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## MEDIA RELEASE

# SFU signs energy deal that will see 85% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions at Burnaby Campus

*Deal would make SFU a public sector leader across Canada in reducing GHG emissions*

June 16, 2016

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SFU has completed negotiations with Corix Multi-Utility Services Inc. (Corix) to finance, design, construct, own and operate a new Central Energy Plant (CEP). The CEP will service SFU's Burnaby Campus and the UniverCity community on Burnaby Mountain. At build out, the CEP would reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions at the campus from heating by 85% and the entire SFU GHG emissions from all sources by 69%.

"The development of this biomass heating plant will allow SFU to surpass the Provincial mandated GHG reduction target for 2020" says Larry Waddell, Chief Facilities Officer. "It would also put SFU on the path to achieving the 2050 reduction target and would make SFU one of the public sector leads in Canada in reducing GHG emissions."

Biomass fuel is made of organic materials including uncontaminated wood waste such as wood chips, shavings, and sawdust. "We're moving to get ahead of the curve when it comes to greenhouse gas reduction." says Martin Pochurko, Vice-President, Finance & Administration. "It's important that as Canada's most community-engaged University that we are always driving innovation and excellence on our campuses and within the communities we serve."

As a model for practical and affordable sustainability, the CEP is proving to be a cost-effective, long-term and environmentally responsible alternative energy system that will benefit SFU's Burnaby Campus and the community that surrounds it.

"This biomass facility is another example of SFU's commitment to sustainability, which is a key principle of our strategic vision." says SFU president Andrew Petter. "In recent years, SFU has taken significant action to decrease our carbon footprint, reduce waste, and implement a range of other sustainability measures."

**Fast Facts:**

The key components of the biomass heating plant include:

- A CEP having a total biomass boiler capacity of 13.5 Mega Watt (MW), with 10 MW allocated to SFU which would supply approximately 85% of SFU's Burnaby Campus annual heating energy requirements.
- A connection pipeline between CEP and SFU's existing natural gas plant which would be used to provide peaking and back-up capacity.
- A connection pipeline between CEP and UniverCity for its 3.5 Mega Watt biomass boiler capacity.
- Energy Transfer stations that transfer thermal energy from the CEP to SFU and UniverCity's respective distribution systems.
- Performance testings will be conducted to ensure the system operates properly in accordance with the design

specifications.

- The energy system will be regulated by the BC Utilities Commission.
- The CEP will be designed to comply with regulatory noise and sound abatements bylaws.
- The emissions from the CEP will be monitored and annual emission testing will be completed in accordance with regulatory requirements.

#### **ABOUT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY:**

As Canada's engaged university, SFU is defined by its dynamic integration of innovative education, cutting-edge research and far-reaching community engagement. SFU was founded 50 years ago with a mission to be a different kind of university—to bring an interdisciplinary approach to learning, embrace bold initiatives, and engage with communities near and far. Today, SFU is Canada's leading comprehensive research university and is ranked one of the top universities in the world. With campuses in British Columbia's three largest cities – Vancouver, Burnaby and Surrey – SFU has eight faculties, delivers almost 150 programs to over 35,000 students, and boasts more than 135,000 alumni in 130 countries around the world.

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