informing them to reach out to me when the time comes
October	<p>Events/projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start to research on local sustainable organizations that we could partner/collaborate with 2. Sit in on event planning meetings <p>Things to complete:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Compile a list of local sustainable organizations and contact them accordingly 2. Reach out to portfolios to ensure event planning is following sustainable practices 3. Create a document of strategies/ways in which sustainable practices can be implemented
November	<p>Events/projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start working with local organizations 2. Conduct an audit with portfolios 3. Continue to collaborate with portfolios regarding event planning <p>Things to complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Narrow down to a few organizations we could collaborate with and conduct meetings - Work with portfolios regarding sustainability practices
December	<p>Events/projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to collaborate with portfolios regarding event planning 2. Collaborate with sustainable organizations- perhaps anything regarding giving back <p>Things to complete</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to build upon sustainable practices list
January	<p>Events/projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct audit with portfolios after major events
February	<p>Events/projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to collaborate with portfolios for event planning

	Things to do - share document of sustainable practices
March	Events/projects: 1. Reflection/improvements from past year
April	Transition Reports

OBJECTIVES:

Objective 1: Reducing resource wastage for events	
Description/ Current State	<p>During the planning of events sustainability can easily be undermined, but it will be my job to ensure it is being placed at the forefront especially when it comes to material purchases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When it comes time for event planning work closely with the portfolios by sitting in on their meetings and making suggestions regarding sustainability practices
Goal	<p><i>Vision for the improvement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By collaborating with the MSS portfolios I will be able to better understand the resource usage within events and implement sustainable practices accordingly - Seeking positive and constructive criticism on ways to improve - On the whole this goal will support MSS/students of the faculty of science by understanding the importance of suitability <p>What are your strengths and weaknesses that relate to the goal you're trying to reach?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My strengths lie within strong time management and project management which will allow me to succeed within this goals by communicating effectively with the portfolios to plan - Since this is a relatively new position I may find it difficult to
Long Term Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that all resources, time and money included, are being used effectively and efficiently for the success of MSS
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All MSS portfolios

Objective 2: Implement easily accessible sustainability practices	
Description/ Current State	This will be completed through audits, sitting in on portfolio meetings alongside creating a document of tips/strategies of sustainable practices
Goal	<p>The primary goal here is to shed light on sustainability through making it more accessible, perhaps a document with strategies/tips.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewing previous documents from last term - Collaborating with the MSS portfolios when it comes to event planning specifically <p>How your goal will support the MSS/students of the Faculty of Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving sustainability at the MSS will allow for a greater reach on environmental issues at hand <p>What are your strengths and weaknesses that relate to the goal you're trying to reach?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How your strengths will help you reach your goal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organization and being detail oriented will allow me to create ways in which I will implement such sustainability practices that are accessible to all and for everyone to be able to easily understand them - How your weaknesses may get in the way of your goal, and how you plan to overcome this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This may require some creativity which I believe can be a weakness of mine, but I will overcome this by conducting research to come up with ways in which I can easily deliver ways that we can all implement sustainability practices in all that we do at MSS
Long Term Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that all resources, time and money included, are being used effectively and efficiently for the success of MSS
Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All MSS portfolios

Objective 3: Collaborate/partner with local sustainability organizations	
Description/ Current State	Conduct research on local sustainability organizations and reach out accordingly to use their resources for MSS events
Goal	The primary goal is to network with organizations to promote an engaging environment focused on sustainability

Objective 3: Collaborate/partner with local sustainability organizations	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct research and reach out to local sustainability stores to find those that are interested - Establish the terms of the collaboration - Integrate it into the MSS portfolios <p>What are your strengths and weaknesses that relate to the goal you're trying to reach?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How your strengths will help you reach your goal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My strength of open-mindedness will allow me to communicate with multiple organizations and provide an outlet for various ideas - How your weaknesses may get in the way of your goal, and how you plan to overcome this <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sometimes I find it overwhelming reaching out to multiple organizations pitching an idea that may be out of the box, but it's important to push those boundaries to create change
Long Term Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Network and build connections with local organizations, allowing MSS to grow on the whole - Potential for saving money/resources
Partners	<p>VP external</p> <p>Stores:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Green Venture - A greener place - Refillery market - Mrs. Greenway - Strathcona market - The Local life - White elephant