

THE CAMPUS RESIDENT

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Happy Indian New Year! UNA Welcomes Diwali Festival



UNA residents share the joy and beauty of the first ever Diwali Festival at the Wesbrook Community Centre on Saturday, November 3.
Photo credit Sammy Tong. Please see story on Page 5.

UNA Adopts New Policy on Renting Space to For-Profit Companies

The owner of the for-profit Math Club which rents space in Wesbrook Community Centre finds the Board decision "less than satisfactory"

John Tompkins
Editor

At their October 29 meeting, the UNA Board moved cautiously towards a new policy on community centres rentals.

The five UNA Directors present at the meeting voted unanimously in favour of adopting the following policy of renting UNA space to for-profit companies:

Any for-profit firm wishing to utilize UNA space should submit a formal program proposal to the Recreation Manager. If the proposal is accepted, the firm should be required to enter into a programming contract with the UNA, and deliver the program as a UNA program contractor.

This policy was recommended by Neilson Strategies Inc. in its October 22 Memorandum *Facility Rentals to For-Profit Companies* prepared for the UNA Board. The Memorandum presented the results of researching community centres' policies in

several BC municipalities with populations between 11,000 and 33,000 and identified a number of factors for UNA Directors to take into account.

Following the Board meeting, Math Club owner Lisa Yang wrote in a letter to The Campus Resident: "The UNA Board decision today was less than satisfactory because it feels like they are more concerned about the UNA organization than the UNA community. We want to stay in this community, not because we want to exploit the resources, but because we are from the UNA and so are most of our (100) students." (Please read Ms. Yang's letter on Page 3.)

The issue of the UNA renting community centre space to for-profit businesses is new to the UNA, said Johanne Blenkin, UNA Executive Director, in a Briefing Note sent to the UNA Directors before the Board meeting.

"The Services Review report that was commissioned by the Joint Financial Task Force in 2017 made some recommendations on room rentals. Given the proximity and resident access to UBC Athletics programs and services, and the rental role they play in renting fields, a collaborative approach (between UBC and the UNA) was recommended."

POLICY continued on Page 3

Stadium Road Petitioners Press UBC for Second Meeting

Meeting is sought with officials about UBC plan to develop sixth residential neighbourhood on campus

John Tompkins
Editor

The first petition challenging the way UBC has gone about planning development of the Stadium Road Neighbourhood on campus gathered 400 supporters in May, and now a second petition has brought in more than double this number of supporters.

Murray McCutcheon, one of several campus residents involved in organizing the petitions, said in an interview that "almost a thousand" UBC residents and non-residents have expressed support for the second petition which has been in circulation since October 14.

Mr. McCutcheon, a bio-technologist who has lived on campus for six years and who "loves living here", broke the thousand-figure number down as follows: 200 signatures on paper and 800 signatures online.

Asked what he hoped to come of the October petition, Mr. McCutcheon – who lives in the Hawthorn Place neighbourhood – said he and fellow petitioners propose a meeting to discuss the Stadium Road development plan with Michael Korenberg, Chair of the UBC Board of Governors; David Eby, MLA for Vancouver Point Grey (and BC Attorney-General); and Selina Robinson, BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The October petition, which would be discussed at the proposed meeting between

petitioners and officials, requests that:

1. UBC Board of Governors not approve any plan for the Stadium Road Neighbourhood that exceeds limits to density and building heights approved in the 2010 Land Use Plan; and further, that any plan should give substantial priority to affordable housing for Faculty and Staff over luxury condos.

2. The BC Government not approve any change to UBC Land Use Plan that increases density in excess of funded plans for schooling and transit, and that does not give substantial priority to affordable housing over luxury condos.

Mr. McCutcheon listed four goals which petitioners believe UBC is hoping to gain out of its current plan for the Stadium Road Neighbourhood:

- development of a new football stadium with seating capacity of 5,000
- new housing for UBC Faculty and Staff
- contribution to the billion-dollar UBC endowment fund and
- improvements in transportation both off and on campus.

"That is too much to come from a single development," said Mr. McCutcheon. It is also a far cry from early metrics UBC presented when originally discussing Stadium Road development in the fall of 2016. Petitioners believe the ballooning size of the UBC plan has ceased to make it sustainable.

Mr. McCutcheon addressed the 50 or so UNA members moments after close of their 2018 Annual General Meeting in Wesbrook Community Centre on November 1. Comments by Mr. McCutcheon about the need for changes in the way UBC has gone about planning Stadium Road development brought sustained applause.

Please see Page 4
**Open Letter Re: Stadium Road
Neighbourhood Plan**
from Michael Korenberg,
Chair of the UBC Board of Governors,
and Page 8
Why We Signed the Petition to UBC...



MESSAGE FROM THE UNA CHAIR

Dear Residents,

The year 2017–2018 was a year of change for the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA).

Jan Fialkowski, the Executive Director since 2006, retired at the end of June 2017. During her tenure the UNA grew from 3,000 residents to a community of over 11,700. She oversaw the launch of the new Wesbrook Community Centre among other milestones.

The new Executive Director, Johanne Blenkin, started in August 2017 and, in partnership with the Board, has been building on the work done to date to make the University neighbourhoods a sought-after place to live. The demographics are changing, and the growing diversity of residents makes for a vibrant community.

My role as Chair began in 2018 following six years with Richard Alexander at the helm. He is stepping down from the Board once his term is done in November. The UNA community has benefited so much from his guidance and we thank him for his dedicated and selfless service.

In the past year, the UNA Board has been focused on creating structures and laying down foundations to build a long-term plan for the Association. To do this, the Board reviewed and redefined the UNA's purpose to:

“Foster a unique and thriving community through community engagement and service delivery”

The Board also created a vision to make the University neighbourhoods:

“The place where people choose to live”.

As with all purpose and vision statements, these are aspirational and require a concerted effort by all to make them a reality.

On behalf of the UNA Board of Directors, we hope to continue the good work that those before us have started, and we wish to invite you, our neighbours, to participate and support our initiatives.

Sincerely,

Ying Zhou, UNA Elected Resident Director and Board Chair



2018 UNA AGM AND ELECTION RESULTS

A well-run Annual General Meeting of the University Neighbourhood Association took place at Wesbrook Community Centre November 1, concluding with the announcement that three new Directors had been elected to the UNA Board.

Matthew Delumpa, Wesbrook Place; Natalie Jatskevich, Wesbrook Place; and Terry Mullen, Hawthorn Place, join two other Elected Resident Directors, two UBC Appointed Directors and one

Alma Mater Appointed Director on the eight-member UNA Board.

All Elected Resident Directors serve for two-year terms. The new Board will choose its Chair at an upcoming meeting in December.

About 50 UNA members attended the Annual General Meeting. The UNA Chair Ying Zhou presented the Annual Report 2017–2018.



Three new Elected Resident Directors (from left to right) Natalie Jatskevich, Matthew Delumpa, Terry Mullen join the UNA Board.

UNA ANNUAL REPORT FACTS

- 5 UNA Neighbourhoods
- 69 Residential Buildings
- 11,700 Residents
- 8,200 Leaseholder Residents
- 3,500 Rental Residents
- 2 Community Centres
- 792 Programs with 10,025 Participants
- 2,132 Fitness Centre Members
- 39,605 Fitness Centre Visits
- 14 Community Events
- 3 Community Gardens
- 370 Volunteers/4,000 hours
- 3,861 E-mail Subscribers
- 11 Car Share Locations
- 6,795 Kilometres of Pedestrian and Cycling Paths

UNA First Strategic Plan

At the October 29 meeting, the UNA Board endorsed its first Strategic Plan 2018–2019, subject to comments by the new Directors elected on November 1. Developed by the UNA Board and senior management – with the assistance of Fletcher Consulting, this plan represents a new approach to address the complex issues that fast growing UBC residential community is facing. The four strategic directions are:

UNA Governance

Explore opportunities to evolve governance to meet the changing needs of a growing population and community, including a review of the decision making mechanisms of the UNA to ensure the organization can respond to community needs.

Financial Sustainability

Explore opportunities to address: the cost of core services to meet community needs, potential revenue generation, and the alignment of resource allocation with the mandate and identified priorities.

Operational Capacity of the UNA

Continue the foundational work to streamline processes, build staff skills and ensure there are adequate resources to support the Board and the UNA in meeting its mandate.

Community and Stakeholder Relations

Identify and implement initiatives and processes to identify community needs, and engage the community in ways that support the UNA vision of being *“The place people choose to live”*.

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POLICY continued from Page 1

For the last 10 months, UBC Athletics has managed the rentals for the UNA – the new pilot project between the UNA and UBC, said Ms. Blenkin.

“A review of rentals from September to mid-October 2018 indicates a 54% overall occupancy rate, 44% of which are programs. There are currently three for-profit entities renting space – the Math Club operated by Ms. Yang, a math club for preschoolers operated by a company, and private tutoring. The preschool program fees are over \$400 per student. We have no information on the fees for Ms. Yang’s program, nor for the private tutor. Our room rental fees are either \$45 or \$72 per hour, depending on the size of the room.”

Before recommending the UNA Directors adopt the recommendation of Neilson Strategies, Inc., Ms. Blenkin wrote about the potential impact of for-profit rentals:

“If any of the for-profit rentals conflict with UBC’s policies, the UNA would have to separate the room rentals from the field rentals, and hire staff to manage room rentals. The risk is the collaborative approach to program that is developing could be jeopardized. That has the potential to have an adverse impact on the community as a whole, over what could be a nominal financial gain.”

In the Memorandum *Facility Rentals to For-Profit Companies*, Allan Neilson, Neilson Strategies Inc., emphasized some key

factors for the UNA Directors to consider – including the UNA mandate and precedent factors.

“Programs are delivered by the UNA at public facilities that were constructed for the community using funds provided by the University... Barriers to access, including financial barriers, are intended to be low or non-existent... The UNA facilities were not developed as private facilities, available for rent by any group for the provision of private, high-cost programs.”

While the UNA uses a number of private companies to offer a diversity of programs to residents, these companies operate and are compensated as UNA contractors, noted Mr. Neilson. “Their programs are advertised in the UNA program guides; registration for the programs is handled through the UNA registration system.”

Mr. Neilson acknowledged that the attempt to accommodate one for-profit company that wishes to undertake their own program delivery “will set a precedent that the society may be expected to follow in its dealings with others. There are likely many for-profit firms that would be quite interested in using the UNA’s high quality community centre space, even at a premium rate, for the provision of private, high cost programs.”

The UNA Directors learned that a full report by Neilson Strategies Inc. – one that examines UNA recreation service levels and the UNA Athletics Access Fee – will be submitted later in November.

Any for-profit firm wishing to utilize UNA space should submit a formal program proposal to the Recreation Manager. If the proposal is accepted, the firm should be required to enter into a programming contract with the UNA, and deliver the program as a UNA program contractor.

UNA policy approved October 29, 2018

Trustees Take Seats on Vancouver School Board

Following the October 20 civic election in Vancouver, four incumbent trustees and five newly elected trustees will lead governance of the public school system in Vancouver and in the unincorporated areas that lie to the west of the city – University Neighbourhoods and University Endowment Lands – where University Hill Elementary School, Norma Rose Point School and University Hill Secondary School are located.

Together, as the Vancouver School Board (VSB), the trustees will serve students, their families and public education system for a four-year term and set education policies that are consistent with overall provin-

cial guidelines.

The newly elected trustees are Fraser Balantyne, NPA (incumbent); Lois Chan-Pedley, Green; Carmen Cho, NPA; Janet Fraser, Green (incumbent); Estrellita Gonzalez, Green (incumbent); Oliver Hanson, NPA; Barb Parrott, COPE; Jennifer Reddy, OneCity; Allan Wong, Vision Vancouver (incumbent).

The Vancouver School Board operates 92 elementary schools, one middle school and 18 secondary schools, as well as two adult education centres. 60% students speak a language other than English at home; 126 languages have been identified in schools.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter from Math Club Owner Re: New UNA Policy of Renting Space to For-Profit Companies

I truly wish we can make something work for our students; unfortunately, as an entrepreneur, I have to look at the numbers



Lisa Yang

The October 29 UNA Board decision on a new policy of renting community centre space to for-profit companies was less than satisfactory because it feels like the Board is more concerned about the UNA organization than the UNA community. We want to stay in this community, not because we want to exploit the resources, but because we are from the UNA and so are most of our students.

I have lived in Wesbrook Village since 2012, and many residents have known me for starting and running the Norma Rose Point (NRP) Math Challenge Club for three years and coaching volleyball teams at University Hill Secondary and NRP schools.

In September, I started the Math Club – running three classes for 100 students: partially on-site in Wesbrook Community Centre and partially online in Google Classroom.

Each student pays \$900 for 12 sessions. A huge portion of our program happens online in Google Classroom. The cost to run our classes is significant. We hire seven coaches for each class, they get paid up to \$200 per session.

The students had to pass an assessment test before they could join the Math Club, and we provide a positive environment helping students to become self-motivated learners.

We have many stories to share from the families that have come to us. A child was having so much tension at home over math with his parents, now he has come to love math and share that joy and excitement with his parents. A lackluster student found motivation through coming to our club, and now she takes initiative to do her homework at home by herself without anyone telling her to do so and she is enjoying it at the same time.

We would be happy to negotiate with the UNA on how the Math Club can operate under the UNA Program Guide and resolve several issues, including the following:

• **Registration as a UNA Program:** Our registrations cannot be handled like other programs under UNA. This is because not everyone who wishes to join the club can

join. We have an assessment test to select our students based on not only aptitude, but also attitude... If we run an open program, the learning environment we strive for cannot be achieved.

• **UNA Refund Policy:** The current Wesbrook Community Centre refund policy is incompatible with our program because it makes membership in our learning community a right and not a privilege.

• **Insurance & Liabilities:** We have paid for our own insurance, so the Wesbrook Community Centre and UNA do not need to worry about liabilities – we are responsible for our own students during our classes.

We are trying our best to stay in the UNA community because I do believe we bring value to this community. But as an entrepreneur, I also need to make sure our costs are covered, and our rental cost and revenue split with the UNA need to be fair.

If we can establish a long term relationship with both our interests considered, I see more clubs opening in the future. We already have a few in mind. That will certainly bring even more traffic to the Wesbrook Community Centre.

If we cannot find a space before January, we will be forced to shut down the Math Club after just three months. Over one hundred students will be deprived of the learning opportunity they have been excited for, and half of these students are UNA residents.

Lisa Yang, the Math Club owner and Wesbrook Place Resident

Editor’s Note: The Letter was edited and condensed. Lisa Yang sent to the UNA a business proposal for PACE Learning Centre and hopes to negotiate the terms favourable for continuation of her program at Wesbrook Community Centre.

Open Letter from Michael Korenberg Chair of UBC Board of Governors

RE: Stadium Road Neighbourhood Plan

I am writing in an attempt to answer your questions about how The University of British Columbia will ensure that appropriate time and effort is taken to fully address the interests and concerns heard through the Stadium Neighbourhood planning process.

UBC builds neighbourhoods to support its academic mission. This includes providing affordable housing for faculty, staff and students. It also includes doing our part to support sustainable regional development by developing livable campus neighbourhoods for the community to thrive. And it includes generating revenue for the University's Endowment in support of scholarships, research, bursaries, housing, and academic facilities.

Over the last 18 months, UBC has undertaken the Stadium Neighbourhood planning process, an opportunity to shape the University's next neighbourhood. The level of community engagement and consultation in the process has been extensive. Students, faculty, staff, residents and partners have given their time and ideas to ensure we shape a truly great place.

As with all community planning across the region, we have heard a broad range of interests and concerns for our Stadium Neighbourhood: the need for affordable living options for the UBC community; the amount and height of proposed housing development; the nature of green space; how community services like schools and daycare can support growth; transportation and parking; and, integration of a new Thunderbird Stadium within a livable community.

Stadium Neighbourhood Plan options provide 1.5 million square feet of residential development to support the academic mission. This reflects our Board of Governors' direction: (1) to site a new stadium on a more efficient footprint, resulting in more site area for residential use; and, (2) to deliver more housing for UBC faculty, staff and students, including rental and faculty/staff restricted rental. In response, current Plan options provide at least 600,000 square feet of rental and restricted rental housing – 40% of the total, a doubling from the amount previously included in the development plan for the area.

The Board of Governors has also reconvened its Housing Action Plan Working Group to work in parallel with the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan process to explore expanding rental as well as faculty ownership options across the campus, including within Stadium Neighbourhood.

The Stadium Neighbourhood Plan process has included detailed analysis of a number of issues of community concern. Comprehensive transportation studies have concluded that the neighbourhood development can be managed through strategies and policies supported by UBC's Transportation Plan, including:

- Prioritizing walking, cycling and tran-

sit, including the arrival of rapid transit to campus

- Locating the new Thunderbird Stadium at the corner of 16th Avenue and East Mall to minimize event day movements through residential areas
- Accommodating parking for all new development primarily underground (in existing parkades) and with some on street parking near Thunderbird Field
- Applying traffic calming principles to the neighbourhood
- Preserving a greenway corridor to connect the academic campus and Hawthorn Place to Wesbrook Place and developing new pedestrian connections to Thunderbird Field and further east.

Building heights have also been a key concern for some, including the impact on character, views and shadowing. The proposed heights include slender buildings that in turn enable more ground area for midrise affordable housing and open space. The Plan process has thoroughly tested the urban design, view and shadow impacts of this height. The analysis supports varied tower height from 20 to a maximum of 32 storeys in order to minimize shadows and maintain views. While tested as high as 36 storeys, input from the consultation process and members of the Board of Governors encouraged staff to conclude that stepped buildings and lower heights best achieve the guiding principles. As part of this analysis, and in response to community concerns about the social experience of high-rise living, the Plan process is exploring strategies such as social amenity floors integrated in buildings, coordinated amenity and facility access, and increased community services within walking distance.

This phase of engagement has also made it clear that more work is required to address some key areas of concern and interest before the Plan is finalized. First, there is tremendous pressure for even more affordable housing opportunities for the UBC community, beyond the current Plan options that already include 40% rental housing. Some have raised concerns that market leasehold housing negatively affects the sense of community on campus. Others have pushed for more rental housing for faculty, staff and students, and for more faculty home ownership opportunities. We intend to take the time to further explore, through the reconvened BoG Housing Action Plan Working Group, additional opportunities to increase UBC community housing that can be reflected in the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan.

Second, we have heard concerns about how growth impacts community services, a fundamental issue for a community planning process. In particular, community engagement has highlighted concerns over school capacity, retail space such as grocery stores, and services including childcare. Regarding schools, the Vancouver School Board (VSB) and provincial government are the responsible parties. UBC will further engage the VSB to explore opportunities to take advantage of the fully-

serviced Wesbrook Place site UBC has set aside for a future elementary school.

For retail and service space, the current Plan options include community spaces, childcare, and space for a medium-size grocery store. We will take the time to work closely with the VSB and other partners to explore the strategy and timing for delivering these facilities, ensuring community service levels support neighbourhood development.

Finally, we have heard comments about the pace of the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan process, including UBC's ability to engage in meaningful consultation with the Musqueam Indian Band. The University places tremendous value on its relationship with Musqueam, on whose traditional, ancestral and unceded territory UBC is located. We have been committed to early engagement with Musqueam as part of the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan consultation process. As always, we are highly focused on further improvements to the long-term relationship between UBC and Musqueam, including but also beyond the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan. We will take the time to further define and deepen our crucial relationship with Musqueam, in parallel with the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan process.

We want to take the time to further explore

these three key areas and respond to community concerns. At its December 2018 meeting, the UBC Board of Governors will receive an information update on the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan, including the emerging preferred option. From now until February 2019, staff will continue to work closely with community and advisory groups to address the three areas of concern listed above. In February 2019, the Board of Governors will receive the final Neighbourhood Plan and consider referring the consequential Land Use Plan changes to a public hearing and subsequent provincial approval.

It is also important to note that further work and community engagement will take place following the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan's adoption. This includes detailed implementation strategies, the design and approvals of individual neighbourhood buildings, ongoing Housing Action Plan program development, and coordinating service delivery with partners such as the Vancouver School Board and TransLink.

On behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Governors, we are greatly appreciative of the UBC community's tremendous level of engagement in the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan process. We sincerely hope you will continue to engage through this next phase of work.

2019
WINTER

PROGRAM GUIDE

The Old Barn & Wesbrook
Community Centres

LOOK FOR A
COPY IN YOUR
MAILBOX IN THE
COMING WEEKS

UNA UNIVERSITY
NEIGHBOURHOODS
ASSOCIATION

LETTER FROM UBC PRESIDENT

Our Students are Not Snowflakes, They're Change-Makers

Last September, at CREATE, the UBC Okanagan orientation event, the president of the UBC Students' Union Okanagan asked the new students to raise their hands if they felt the state of the world was healthy. Only one student out of 2,000 raised his hand. Intrigued, I asked the same question of the new UBC Vancouver students later that day, and not a single hand was raised.

Only one student out of 9,000 new UBC students felt the state of the world is healthy. But when I asked how many were willing and ready to be global change agents to make the world a better place, a deafening YES came back as the reply.

Even though our students think that the world is in a bad state, they are not despairing. They are determined to make things better.

And yet, many commentators depict the current generation of students as "snow-

flakes" or fragile flowers.

They claim that today's young people are not as resilient as previous generations. I disagree strongly with this assumption.

I can say unequivocally – in my many interactions with youth and young adults – that they are hard-working, thoughtful, intelligent and extraordinarily brave. They are dealing with very challenging circumstances in an unstable world and their passion, drive and resiliency inspire me every day.

It is because of them that I remain hopeful about the future of Planet Earth.

When I was their age, I was nothing in comparison to the youth of today. Ours was a self-centered and materialistic generation. Who are we to judge these service-oriented, civic-minded youth who want to change the world for the better?

It's unfair for us – as adults – to punt our global challenges on to them. Let's admit that at least some of the world's problems are self-inflicted wounds. They are problems that we have created as a consequence of self-interest, benign neglect or ignorance. Problems that result from a personal or local view of the world as opposed to one that recognizes a responsibility for a world that transcends borders.

We have a responsibility to address those challenges now and to do our utmost (individually and collectively) to leave the world a better place than what we inherited from our parents. Sadly, we are failing our children (and children around the world) with that most basic responsibility. Let's all recommit anew our collective responsibility to do so.

No, our youth are not snowflakes. Snowflakes don't stand up to a sea of white supremacists at the University of Virginia and on other campuses. Snowflakes don't spend days volunteering to help strangers in hurricane-struck cities. Snowflakes don't raise funds so they can help build schools and hospitals in Africa. Snowflakes don't work with youth in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

They are the next generation of leaders ready to take on cancer. To solve climate change. To fight injustice.

It's about time that we as adults looked in the mirror and owned the role we have played in creating the challenging world we have left for them.

Perhaps we should start to behave like the caring and magnanimous elders we looked up to when we were young. Perhaps it's



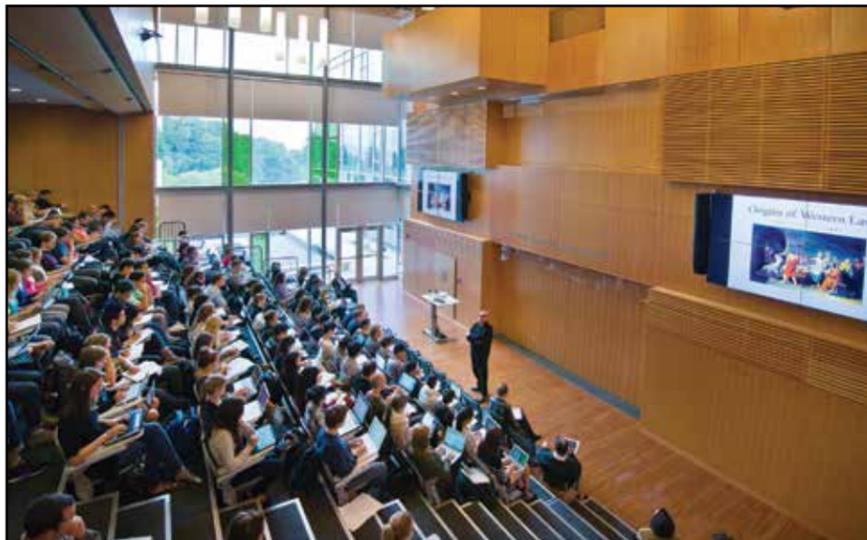
Professor Santa J. Ono.
Photo credit Paul Joseph/UBC.

time that we grow up. Our children need and deserve our unconditional love. And they need our help to solve the problems we have left them with.

One way to help is through UBC's Blue & Gold Campaign. We launched the campaign a year ago with the goal of raising \$100 million in student support over three years. Supporting these promising students today – so they are equipped to build a better tomorrow – is more urgent than ever. You can find out more about the campaign at support.ubc.ca.

Our students are not snowflakes, and they are ready to create lasting change. Let's give them the support they need.

Best Wishes
Santa J. Ono



UBC students in a classroom. Photo credit Don Erhardt.

Joy and Beauty of Diwali Festival at Wesbrook Community Centre

The first ever Diwali Festival of Lights at the Wesbrook Community Centre took place Saturday, November 3, attracting an estimated 350 people from as far afield as West Vancouver.

Qiuning Wang, UNA Assistant Recreation Manager, said the turnout "far exceeded my expectations."

Angie Datt, one of five members of the East Indian community in the Vancouver area who organized the event, explained Diwali is also known as Indian New Year. In opening Diwali at Wesbrook Community Centre, Ms. Datt said: "Diwali has its origins in ancient India and is celebrated by millions of people around the world. The word Diwali means a row of lamps. This festival symbolizes the victory of light over darkness and good over evil."

The celebration featured Indian crafts, dance and music. Visitors created colorful rangolis, painted clay lamps and learned to wear a traditional saree. The finale was the surprise flash mob set to a catchy Bollywood tune, performed by enthusiastic UNA residents.

The Diwali team consisting of Ms. Datt, Nicky Foxall, Jayshree Basivireddy, Manali Yadav and Nidhi Raina worked closely with the UNA staff to ensure the success of this event. Hope was expressed by many attending Diwali Festival at Wesbrook Community Centre that it would be an even bigger and brighter celebration next year.

Photo credits Sammy Tong.



Interview with School Liaison Officers

Judy Hyojoo Rhee

Student, Grade 11

University Hill Secondary School

This September, thanks to the efforts of the school, community, and the RCMP that continued throughout the previous year, University Hill Secondary School (UHill) welcomed our two new School Liaison Officers (SLO).

The Principal of UHill, Mr. McGeer, expressed his thoughts on the officers' return:

"We are delighted to have our RCMP Officers reinstated at UHill. They play such an important role in making our community safe and in working with young people to build positive relationships. I would like to thank all of our community members who worked together to help lobby for the return of the SLO position. It is truly appreciated!"

To introduce the SLOs to the UNA community, I interviewed the officers, Constable Adrienne Cheung and Constable Ian Sim, and asked several questions regarding their work.

Could you introduce yourselves to everyone at UHill and residents of the UNA community?

Cst. Cheung: I am constable Adrienne Cheung! I went to school at Simon Fraser University and have been on the University detachment for six months. I was asked if I wanted to take on the role of an SLO. When I said yes, I was assigned to UHill Secondary. I enjoy sports such as basketball, tennis, as well as camping and hiking – BC is perfect for that!

Cst. Sim: My name is Ian Sim. I joined the RCMP in 1999 and graduated from "Depot" (in Regina, Saskatchewan) in 2000. My first posting was in North Vancouver, where I grew up and still live to this day. Getting posted to one's hometown is quite



University Hill Secondary School students with Constable Adrienne Cheung, School Liaison Officer. Photo credit Linda Kwan.

rare, so I was very fortunate. I worked four years in General Duty (GD, also called "Patrol"). GD/Patrol are the uniformed officers in police cars you see driving around your neighbourhoods. For my last three years in North Van, I was on mountain bike patrol (awesome!).

After seven years in North Van, I moved to federal policing with a plain-clothes (mistakenly called "undercover") section at Vancouver airport. I worked at the airport for three years, hunting for travelling criminals like money couriers, drug couriers, human traffickers, etc. I then moved on to Vancouver Drug Section (known as VDS). I finished with Federal Serious and Organized Crime (FSOC). After eight years of federal policing, I wanted to return to uniform work, back to Patrol. I chose UBC, and here I am. It was one of the best choices I have ever made.

I always wanted to be a police officer, and I was lucky enough for that to happen. I wanted to live my life armed (with a gun) so policing was an obvious choice. I was raised by good parents who had a belief

system of fair play. I am a huge believer in the rule of law, which is one of the main reasons why Canada is one of the best countries in the world (Canada Rocks!). Personal safety is also a big interest of mine, as are human rights (as in the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms, also called the "Charter"). My values just fit in with the above.

For those who don't know, could you explain the role of a SLO?

Cst. Cheung: I have only been a SLO for three weeks, but this is who I believe a School Liaison Officer is: a SLO provides a connection between students and administrative staff and teachers while having an open communication. Students will be talking to an officer he or she knows as opposed to speaking to someone they have never met before. Officers also have the chance to get to know students and the community.

Cst. Sim: A SLO's primary mandate is to look out for the schools and the students. SLOs become part of your community, which is your school, just as I try to be a part of my community, which is the University Endowment Lands. I like getting out of my car and doing foot and mountain bike patrols. School Liaison Officers have a specific focus on schools, whereas GD officers patrol their whole community, of which schools are a part. I am both on General Duty as well as a School Liaison Officer.

What are some of the most rewarding and challenging aspects of your work?

Cst. Cheung: The rewarding aspect is that I get to know and help members of the community. The challenging aspect would be that when people call you, they are often in an emergency situation or upset, so it's not always a pleasant situation to find yourself in.

Cst. Sim: The most satisfying thing about policing is meeting people. I get to meet new people every day, from all over the world. You get to find out where they're from, who they are, what they want to be when they grow up. You get to laugh with them and you get to build relationships. At the end of the day, that's what life's about, building positive relationships.

There are always challenges in policing. For example, five minutes from now

I could get called to a different file, and you never know what that file is going to be. Most people can predict roughly how their day is going to go. I can't. But I like that. I never know exactly what is going to happen five minutes from now. Part of the challenge is that you have to remain flexible, open-minded and ready for anything.

What do you expect/hope to see this year as a SLO at UHill Secondary?

Cst. Cheung: I hope to see a good relationship between the students and their SLOs.

Cst. Sim: I would like to see the students here at UHill continue to make smart/positive choices in their lives, taking care of themselves and those around them. Thankfully, UHill students seem to be doing a pretty good job of that (excellent work!). It appears that when students do have a problem (which is totally normal) they are talking it through with a trusted adult (parent, counselor, coach, teacher, mentor, etc.).

Rhee: So, communication is very important.

Cst. Sim: Communication is the answer! So many problems occur because of miscommunication or lack of communication. When you work at building your communication skills (and EVERYONE can do this), life just gets easier and more fun, plain and simple.

Do you have a message that you would like to share with UHill students or community residents?

Cst. Cheung: Say Hello to us outside of school as well as when you see us at school!

Cst. Sim: Take care of yourself and look out for each other. If you can do that within arms reach then life is going to be much more enjoyable. Yes, there will always be problems/challenges to test us, that's completely normal. The trick is to ask for help. No one can do it all on their own (and I mean, no one). In the policing community we have partners and a team to lean on, and we do, all the time. Otherwise we couldn't do what we do day in and day out.

When people are in a bad spot or under stress, they sometimes feel that they are all alone. Not true, not by a long shot. You are never alone. Someone in your school (student, teacher/counselor/coach) is (or has) experienced what you are experiencing, and more importantly, knows how to get through it. Communicate.



School Liaison Officer Constable Adrienne Cheung. Photo credit Judy Hyojoo Rhee.

Emergency Planning and Response at UBC Neighbourhoods

Questions and Answers

Which hazards – should they occur – would have the greatest impact to UBC, including University Neighbourhoods?

According to the UBC Emergency Response Plan 2018–2019, the examples of hazards with the greatest impact to UBC campus are:

- **Natural:** earthquake, wildfires, extreme weather, pandemic, flooding
- **Human Accidental:** Leak or spill, hazardous and toxic material; transportation accidents
- **Human Intentional:** Civil disturbance/disorder; credible bomb threat; active threat, e.g., weapons, toxic material
- **Technological:** IT disruption.

Does Metro Vancouver provide emergency planning and response on UBC campus, including University Neighbourhoods?

Under Provincial legislation, Metro Vancouver is responsible for emergency planning and response in all of Electoral Area A (EAA), including UBC campus and University Neighbourhoods. This is one of the services provided by Metro Vancouver to campus residents, and it is funded by the Metro Vancouver Property Tax paid by UBC residents.

What document guides the response to emergencies in Metro Vancouver EAA that includes UBC and University Neighbourhoods?

Updated October 2018, the Metro Vancouver EAA Emergency Management Plan (EAA Plan) guides response to emergencies in the Electoral Area A. Over the course of last year, Maria Harris, outgoing Electoral Area A Director, and Bill Holmes, Alternate Director, have been working with Metro Vancouver to update the EAA Plan and clarify the roles of Metro Vancouver and UBC in planning and responding to an emergency on the Point Grey portion of the EAA.

Does UBC provide emergency planning and response on University Neighbourhoods?

UBC has developed and maintains the Emergency Response Plan (UBC Plan) to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies resulting from natural and human-induced hazards and risks that could affect the University and surrounding community. This plan – which is integrated in the Metro Vancouver EAA Plan – should be considered the primary response guidance for the UBC campus, including University Neighbourhoods. When an emergency engages Metro Vancouver emergency staff, the UBC Plan operates under the authority of the EAA Plan.

UBC Policy 8/Disaster Management provides the governance for emergency management. Emergency preparedness is managed by UBC Risk Management Services (www.rms.ubc.ca) in partnership with Faculties and Departments across campus.

UBC is working closely with the University Neighbourhoods Association on emergency planning.

What areas are included in the Point Grey portion under the Metro Vancouver EAA Plan?

According to the EAA Emergency Management Plan, The Point Grey portion consists of three administratively distinct areas: UEL, UBC (including University Neighbourhoods) and Pacific Spirit Regional Park. “The daytime population of the Point Grey area may approach 100,000 people when UBC is in session. This is greater than most BC cities. However, the limited resources/services of an unincorporated area are all that is available to respond to an emergency,” notes the EAA Plan.

Does UBC conduct regular emergency exercises?

To prepare the campus for emergency events such as earthquakes, UBC has conducted – since 1992 – annual emergency exercises that bring together first responder agencies (i.e., police, fire department and ambulance), other external agencies and UBC departments. Participants respond to a variety of simulated site emergencies, including earthquakes, vehicle attacks, hazardous material spills, fires, airplane crashes and structural collapses. The exercises are developed, arranged and administered by UBC Risk Management Services.

Did UBC participate in the ShakeOut BC earthquake preparedness exercise?

In October, UBC participated in the province-wide ShakeOut BC earthquake preparedness exercise practicing **Drop, Cover, and Hold On** – the appropriate action to be prepared to survive and to reduce injury.

ShakeOutBC (www.shakeoutbc.ca) advises that “studies of injuries and deaths caused by earthquakes over the last several decades indicate that you are much more likely to be injured by falling or flying objects (TVs, lamps, glass, bookcases, etc.) than to die in a collapsed building. **Drop, Cover, and Hold On** offers the best overall level of protection in most situations.”

UBC Risk Management Services: What to do to be prepared before an earthquake?

- Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least three days
- Avoid storing heavy objects on high shelves
- Secure bookcases, cabinets, and equipment
- Install restraints on laboratory shelves and store glass cylinders in properly designed racks
- Be familiar with emergency plans and procedures
- Have an emergency kit at home, office and car
- Practice earthquake response often and participate in earthquake drills like ShakeOut BC.

What does UBC Risk Management Basic Emergency Supply Kit include?

- First aid kit and medications
- Four litres of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- At least 72 hours supply of non-perishable food and manual can opener for cans
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Battery-powered or hand crank flashlight



Emergency Response Team members during emergency exercise on UBC Vancouver campus. Photo credit BC RCMP.

with extra batteries

- Whistle to signal for help
- Cell phone with chargers, inverter or solar charger
- Local maps (identify a family meeting place) and some cash in small bills
- Garbage bags, moist towelettes and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Dust mask to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Seasonal clothing and footwear.

How can UBC residents receive the emergency notifications from Metro Vancouver?

In the October Update for EAA residents, Maria Harris and Bill Holmes strongly encourage residents to sign up for Emergency Notification System for Electoral Area A Residents to receive emergency notifications from Metro Vancouver. In the event of an emergency, Metro Vancouver’s system will send you a voice, text and email message. Please register at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/electoral-area-a/emergency-planning/Pages/Emergency-Notification-System-Sign-up.aspx>.

Does UBC operate an Emergency Notification System?

UBC operates an Emergency Notification System **UBC ALERT** that sends messages to cell phones. This system is the primary communication tool for broadcasting emergency notification to the UBC community. Students, faculty and staff can sign up for **UBC ALERT** online by following the instruction on UBC Personal Emergency Preparedness webpage. Twitter and Facebook are secondary communication tools for broadcasting emergency notification and/or information to the campus community.

How can UBC residents receive the emergency notifications from UBC ALERT?

Residents of the UBC Neighbourhood Housing areas who are UNA members, or who have a UNA Access Card, are automatically registered for **UBC ALERT** to receive emergency notification messages from UBC.

Does UNA have Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness information available?

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness information is available on the UNA website at www.myuna.ca/services/public-safety/. Residents can purchase a 72-hour Emergency Preparedness Kit available at the UNA office and community centres.

What challenge does the UBC Vancouver campus pose in terms of executing response to a large-scale emergency?

The UBC Vancouver campus is situated on the edge of the Point Grey peninsula. It is geographically isolated and inherently poses a unique challenge in terms of executing emergency response following a large-scale emergency or disaster. UBC recognizes the possibility where the University may be temporarily disconnected from external response agencies and humanitarian assistance.

Information Sources

- Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A Director’s Update, October 2018
- Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A Emergency Management Plan
- UBC Risk Management www.rms.ubc.ca
- UBC Emergency Response Plan
- University Neighbourhoods Association www.myuna.ca
- ShakeOutBC www.shakeoutbc.ca

Metro Vancouver Emergency Notification System for EAA Residents

Metro Vancouver offers a web-based text and voice messaging system to notify Electoral Area A residents of emergencies.

To sign up, go to:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/electoral-area-a/emergency-planning/Pages/Emergency-Notification-System-Sign-up.aspx>

Why We Signed the Petition to UBC Board of Governors Concerning Stadium Road Neighbourhood

October petition calls on UBC and the Province to rethink the development and not amend the approved Land Use Plan. Please read below comments from petitioners.

UBC must respect the density and height limits as set forth in the provincially-approved 2010 Land Use Plan. Increased housing density at UBC has already created daily problems for many people, including traffic congestion along West 16th Ave. and SW Marine Drive. **Paige**

This building is just way too tall for this site, and such an egregious violation of the community plan leaves one to wonder what the point is at all in those thousands of hours of work in creative collaborative community plans. And finally, every single one of the local schools is at or over capacity: what's the plan for essential services? Go half height, commit to 25% affordable faculty/staff housing, and start planning with the Vancouver School Board before ground is broken. **Tiffany**

UBC has become a real estate and logging corporation that has a side business enrolling students. It is outrageous that UBC Vancouver campus remains part of a "rural district"—it is NOT part of the City of Vancouver, nor of any municipality—and it is not subject to any local elected government. So there is no municipal oversight of UBC zoning and development—the campus is a law unto itself. (Even Stanford still must answer to the city of Palo Alto.) UBC largely ignores its responsibility for the traffic (and the carbon emissions) that its developments induce to the detriment of nearby Vancouver. Finally, it is indefensible that UBC does so little to promote housing in which faculty and staff, etc., could afford to live near the campus on which they work. (Stanford has had such measures for more than a half-century.) **Ned**

There is already an overwhelming population sharing the roads, parking, transit, day-care, school and marketplace in the southern region of campus where the new SRN is being planned. The establishment of SRN according to the 2010 plans will already put further huge strain on these issues, thus expanding the scope of the SRN project is simply not reasonable. Yes, UBC is a university which should prioritize its students, but the target audience for SRN is the luxury market, which benefits neither students nor faculty/staff who usually cannot afford such property. If the positives that come out of the SRN project are questionable at best, why put a strain on the local community further by going beyond what was originally planned in 2010 without even providing reasonable solutions to the sustainability issues being raised by hundreds of people who have been committed to the campus neighbourhood for years? This is also damaging to the relationship between UBC and campus neighbourhoods and sets a bad precedent for future projects. **David**

The University Neighbourhoods are in sore need of more, not less, integration and inequality. Towers in the sky work against these objectives. Meanwhile, faculty (especially contract faculty, who carry an increasing amount of the university's teaching load on very low salaries) and staff remain badly underhoused. UBC should concentrate on its core mission and on sup-

porting the students, staff and faculty who contribute to it. **Miranda**

I moved to Hawthorn because it is a Village Community next to a world class university. It needs to stay that way. **Richard**

I feel strongly that some natural beauty should be preserved in this wonderful city! **Judith**

While I generally support densification, this does not include ridiculous luxury towers at UBC. **Graeme**

This surrounding area is already very noisy and crowded. I often cannot find a parking lot outside Save-On-Foods. The gym is often crowded. I cannot image how our life will be after such a great increment in population size. **Yichuan**

We don't need more towers encroaching in the delicate cliffs in this area. Please consider the environmental impact as well as creating affordable homes for professional people who work at UBC to have their home and family within walking distance. **Allison**

This unsustainable increase in density will fundamentally change the nature of living on campus, destroy a beautiful patch of forest, and ruin the beautiful view looking south on Main Mall from the heart of campus, by placing tall buildings behind the Reconciliation Pole and Rhododendron Wood. **Darren**

These towers would change the whole character of UBC without contributing anything to our academic reputation. They are in violation of existing rules that were set down to protect UBC from rampant commercial development. The current and future needs of UBC students, faculty, and staff would not be addressed by building these towers. And finally, they would be a blight on the beautiful First Nations land that UBC is privileged to occupy. **Helen**

Those towers will be a total eyesore on the horizon visible from all areas of Vancouver, North Vancouver and Richmond. Ugly! **Lucus**

It would highly impact my neighbourhood; we are permanent residents, not students, we do not want to look like Yaletown in this beautiful area of the city. **Ann**

My family and I live here on campus and we want it to remain a pleasant community to be in. We have seen the negative impact of increased density, and this proposal will make it worse. **Marina**

UBC has lost its focus and digressed from educating to real estate development. Integrity is damaged when this occurs. **Reva**

There are many issues such as safety, traffic, education... come with increasing UBC residential density. Before UBC has better plan to deal with those issues, SRN needs to stop! **Connie**

Citizens worked really hard on the UBC

Land Use Plan limiting building heights to 53 metres to protect the views so that buildings would stay below the canopy and not tower above it!! Those who love the wilderness-like beauty of Wreck Beach do not want it marred by looming towers! The other thing about such towers is the alienation of tower dwellers from their neighbours due to lack of physical interaction. UBC is ignoring their endowment of education and social interactions in favour of the almighty buck!!!! **Judy**

UBC is not the University of Building Construction! UBC is a University, not another

downtown... UBC is aiming to change the world with academic research; it is not a developer to build high rises on every single inch of the campus! **Michael**

We can do better than this! UBC is full of smart creative people and we can do a much better job of designing a sustainable community that fosters connection to neighbours and nature, walking and biking, cafes and gardens, and true participatory planning that honestly engages the people who will live in these communities. Let's build something that will still make us proud 50 years from now! **Jeanine**



Petitioners say that constructing towers of up to 36 storeys may be appropriate in Yaletown Vancouver, but they are out of character for the UBC campus and will reduce quality of life.

*In sum, we are advocating for a **livable community** that we recognize will have a higher density than those around it, but that will still be an attractive and **human place to live.***

Campus Residents, May petition to UBC

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