

# THE CAMPUS RESIDENT

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## Message from the UNA Chair

Dear UNA Members,

The year 2019-2020 was one of transition and many changes in our organization. I begin by thanking UNA Executive Director, Johanne Blenkin, for several years of



Richard Watson

service ending in June 2019. The Board also thanks two long-serving managers, Andrew Clements and Wegland Sit, who stepped up to temporarily serve as Co-Executive Directors while the search for a new Chief Administrative Officer was conducted. As the financial year-end approached, Andrew and Wegland provided stability and leadership through the beginning of COVID-19. Talk about significant change!

This year was the second year of implementing the Strategic Plan developed by the UNA Board of Directors in 2018. Efforts were placed in each of the four areas of focus: Governance, Financial Stability, Operational Capacity and Community & Stakeholder Relations. Governance was one of the Board's priorities through 2019-2020 with continued work on the proposed UNA Bylaws. Details of these and other key accomplishments as they relate to the Strategic Plan are included within the Annual Report.

MESSAGE continued on Page 5.

## UBC Scientist who Lives in UEL Appointed to Order of Canada

*David Wilkinson lives on the University Endowment Lands adjacent to UBC; his scientific work has been classed as 'world leading'*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

Local resident David Wilkinson, a professor in UBC's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering and an internationally recognized expert in electrochemical technologies, has been named a member of the Order of Canada "for his contributions to electrochemical science and engineering, particularly the ongoing development of fuel cell technology."

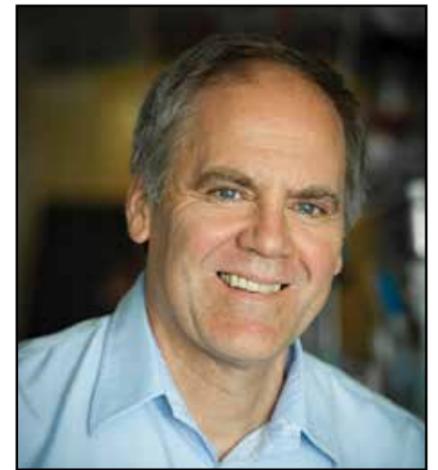
The Order of Canada is one of the country's highest civilian honours. In announcing the appointment of Professor Wilkinson and 113 others, Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada said the Order aims to recognize people "whose service shapes our society, whose innovations ignite our imaginations, and whose compassion unites our communities."

Professor Wilkinson joined the faculty of UBC's Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering in 2004 as a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Clean Energy and Fuel Cells. He had previously held key

positions at Moli Energy, where he was part of the team that developed the world's first commercial rechargeable lithium AA battery, and Ballard Power Systems, which he helped transform into a world leader in fuel cell and hydrogen technology over the course of his 13 years at the company.

Before coming to UBC, Professor Wilkinson was also a principal research officer and group leader at the National Research Council Institute for Fuel Cell Innovation, where he established a leading research and development group and laboratory in polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cell technology. He continued his affiliation with the Institute until 2012.

SCIENTIST continued on Page 3.



David Wilkinson

## Community Tent That Never Was

*It started out a good idea; but it would have cost too much money to turn it into reality*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

The idea was to set up a 'community tent' in Hawthorn Place; an outdoor location providing a casual, informal gathering place for UBC campus residents for four months this winter.

Located beside the Old Barn Community Centre, the community tent would have provided weather-protected space for residents to enjoy a casual conversation while savoring a cup of freshly brewed coffee from the nearby coffee shop.

Everyone on the Board of the University Neighbourhoods Association agreed the tent was a nice idea when it was floated at the October Board meeting. However, a month later at the November meeting, financial prudence prevailed with Board members agreeing the cost of renting this tent could not be justified by its social benefit. So, the idea was scrapped.

Above Mackenzie Square in Wesbrook Place, UBC Properties Trust had set up—

or planned to set up—LED string light decorations, which would have interfered with future community tent installation for Christmas. Hence, the only available location for a tent setup was the Old Barn Community Centre next to Bean Around the World.

The Old Barn patio could accommodate a tent up to 30' x 30' in dimension, and so UNA staff contacted two event rental companies and one commercial tent retail company to get quotations.

On average, the monthly rental cost was about \$4,900 per month plus delivery/installation and applicable taxes. It was estimated that the tent would cost the UNA around \$20,000 in total for a 4-month rental.

UNA staff also submitted a request for quotation to a commercial tent retail company. This estimate for a 30' x 30' tent purchase was around \$16,000 excluding the cost of concrete ballasts, installation, and delivery, which would likely have added another \$4,500 on top of the quoted price.

Given it is a sizable unbudgeted item, the funding for this purposed community tent would require a draw from the Contingency Reserve – which currently has \$66,487 in it. Prudently, therefore, the Board set the project aside.

## UBC Residents Say Noise of Leaf Blowers Needs Curbing

*Pilot project to quell noise is launched in Hawthorn Place; other neighbourhoods will be included if noise abatement initiative is successful*

The UNA aims to reduce what residents call the high level of noise caused by landscape gardening in campus districts such as Hawthorn Place.

In its November 17 meeting, the UNA Board of Directors passed two resolutions to do with noisy gardening.

In one resolution, the Board directed staff

to develop a landscaping schedule with UBC Properties Trust (UBCPT) and all Hawthorn Strata, with the purpose of reducing landscaping service to two days per week in their area.

In the other resolution, the Board directed staff work with UBCPT and Meridian Landscaping to develop a strategy to phase out gas powered leaf blowers and transition to electric-powered leaf blowers for all light-duty work in the Hawthorn area.

If successful, the two pilot projects in Hawthorn Place should lead to noise-abatement initiatives in other housing neighbourhoods in the mid-term and long-term.

NOISE continued on Page 2.

# Electoral Area A Residents Reflect on Housing Issues



Tree canopy and vegetated ground cover a large part of UBC. Photography UBC.

*Housing development at UBC is on agenda at Zoom meeting; guest speakers focus on regional issues*

“Our communities will undoubtedly change over the coming years,” says Jen McCutcheon, Director for Metro Vancouver’s Electoral Area A. “Let’s get better with age!”

Ms. McCutcheon made the remark at the launch of *Complete Communities*, an online town hall meeting she had moderated to galvanize the interest of UBC/UEL residents on housing issues in Metro Vancouver.

Three guest speakers—all experts in the field of housing development—addressed the November 24 meeting,

Michael White, Associate Vice-President, UBC, Campus and Community Planning, told the meeting, there was “a high degree of satisfaction” at UBC with the way its private housing initiative had turned out—and was turning out—on land once deemed good only for street-level parking lots and other under-developed land.

Mr. White, who has worked at the University for seven years, said UBC is well on target to create a community of 30,000 residents by year 2050.

Currently, the population of University Neighbourhoods is 10,000-15,000.

As well as reflecting on the development of Hampton Place (long developed), Chancellor Place (only one lot left for development), East Campus (developed), University Boulevard (development under way) and Wesbrook Place (more than half-developed), Mr. White focussed attention on Hawthorn Place, where a large slice of land referred to as Stadium Neighbourhood is due for development in the near future.

What Mr. White referred to as a “great

debate” took place in the UBC residential community in September, 2019. Many UBC residents are opposed to what they considered an excessive degree of density in the proposed development. However, in his view, “UBC has done a good job.”

Here are some facts about the project:

In June 2019, the Administration presented the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan Concept to the Board of Governors’ Housing Action Plan Working Group. That version of the Plan Concept included:

- 1.55 million sq. ft. residential development
- 120,000 sq. ft. non-residential development
- 2/3 of housing units for UBC Housing (including 1/3 for below-market faculty-staff rental)
- New community amenities including a grocery store, Thunderbird Stadium and child care
- 5 towers from 20 to 32 storeys, plus podium buildings from 6 to 8 storeys
- Expansive new green space

The facts sheet summarizes the results of this analysis, using the following three scenarios:

- 1) Original Plan Concept scenario: 1.55 million sq. ft. of residential density, tower heights of 22, 26, 32, 24, and 20 storeys and maximum podium height of 8 storeys;
- 2) Alternative scenario: 1.46 million sq. ft. of residential density, tower heights of 22, 24, 28, 24 and 18 storeys and maximum podium height of 6 storeys;
- 3) Current Land Use Plan scenario: 1.28 million sq. ft. of residential density, tower heights of 22, 22, 22, 20 and 18 storeys and maximum podium height of 6 storeys.

The final Plan must balance delivery of the highest number of UBC housing units while minimizing financial risk and maximizing urban design and sustainability performance.

In terms of next steps, the Stadium Neighbourhood Plan will be considered in the context of the Campus Vision 2050 process, expected to commence in 2021. It will be informed by the deeper engagement that the University is undertaking with the Musqueam as part of a new Relationship Agreement between UBC and Musqueam.

UBC Staff will be reporting back to the Board on the scope and process that is being proposed for Campus Vision 2050 this winter.

Sean Galloway, Metro Vancouver Director for Regional Planning, was another expert speaker at the Electoral Area A meeting. Mr. Galloway said all housing developments should aim for “authenticity”; a quality not easy to attain at times.

Andy Yan, Simon Fraser University City Program Director, also attended the meeting to provide regional context.

Meanwhile, the UBC Alma Mater Society—which represents more than 60,000



Jen McCutcheon

UBC students—continues its support of the Stadium Neighbourhood project.

In a recent letter to the UBC Board of Governors, Cole Evans, AMS President, talks of providing the University with “strong support” for the proposed Stadium Neighbourhood land development. In his letter, Mr. Evans says, “Student residences must be part of the development.”

**NOISE continued from Page 1.**

The UNA first directed staff to explore potential solutions to address noise and sustainability issues associated with landscaping power equipment at its September 2020 board meeting.

According to staff, neither the UNA nor UBCPT have a consistent, overarching landscaping management strategy. Instead, landscaping service arrangements and contractors vary between neighbourhoods. Hawthorn, Hampton, East Campus and Chancellor Neighbourhoods have one main landscaping contractor that provides landscaping service for those areas.

Meanwhile in the Wesbrook Neighbourhood, four landscaping companies service the common area, boulevard grass and

park spaces. Wesbrook Neighbourhood has a unique management arrangement given that the area is still in development, UNA staff members said.

The Board had also sought to approve three mid-term recommendations and two long-term recommendations pertaining to landscaping noise in the five neighbourhoods, but left those discussions for another day.

UNA Directors agreed that although there are landscaping noise and environmental concerns in all areas of the UNA, the nature of how the landscaping service is provided within the Hawthorn neighbourhood affords a unique opportunity to pilot landscaping improvements that can be undertaken in the rest of the UNA neighbourhoods at a later date.

# THE CAMPUS RESIDENT

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## COVID-19 Isolation Measures Can Elevate Mental Health Risks

Quarantine and isolation measures are a critical tool in curbing the spread of COVID-19. But new analysis of data from a survey of the mental health impacts of the pandemic suggests we need to pay more attention to the unintended mental health consequences of these measures.

Researchers at UBC, in collaboration with the Canadian Mental Health Association, surveyed 3,000 adults across Canada and found that mental health generally worsened with the pandemic. However, people who spent time in voluntary self-isolation or mandated quarantine were among those who felt the impacts more keenly.

“Two out of five, or 37 per cent of participants reported having worse mental health after the pandemic started,” says research assistant Zachary Daly, with the UBC school of nursing. “But this rises to 54 per cent among those who had to isolate due to experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Those who quarantined due to contact with someone with symptoms of COVID-19 experienced the highest rates of recent suicidal thoughts, at 28 per cent, compared to five per cent among those who have not had to quarantine or isolate.”

Just as concerning, individuals who were ordered to isolate because they experienced symptoms of COVID-19 were at greater risk for recent self-harm than those who have not had this experience. “This group had the highest rates for self-harm, at nine percent, compared to one per cent among those who have not had to quarantine or isolate,” added Daly.

In contrast, people who quarantined due to recent international or out of province travel did not have significantly worse mental



Photo Credit: Dan Meyers / Unsplash

health or elevated risks of suicidal ideation or self-harm.

“People who quarantine due to potential direct exposure are clearly dealing with greater levels of distress,” says principal investigator Emily Jenkins, an assistant professor of nursing at UBC.

“They aren’t necessarily having COVID-19 symptoms, but they may be very concerned about stigma should they have a positive result. They might also be afraid of being cut off from their friends and family, or being unable to provide care for people in their circle who may need it. The process of quarantining itself and the experience of being cut-off from others may also

be contributing. We need to be responsive to these types of stressors when using quarantine and isolation measures to fight this pandemic,” said Jenkins.

This is the first Canadian study to look at the specific mental health impacts of different reasons for quarantine and isolation, and researchers say the results have implications for public health and health care.

“With COVID case numbers rapidly growing across the country, and the exponential increase in people who are having quarantine or isolation orders imposed on them, we’re really advocating for some shifts in the way things are done and the practices related to surveillance,” said Jenkins. “We want to make sure that there are strategies to mitigate some of the potential mental health harms associated with these measures.”

For example, if someone has been instructed to quarantine or isolate, health care providers can build mental health check-ins into the process, rather than waiting for the

person to reach out, says Jenkins. Individuals who recently quarantined or isolated should receive a mental health assessment, as the emotional and psychological challenges can persist after the quarantine period is over.

Jenkins noted that notwithstanding the elevated risks for certain groups of individuals, the overall rates of self-harm and suicidal ideation were “quite high” for everyone.

“This has been a tough year and there are not yet signs of things easing up. The promising thing is that as we identify circumstances that may put people at risk, we can work to address these. It’s going to be more important than ever to protect Canadians’ well-being and manage the constant element of fear and uncertainty that people are experiencing,” added Jenkins.

Published online at UBC News: [www.news.ubc.ca/2020/11/18/covid-19-isolation-measures-can-elevate-mental-health-risks/](http://www.news.ubc.ca/2020/11/18/covid-19-isolation-measures-can-elevate-mental-health-risks/)

### SCIENTIST continued from Page 1.

A resident of the UEL, David Wilkinson grew up on a dairy farm on Vancouver Island. For five years as a day student, he attended Brentwood College, a private boys’ school on the Island. During his years at university, he competed internationally for Canada as a member of the Canadian National Rowing Team. He received his Ph.D degree from the University of Ottawa in electrochemistry in 1987.

**Editor’s Note:** Other UBC faculty named to the Order of Canada on November 27, 2020 were:

- **Joseph Michael Connors, of Victoria (Faculty of Medicine)** For his contributions to the study and treatment of lymphoid cancers, and for his role in the advancement of lymphoma care in Canada.
- **Roger Wong, of Vancouver (Faculty of Medicine)** For his contributions to the field of geriatric medicine, including the

advancement of policies, education and specialized, culturally sensitive health care. (Please read COVID-19 article by Dr. Wong in the November 2, 2020 edition of *The Campus Resident*).

Created in 1967, the Order of Canada recognizes outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation. More than 7,000 people from all sectors of society have been invested into the Order. Those who bear the Order’s iconic snowflake insignia have changed our nation’s measure of success and, through the sum of their accomplishments, have helped us build a better Canada.

Appointments are made by the Governor General on the recommendation of the Advisory Council. Congratulations to Professor Wilkinson and all other recipients of the Order. They will be invited to Ottawa to accept their insignia at a ceremony to be held at a later date.

## LETTER TO EDITOR

### Re: Tax Group

Mr. Holmes, as a tax lawyer, would certainly know that imposing taxes and deciding how to spend the money are completely separate questions. Pleading ‘unfairness’ in any tax appeal will lead to a far briefer hearing than one might hope for.

Taxation Working Group appointments might also include an offshore marketer for schooling and luxury condos, a hedge fund manager, a yacht broker, a Trump adviser,

or a banker from any tax haven: presumably over his career, Holmes would have known all these people intimately.

NDP people however may well have preconceptions of how sympathetic they should be to such emissaries.

I certainly hope the UNA is not so foolish as to pay these worthies anything.

Hesitantly Yours,  
Peter Orata

# UBC Commits to Building Veteran-Friendly Campus

*New branch of Royal Canadian Legion is proposed for UBC; Professor Ono refers to branch project at 2020 Remembrance Day service held online*

## UBC Faculty and Staff

From providing students with military training in the First World War to preparing today's veterans with the tools they need to succeed in life, UBC has a long history of honouring and supporting those who serve our country.

By becoming a veteran-friendly campus, UBC commits to provide programs and services specially designed for veterans including specialized mental health and counselling support, priority student housing, social and recreational opportunities, professional development courses and a Royal Canadian Legion Branch, which will be the first new one established in British Columbia in 25 years.

"As Canadians we owe so much to the veterans who have served and sacrificed for our country, preserving and protecting the freedoms we enjoy today," said UBC President and Vice Chancellor Santa J. Ono, who made the announcement about a new legion branch during the November 2020 Remembrance Day ceremony online.

Professor Ono said, "In acknowledgement

and appreciation of their service, we hope to ensure that when veterans complete their service and decide to pursue higher education, there is a welcoming campus with the services and resources available to meet their unique needs."

The initiative to make UBC campus veteran-friendly is led by Marvin Westwood, founder of the faculty of education's Centre for Group Counselling and Trauma (CGCT) as well as the Veterans Transition Program – a group-based program developed at UBC by psychologists and medical experts that has been assisting veterans in transitioning back to civilian life since 1997.

"For more than twenty years, UBC has been designing and delivering innovative programs to support the veterans' community," said Professor Westwood. UBC is developing a proposal to objectively review all aspects of its Campus Plan, a review which it will repeat every decade.

As part of the initiative, the University will also revise its admission process for veteran identification as well as ensure staff and faculty members are more mindful when communicating about veteran-related topics.

"Many veterans, especially those who decide to pursue a post-secondary education, may find it uneasy to adjust to civilian life after military service," said Tim Laidler, CGCT's executive director and a Canadian veteran who served in Afghanistan between his third and fourth year of studies at UBC. "They may not feel a sense of belonging on campus and feel isolated, because they don't

share the same experiences with their peers."

Laidler says the new initiative will address this by connecting veterans with each other and the community through networking opportunities as well as dedicated space on campus.

"We hope the initiative will enhance its support for veterans in addition to the CGCT and the Veterans Transition Program, which is now delivered by a national charity," said Dr. Blye Frank, dean of the faculty of education. "The program has supported more than 1,000 veterans to date, all of whom reported benefits of reduced trauma symptoms, decreased depression and increased self-esteem."

More than 75 veterans have returned to school this school year with an additional 19 who will be taking CGCT's professional development courses on human security and development to prepare for work in international non-profits.

UBC also announced developing new program to assist veterans in career transition.

As part of UBC's commitment to become one of Canada's first veteran-friendly campuses this year, the university is developing a certificate program in international development and human security, tailored to veterans.

The Canadian Legion was founded as 'The Canadian Legion of the British Empire Service League.' It was incorporated by a special Act of Parliament and the Charter was issued in July 1926.



**Canadian flag on UBC Campus.**  
Photo credit, UBC News.

On December 19, 1960, Queen Elizabeth II gave her consent to use the prefix 'Royal', and the organization became known as 'The Royal Canadian Legion'. The Act of Incorporation was later amended in 1961 to make the change official.

The Legion's initial main objective was to provide a strong voice for First World War Veterans. However, the advent of the Second World War created a host of new demands.

The Legion expanded to offer more dedicated support to Veterans, as well as those serving abroad. Today, the Legion continues to improve the lives of Veterans, including serving Canadian Armed Forces and RCMP, and their families. This has been our principal objective since inception and we will continue to work for it today and every day forward.

### Notice of Special UNA Board Meeting

The Board of Directors for the UNA will hold a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, starting at 10:00 am.

The purpose of the meeting, which will be held virtually, is to discuss the proposed Rules of Procedure.

Please visit [myuna.ca](http://myuna.ca) for details.

## UNA BRIEFS

### Charging Stations to Double EV Capacity

The University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA), UBC and UBC Properties Trust are helping to make it easy to charge Electric Vehicles (EVs) through their partnership with BC Hydro and the Electric Vehicle Charging Initiative. The new EV charging stations have two EV chargers, and they will deliver up to 80% of power in 30 minutes. The new fast station will effectively double the charging capacity of the existing location.

### Engineers to Review Wesbrook Parking Signage

Wesbrook Neighbourhood Operations department is undertaking a parking signage review project around Wesbrook neighbourhood. This project will focus on:

- the area along Ross Drive South, of Webber Lane crosswalk,
- Ross Drive North (near University Hill Secondary School),
- the areas next to completed construction sites.

Based on consultation with UBC traffic engineers, a new 'No Parking' zone will be setup along Ross Drive South near Webber Lane Crosswalk to address on-street parking issues. Meanwhile, a new Wesbrook Residential Parking Permit Zone will be set up near Ross Drive North to address future demand.

### 4-Way Stop Sign to Make Wesbrook Mall / Ross Drive Safer

The UNA has received ongoing residents' safety concerns regarding the Wesbrook Mall and Ross Drive intersections. Reports indicate it is particularly challenging for vehicles to turn left or right from Ross Drive

on to Wesbrook Mall due to parked vehicles on either side of the road, and the relatively high speed of in-coming vehicles travelling on Wesbrook Mall.

The UNA Operations department is working with the UBC Traffic Engineering department to determine a feasible alternative to slowing down traffic effectively, and improving drivers' sight lines. A new 4-way



LETTER FROM UBC PRESIDENT

Reflections on 2020

Dear friends and neighbours,

The holiday season is traditionally a time to reflect on the year that has passed, and to look forward to the year to come.

2020, of course, was a year like no other that we've ever experienced before. However, it is ending on a brighter note, with one vaccine approved and on the way, and other approvals expected shortly. We can look forward with hope to a better year ahead.

Despite the turmoil of the past year, I am still thankful for many things, including my family, my friends and my community.

I am also thankful for how the UBC community came together in the face of the COVID-19 crisis. Thanks to all our efforts, we are making it through the pandemic. Yes, most of our instruction and research is being done online, and yes, many of us are working from home, but we are still managing to deliver a first-class education, we are still conducting our research or taking our courses, we are still keeping this great university functioning.

Not only that, but many members of the UBC community went out of their way to help others who were adversely affected by the pandemic. Whether researching ways to mitigate COVID-19, developing compostable masks, providing isolated seniors with iPads so they could connect with their

families or delivering groceries to your neighbours, UBC came through.

And I am proud of Provincial Health Officer and UBC faculty member Dr. Bonnie Henry, who has demonstrated amazing strength, courage and calmness as she leads us through the pandemic. She has been ably assisted by her team and by regional health officers across the province, many of whom are also UBC faculty members.

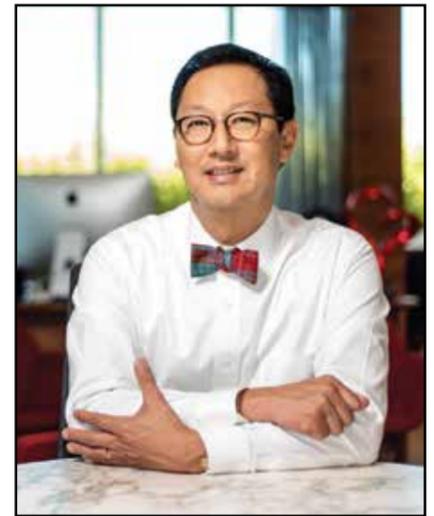
Other UBC achievements in the fight against the pandemic include Dr. Josef Penninger's clinical trial for new treatment methods; the work of our Faculty of Medicine clinical professors in tracking and forecasting the spread of the disease; and the cutting-edge antibody work of AbCellera – a biotech company founded at UBC. I'm also proud to say that UBC has a connection to the successful Pfizer-BionTech vaccine. It relies on innovations developed by Acuitas Therapeutics, a spin-off from UBC's Life Sciences Institute.

Through this unusual year, I'm also very pleased with the steps the university has taken to address issues of equity, diversity and inclusion and to move forward on meaningful reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. It is my hope that we can work to model a different kind of community—one where we embrace difference and work to build each other up while enacting values of dignity, mutual respect, and justice. We must work together to eliminate the oppres-

sion that remains prevalent and entrenched in our everyday systems, and find a way to support and elevate those who have been traditionally, systemically, and historically marginalized. This, alongside our work to address climate change, all contribute to creating a welcoming, equitable and resilient university and surrounding community.

We are also working to improve access to the Vancouver campus and to be better connected to research, health, innovation, employment and housing destinations across Metro Vancouver. To ensure we continue to thrive for decades into the future, beyond the day when we can safely welcome everyone back and our campuses are again thriving places of teaching, learning, research and community, we are continuing to push strongly advocate for progress on a once-in-a-generation infrastructure project: the extension of rapid transit to campus.

We have been working with partners throughout the region and the province to demonstrate why this project is so crucial for improving mobility, affordability, sustainability and access to education as well as supporting British Columbia's economic recovery by creating thousands of jobs. UBC has partnered with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and the City of Vancouver to jointly advocate for the line—we firmly believe that it is an example of reconciliation in action through its recognition of Indigenous community



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

interests in major economic, social and community planning initiatives in Vancouver. Our aim is to help ensure the project be built as a seamless continuation of the soon to begin Broadway Subway Project, which terminates at Arbutus St. If we are successful, we could see a station at UBC by 2030.

I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and a joyful new year.

Best wishes,

Santa J. Ono  
President and Vice-Chancellor



MESSAGE continued from Page 1.

Several changes to the Board of Directors also occurred over the year. In November, we said goodbye to outgoing directors Laura Cottle, Ying Zhou and Richard Alexander, who finished their terms. The Board also welcomed three new resident directors: Jane Kang, Murray McCutcheon and myself. In February 2020, we said goodbye to Matthew Delumpa who stepped down for personal reasons. Appointed director Bill Holmes joined the Board in March. We thank all these people for their service to the UNA community.

Starting my first term as Director in November 2019 has been a learning experience like no other. It's been a pleasure to

serve the community in this way. I have really enjoyed getting to know more about the issues and have been impressed with the skill and commitment of staff and Board alike. We all have a common desire towards the betterment of our neighbourhoods! I also thank you, the membership, for taking the time to read the Annual Report and look forward to what we have yet to accomplish together.

Sincerely,  
Richard Watson, Chair,  
UNA Board of Directors

Elsewhere in the UNA 2019-2020 Annual Report, Mr. Watson also writes, "The UNA would like to thank and recognize the invaluable and tireless work of volunteers

who have contributed their time and expertise to ensure that we can hold a diverse array of events and initiatives, including clubs and long-term and short-term projects."

Highlights of the annual report include work done by committee volunteers who advised on various policy developments for the UNA, as well as two cultural groups – the Diwali Festival Committee and the Lunar New Year Working Group – who planned and delivered two successful events.

Mr. Watson says, "Our dedicated volunteers provided language conversation classes and facilitated numerous club activities. They encouraged sustainability through

gardening, yard sales, clothing repair workshops and the Green Depot."

Referring to the UNA Youth Volunteer Program, the chair said it aims to build connections and support the young members of our community. Through this program, youth are able to connect, learn, share and grow while contributing positive things to the UNA community.

"The capacity that exists within youth volunteers is astounding, and amazing things happen when a little opportunity is added. This year there was plenty of opportunity, and our volunteer system continued to grow by hitting over 4,200 total hours contributed by more than 310 unique volunteers."

## UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOODS 2010 - 2020 DECADE IN REVIEW: TOP STORIES & EVENTS

### 2010

UNA Board backs noise control bylaw; the bylaw is a historic first at UBC. Noise in neighbourhoods is targeted with fines of up to \$10,000 facing offenders.

Number of households at UBC participating in composting program tops 1,000. UBC-UNA partnership is leading way in Metro Vancouver, where organics are diverted from landfill.

Market housing helps fund UBC childcare services as the number of children on wait list reaches 1,500. UNA commits \$900,000 to the program.

UBC unites with Vancouver to plot 'Greenest City'. Partnership was launched May 11, when an Environment agreement was signed.

Residents rue plan for 'biomass' traffic. Biomass energy is great idea, says UBC. However, residents say they will suffer from trucks running back and forth in front of their doorways bearing wood pellets.



**In-vessel organics composter  
on UBC Campus**

### 2011

Conversion project places UBC in hot water. \$85 million project to heat UBC by hot water instead of steam is proposed. The conversion project is the largest of its kind in North America.

Coyote checklists lets residents know what's safe, and what's not. There are coyotes in UNA neighbourhoods like in many Vancouver neighbourhoods. Most coyotes are not dangerous, but residents who observe a wild coyote that they believe poses an immediate danger to humans should phone 911.



**Coyote**

Campaigns compete for signatures - for or against promontory site for a proposed hospice at UBC. An estimated 100 residents are in favour, about 400 are against.

Residents at UBC respond well to initial waste electronics drop-off site. Drop-off zone was in Save-on-Foods parking lot, where two large bins were collected.

Hold on housing plan hits UBC staff. Plan was for faculty and staff to co-develop 73 homes on campus with UBC. UBC is concerned about only first generation of owners enjoying benefit.

### 2012

Resident Jim Taylor receives medal for leading development of campus neighbourhoods. Mr. Taylor, founding chair of the UNA, was presented the Queen's Jubilee medal. Premier Christy Clark made the presentation.

Report recommends prompt action to end traffic and safety concerns on Wesbrook Mall. Report is prepared by traffic consultant for UBC, as two actions have already been taken against dangerous drivers.

UNA 'Listen in' series starts off in Wesbrook Place. Residents are expected to express opinions about development of campus community. UNA directors are excluded from speaking.

Design of new a Secondary School on UBC campus departs from long tradition. Classrooms are arranged in clusters, and a project space is located at centre of each cluster.



**Opening of University Hill Secondary School**

### 2013

Work of volunteers wins well-deserved praise. 226 volunteers are providing services to the UNA and Old Barn Community Centre. The number of hours worked by volunteers has increased significantly over five years.

UNA surplus surpasses the million-dollar mark. This is a "big number", says prominent businessman who lives at UBC. Staff is credited with "wise handling of our money."

Month of June means start of market at UBC Farm. The market is open on Saturdays at UBC Farm, and open on Wednesdays in the centre of campus.

Metro Directors discuss water rate relief for UBC consumers, but UEL surcharge stays for now. Discussion on 20% is held at committee meeting. Onus is on UBC and UEL to get talks on water agreement with Metro underway.

British Columbia Assembly applauds work of the UNA. MLA's are given an account of the UNA by the MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey, David Eby

'Public House' helps spur community growth. Mahony & Sons is located on University Boulevard and is in its seventh year of operation.



**Award recipients at the UNA Volunteer Awards**

### 2014

UBC has recruited a new planning leader. Michael White is the new planner, who held former planning roles in Vancouver and Abu Dhabi.

UNA adopts workplace policy against bullying. New policy is also against discrimination. It is compliant with new government regulations.

UNA funds Norma Rose Point School playground up to \$12,500. Directors were asked for \$100,000; \$250,00 in total is sought for playground.

Study starts on new Wesbrook Place exit. One-way northbound exit would be connected to West 16th Avenue across from Hampton Place. Roadway would be single lane.

'UFASTA' forms to give faculty/staff renters voice. Upwards of 1,000 campus residents are involved. The buildings which they live in are owned by UBC.

UBC RCMP group of volunteers 'gives back' to the community by donating blood. Others are encouraged to do the same. Two group donations were made not long ago.

UNA Neighbourhoods celebrate Lunar New Year. UNA residents were treated to two Lunar New Year festivals during the 15 days of Spring Festival. The UNA held their event on Saturday January 25 at the Old Barn Community Centre and Wesbrook Village held theirs on Saturday a week later through the neighbourhood.

The potential for development projects in the Chancellor Place neighbourhood continues to decline. Somerville House project is underway, and only three more projects are envisioned.

UBC executives engage new Chinese-speaking residents at 'welcome event'. More than 70 residents were in attendance; evening was entertaining as well as educational.



**Lion Dance performance at  
the UNA's Lunar New Year festival**

## 2015

Final ruling on new UEL home rests with Deputy Minister in Victoria. Development permit approval is contested by 13 neighbours. Public hearing is heard locally.

Multiculturalism helps family adjust to new life in Canada, a country well-known for its multicultural policies. Hundreds of thousands of immigrants are attracted here every year.

U-Hill Preschool teacher takes Prime Minister's award. Inspired by Mother Theresa, teacher comes from a family of educators and has an unconditional love for children.

Directors discuss noisy playstation in Chancellor Place; relocation of Iona Green playstation is proposed by a resident. UNA Directors vote unanimously to consider a proposal to relocate the playstation to another corner of Chancellor Place.



**Tour of the TRIUMF particle accelerator facility on UBC Campus**

English loses ground as the primary language on campus. Asian languages are on the incline. Fact come from UNA report on demographics.

Student tower at UBC takes wood to record heights. Tall wood building will be built across the road from Chancellor Place. The ambitious project required government approval.

Elections Advisory Committee presents a report to the UNA. In-person voting is coming to the UNA, however, it may not arrive in time for 2015 Annual General Meeting.

## 2016

UBC will no longer approve new high-rises designed without floors numbered 4 and 13. Floor numbering will not be changed in existing buildings, nor will it be changed in buildings under construction.

TRIUMF celebrates four decades of scientific discovery. Protons are accelerated to  $\frac{3}{4}$  speed of light. Cancer cells are attacked with high precision.

Local musicians make classical debut. The Archytas Quartet performed in a debut concert at Barnett Hall; three of the four musicians are UNA residents.

Trainee architects applaud innovative use of wood in Wesbrook Community Centre. Group is drawn to UBC from Portland, Oregon. Students are called 'Green Building Scholars'.

Cedar post on campus points to growing partnership between Musqueam and UBC. Dedication ceremony was one of the closing events of the UBC centennial year. The cedar post welcomes visitors to UBC and tells an original story of the Musqueam involving a two-headed serpent.

## 2017

Old BC Research site, which was closed in 2007, sees new life as a park at UBC. Proposed UBC Research park will be the fifth park in Wesbrook Place.

Parking problem in Hawthorn Place is laid bare. UNA Board support is sought to end problem. Position of many residents in Hawthorn Place is presented by strata councillor.

Towing policy promises fewer arguments on the street. System of 'release fees' is introduced. Five guidelines are stipulated.

UBC towers take heavy toll on bird population. Windows are the main hazard, as birds are unable to perceive glass as solid object.



**Cedar Post on campus, welcoming visitors to UBC**

Convincing Victory: UNA members approve new bylaws and constitution. UBC residents who had lobbied for democracy are the big winners. Bylaws and constitution are deemed in effect once they are registered with the Province.

UNA group gears up to recover 'unfair taxes' paid by residents. Analysis shows that in 2019, the UBC neighbourhoods paid approximately \$2.7 million more in property taxes to the Province than the values of services received in return.

Directors resolve to study sources of noise in Hawthorn Place. Landscape gardening is cited as an oppressive source of noise in neighbourhoods. An investigation is launched as to what can be done about it.

UNA Board brings fire tax issue back to life. Focus is on ridding 'unfair tax' paid by residents for fire protection services. Tax issue has been dormant for several years.

Life at UBC goes 'online' in the spring. Students and staff are sent home, and told not to return until they were well protected against the ravages of a new Coronavirus, COVID-19. Mitigation techniques include

## 2018

Stadium Road petitioners press UBC for second meeting. Meeting is sought with officials about UBC plan to develop sixth residential district on campus. Interest by the public in this project is intense.

UBC is delighted with rapid transit to Arbutus, but asks, "Why stop there?" Funding approved of the Millennium Line is significant milestone for transit in Vancouver.

The UBC community celebrates legacy of Dr. Michael Smith, Nobel Prize winner. The largest park in Wesbrook Place is named in honour of the late UBC professor, who was one of the world's greatest scientists. A humble man, Dr. Smith was known for his humanity.

Chancellor Place resident Thomas Beyer is appointed member-at-large on the new UNA-UBC liaison committee. Mr. Beyer is a successful businessman and a former director of the UNA Board. He met tough requirements getting the position.

Members of the UNA roundly defeat special resolution on proposed bylaws. UBC is sent a strong message — campus residents want more democracy in the way their community is run.

## 2019

Stratas have final say on short-term rentals through bylaws. Stratas can create bylaws to limit or ban short-term rentals. Province gives stratas effective mechanism to enforce short-term rental bylaws with fines of up to \$1,000 a day.

Publican pulls last pint at Irish pub on UBC campus. Mahony and Sons brought authentic touch of Ireland to campus. Pub closed on August 1 with no reason given for closure.

UBC students launch petition in support of updated Stadium Road Neighbourhood Plan. Petition cites need for affordable housing option for students, faculty and staff. For the most part, residents oppose increase in density.

Car accident in Hawthorn Place calls attention to dangerous crosswalk. Four cars were involved, where emergency medical teams attended.

City of Vancouver starts Jericho Lands site planning. Millennia ago, Jericho Lands was a small native village on the Point Grey peninsula. Vancouver City planners now envision this land as the site of 'an urban village of the next century'.

Accessibility to facilities at Wesbrook Community Centre is certified gold. Accessibility review was conducted at the request of the UNA. The certification is good for five years.

## 2020

wearing face masks, practising social distancing (keeping at least six feet between them and the next person) and frequent washing of hands.

UBC and the UNA join efforts to collect stories from their communities about how they were coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. Organizers believed hearing these perspectives could be both inspiring and reassuring.

Wesbrook YMCA Childcare Centre opens in Wesbrook Village.

At press time, the outbreak of COVID-19 was still at—or near—its peak. However, normal behaviour was returning with more UNA facilities reopening. As part of the UNA's safe re-opening plan, the Wesbrook Community Centre fitness facility and the Green Depot were re-opened with protective measures in place.



**Screen photo of students with UBC President Santa Ono, during virtual convocation.**



*Happy  
Holidays!*

Wishing you and  
your family a  
joyous holiday  
season



The Hon. Joyce Murray, MP,  
Vancouver Quadra

[joyce.murray@parl.gc.ca](mailto:joyce.murray@parl.gc.ca)



## Apply to be part of the new UNA Community Engagement Advisory Committee

The UNA Board of Directors is establishing a Community Engagement Advisory Committee that will represent community interests in providing advice to the Board on matters related to improving the engagement of University Neighbourhoods residents at the community level.

The committee is to assist the Board in identifying and implementing initiatives that will improve the levels and effectiveness of resident participation in community life, with a view towards improving the overall quality of life in the University Neighbourhoods.

You are encouraged to apply if you are a UNA resident member with interests specific to community development, engagement and consultation, including:

- Recruiting and organizing UNA residents with appropriate experience who are interested in participating in UNA advisory committees and working groups;

- Designing and delivering inclusive community engagement and consultation programs;
- Promoting sustainable decisions by recognizing the needs and interests of all community members, including decision makers;
- Finding ways to improve UNA residents' level of engagement and involvement in community life;
- Working with boards and administrations in improving their effectiveness in dealing with community engagement and consultation processes.

The committee will serve with an appointed chair from the Board and will have support from UNA staff. There are four spots to fill in this committee and the term of appointment is two years. This is a volunteer committee that will serve without compensation.

All interested parties are asked to please submit a resume and cover letter addressed to the UNA Board of Directors to [communications@myuna.ca](mailto:communications@myuna.ca) before January 15, 2021.