

# THE CAMPUS RESIDENT

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## Companies Compete for Right to Sell Cannabis on UEL, Steps from UBC



Another change of land use application on the University Endowment Lands, at the former Bubble Waffle Cafe location.

*Neighbours are asked for comments; second company is brought into the fray*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

A second company has applied for the right to sell cannabis from a vacant store on the University Endowment Lands, and like the first store, the second lies steps from UBC.

The new applicant is Atheneum Cannabis, which lists its head office at 2431 West 41st Avenue—in the heart of Kerrisdale. The first applicant was BURB Cannabis, managed in the suburbs of Port Moody and Port Coquitlam.

Advertising at the Atheneum website offers

the following:

- Taking the time to understand the cultivation methodology and processing techniques of our core suppliers to ensure our quality standards are met and that products are appropriately priced.
- Doing our part to 'Break through the cannabis Stigma' by staying informed of the latest advancements and breakthroughs in the industry, as we continue to learn more about the holistic nature of this incredibly misunderstood plant.
- Listening to our customers. We are always listening to our customers requests and experiences to ensure that we maintain relevant and tailored offerings for our local community.

In comparison, advertising at the BURB website reads as follows:

- Our stores are designed with the customer in mind. We've purposely chosen to "de-tech" in favour of an authentic experience.

You won't find screens or associates glued to iPads. Instead, you'll receive personalized service and thoughtful information regarding cannabis, in a retail environment that will leave you feeling calm and confident.

- The BC Government has deemed cannabis retail an essential service. In response, we will be operating all locations under the health and safety guidelines outlined by the Public Health Agency of Canada. It is our top priority to provide a safe environment for our staff and customers and we are taking every possible precaution.

Information given by the UEL Community Advisory Council at a public meeting in May provided the BURB name. More information about the companies is expected to be made public at another meeting June 21.

**COMPETE continued on Page 3**

## Residents Rally but Achieve Little at UNA Board Meeting

*Anti-cannabis petition was launched online; impassioned speeches were made*

A delegation of residents did little but evoke sympathy for their cause at a UNA Board meeting on June 15.

The delegates attended the meeting to protest the possibility of a cannabis company being granted the right to set up shop in the University Endowment Lands, steps from UBC.

The provincial government—which manages the UEL—is taking steps to properly handle the applications of two companies seeking licenses, and this includes measuring the pulse of the community, part of which are those living or working in University Marketplace.

The issue has garnered wide-spread interest, in large part because of the proximity of the companies to UBC—where over 60,000 people are studying, pandemic permitting.

The June UNA Board meeting began with a leader of the anti-cannabis petition, stating they were a strong group. When asked by a UNA director how strong, the petition leader said, "Over 1,000 signatures. Very strong."

This was later amended upward to 1,300. At the same time, a Director questioned where all these signatures were gathered. The answer given was "all over the world."

Another round of questions and answers revealed how child-rich UBC was K to 12. The answer: "About 2,600 children in three elementary schools."

Fifteen minutes were dedicated to discussion, and at the end of it, UNA Chair Richard Watson invited members of the Board to place a motion on the table so that it could be voted on.

When no Director responded, Mr. Watson said, "Well, we will leave it there then." He then closed the meeting.

**UBC AND BC's RESTART PLANS:**

See details on pages 4+5



## Former Resident of China Revels in Life in Canada

Canada Day, July 1, 2021 draws near, and as it does, people pause to reflect on what a magnificent country this is. Many of those who do this come from the Far East. Ying Zhou came to Canada from China, and she has found here a joy in living. A resident of the University of British Columbia (Chancellor Place) and an assistant to Joyce Murray, Member of Parliament for Vancouver-Quadra and Minister of Digital Government, Ying agreed to talk to *The Campus Resident* about her experiences in Canada.

### What do you enjoy most about living in Canada?

I enjoy most the opportunities of a free lifestyle—to balance my family life, career and hobbies.

For the past 12 years, my daughters and I have spent as much time as possible growing up together. My elder daughter went to UBC at the age of 15, and graduated from the UBC Sauder School of Business last year. My younger one will go to U-hill Secondary School in September, after four years at the Multi-age cluster class. I really appreciate Canada's educational system; it can provide a variety of programs for children with different needs.

I have been working at MP Joyce Murray's office for one and half years. It is totally a new experience and challenge for me, especially during the recent COVID-19 times. I have worked at the office the majority of the time, and quickly learned how to deal

with difficult situations and complicated issues. Our office has supported many residents facing immigrant & visa related issues, as well as Canada Revenue Agency and Service Canada. We have tried our best to support the Quadra constituency, and provide updated information regarding federal policies & programs.

I enjoy sports and pursue an athletic dream. This year, I received a Ski Instructor's license from the Canadian Ski Instructors' Alliance. It was a much more interesting license for me compared to the Canadian Finance Service's certification awarded several years ago.

Canada is a magical place for enjoying a colorful life, especially living on the UBC campus. I can play badminton several days a week, go swimming occasionally, run at the running track and go hiking. My next plan is to learn how to sail this summer.

### How would you describe what sort of Canada is as a country?

To me, Canada is a country full of possibilities. You have many options at any age with any backgrounds. I immigrated to Canada middle-aged, then I continued to pursue my career as an Investment Advisor at RBC Royal Bank. On a separate occasion, I changed my professional direction to run for a seat on the UNA Board when I realized that the board needed a voice who can make the voices of others heard, and this bridged the culture gap. Also, I can



Ying Zhou with her two daughters.



Ying Zhou with her daughter, playing in the snow.



Ying Zhou with friends and community members at the Wesbrook Community Centre.

work for the MP's office and understand more of the federal policies and how to service the constituencies.

For many new immigrants with similar backgrounds as me, I would like to encourage them to look forward and get involved in your community when moving to a new country. When I was asked what will happen if I was still in China, I always told them no "ifs" for me in my dictionary.

### What do you hope your children will see 30 years from now?

I hope that Canada can be safer for immigrants and newcomers. With the increase of anti-Asian racism, Asian children and parents are feeling more and more insecure. Even though English is the first language of my younger daughter, I still need to remind her to keep away from strangers when she goes to school on a bus or walking by herself on campus.

I hope that Canada can provide more equal

opportunities for youth, young professionals, university graduates, all of diverse backgrounds, giving equal job opportunities to all, regardless of their family name.

### What has been your most productive experience since you came to Canada in 2009?

The most productive experience has been the opportunity to get involved into elections and understand more about democracy. When I ran for election of the UNA Board before I became a Canadian citizen, I was deeply impressed by the open-mindedness of our community. My life was enriched and changed after serving on the UNA Board. I feel so lucky that I met with so many outstanding mentors, who spent lots of time and energy on coaching me to overcome the learning curve. It will be hard for me to list all the names, so I just want to mention one name, Jim Taylor, the founding chair of the UNA Board, who gave me tremendous support at the beginning, and gave me advice on the board issues even up to the month before he passed away. For these six years on the UNA Board, I learned how to combine my personal skills together with my previous work & life experience, working with board members, to strengthen the relationships among the Board, UNA staff, residents and UBC. It was great to witness to the fast growth of the UNA, with the first strategic plan in 2018, and the implemented bylaws in 2020.

### Short Biography

I immigrated to Canada 12 years ago with my family from Mainland China. My work experience includes more than a decade in major financial institutions in China and with RBC Wealth Management in Vancouver. Before I started working for Minister Murray as a Constituency Assistant, I served the UNA Board as elected Resident Director from 2013 to 2019, including three years as Treasurer and two years as Board Chair. I was Co-chair of the Parent Advisory Council of the University Transition Program from 2013 to 2015. I was awarded the Hidden Hero award from MP Joyce Murray's office in 2019.

# THE CAMPUS RESIDENT

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## Canadian Multicultural Celebrations

Canadian Multiculturalism Day is celebrated every year on June 27. The national holiday was created in 2002 to acknowledge the wealth of diversity and enriching cultures which make up the country. This year, the UNA is hosting a series of events from June 28 – July 2 to celebrate the diversity of Canada and our local community.

### Canadian Multicultural Day Art Show

**Submission dates:** June 6 to June 27  
**Submission ages:** 10 – 18  
**Show:** July 1 (11 am – 4 pm) | All Ages

Youth are invited to submit an original piece of artwork based on the prompt, "What does Canada mean to you?". Two winners will each be awarded a prize of \$100 to Opus Art Supplies and will have their work featured on the back cover of the next UNA recreation program guide. Submissions are open from June 6 to June 27. All works will be displayed in a gallery outside the Wesbrook Community Centre on July 1. Registration is not required for this show. If you have any questions, please contact [claire.shepansky@myuna.ca](mailto:claire.shepansky@myuna.ca).

**How to enter:** Create an original piece of work in any medium that can be submitted physically (painting, photography prints, mixed media etc.).

Bring your piece to the Wesbrook Community Centre Lounge with a note that clearly lists your name, age, contact information and a 50-word summary of your piece.

### Colouring Contest: Indigenous Peoples Day

**Submissions:** Open until June 18, 2021.  
**Ages:** 0-9  
**Display:** Starting June 23 at Wesbrook Community Centre

To celebrate National Indigenous Peoples

Day, the UNA is running a colouring contest with colouring pages provided by Native Northwest. Four lucky winners will receive a prize pack of books and games created by indigenous artists.

### Community of Caring Cookbook Launch

**Date:** June 28 from 5 – 6 pm  
**Ages:** 16+

The Community of Caring Cookbook has arrived, and we are joining together to launch this exciting community project! In response to COVID-19, the Youth Leadership Program has curated various recipes and stories from our community members in UNA neighbourhoods. Join us for this launch event to hear stories from your neighbours, watch demonstrations from contributors and celebrate multiculturalism in the UNA community! Participants will also have a chance to share their own stories, food, pictures, and anything related to food and culture.

### In My Kitchen: Italian Umbrian Feast

**Date:** July 2 from 6 – 7 pm  
**Ages:** All Ages (children under 16 must participate with an adult)

Prepare to be transported to Umbria and where you will cook virtually with Melissa in her family kitchen. As she shares stories and traditions of her family you will be creating some delicious dishes from recipes that have been passed down through generations. You will begin with a time-honored tradition of making Melissa's favorite fresh pasta, Ricotta Gnocchi, while your fresh tomato sauce, Sugo di Pomodoro, slowly simmers to perfection on the stove top. In My Kitchen is an interactive, virtual cooking class.

To learn more about all of these events being held virtually and at Wesbrook Community Centre, please visit [myuna.ca/canadian-multicultural-celebrations/](https://myuna.ca/canadian-multicultural-celebrations/)

### COMPETE continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, the CAC is encouraging UEL residents—renters as well as owners—to submit their views on whether a pot shop in the UEL community is a welcome or an unwelcome development.

Some commentators have noted the effects of smoking marijuana on UBC students could be construed from a mostly negative perspective. Inserted below is a letter from a UEL neighbour urging fellow neighbours to offer their comments to the CAC.

Dear Neighbours,

We would like to bring to your attention the two Cannabis retail stores that have submitted change of land use applications. Currently, they both have boards up at the village (where McDonalds and Staples are). Burb Cannabis is proposing to use the Copy Smart store space, while Atheneum Cannabis is proposing to use the Bubble Waffle Cafe store space.

If you have any comments about Cannabis retailers opening in our neighbourhood, I would highly recommend you to send an email following the below instructions (please ensure you follow with the instructions as deviation may mean your comments will be disregarded because as these emails/letters are addressed to the government, there are rules we have to comply with to ensure it has effect).

1. Please ensure to send two separate emails/letters as there are two different Cannabis stores making proposals. I.e., sending one email/letter covering both Cannabis retail stores will not be sufficient and your

comment will likely be disregarded. That being said, even if your content is the same for both Cannabis retail stores, it is ok, as long as you send them separately, addressing the two stores separately.

2. Please ensure you email the following people together:

To: [PlanUEL@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PlanUEL@gov.bc.ca)  
CC: [areaajen@gmail.com](mailto:areaajen@gmail.com); [uelcac@gmail.com](mailto:uelcac@gmail.com); [david.eby.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:david.eby.mla@leg.bc.ca)

3. Please be aware the comments period will be over very soon (the deadline for the first Cannabis Store, Burb, is due 6/9/2021 before 4:00 pm) so we would urge you to send your email out as soon as possible.

Sent via email: [PlanUEL@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PlanUEL@gov.bc.ca)

A second letter in circulation is addressed to Jonn Braman, UEL Manager.

I am writing this letter to provide comments for two processes, namely rezoning by the University Endowment Lands (UEL) and licensing recommendations by Metro Vancouver Regional District to the B.C. Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB).

Some examples of reasons may include but are not limited to:

- I am worried about the wellbeing and safety of my children.
- This neighbourhood is surrounded by a huge student population and the opening of a cannabis store may negatively affect the health and safety of these young individuals.
- There is an easily accessible cannabis store that is located on W 10th avenue that is less than 3km away from UBC campus. People who want to purchase cannabis can shop in that store.



## World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

Let us celebrate the wealth of knowledge and life experiences our Seniors bring to our community.

Tuktu brings people together to support, safeguard and empower our Seniors.

Learn more at [www.tuktu.ca](http://www.tuktu.ca)  
or call 1 888-444-5945



Tuktu

Show seniors you care #BCCRNWEAAD2021

# BC'S RESTART: A PLAN TO BRING US BACK TOGETHER



*Plan will be guided by data, not dates; COVID-19 both numbers of case counts and hospitalizations are steadily declining*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

With more than 76% of adults vaccinated with their first dose and COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations steadily declining, British Columbia is moving forward with the cautious first step of a four-step plan for a careful and safe restart.

“British Columbians have sacrificed so much over the last 15 months to help keep people and our communities safe,” said Premier John Horgan. “We have made tremendous strides with our vaccination program, and we are now in a position where we can move forward with a plan to slowly bring us back together. As we have done throughout this pandemic, we will be closely following the guidance of public health and supporting people and businesses as we take the next steps in putting this pandemic behind us.”

BC's Restart – a four-step plan to bring B.C. back together – will be a slow and gradual return to a more normal life, with safety and health protocols such as mask wearing and physical distancing remaining in place and mandatory during the initial two steps of the plan.

The four-step plan was designed based on data and guidance from the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer (PHO). Progressing through the steps will be measured by the number of adults vaccinated, COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations and deaths, taking into account clusters and outbreaks. While there are approximate dates, the plan will be guided by data, not dates, and will not proceed to the next step until it is safe to do so based on guidance from public health and the latest available data.

“We have been on a long and tiring journey, and now we can start to chart our path forward to brighter days ahead,” Henry said. “To be successful in this next phase of the pandemic, we need to keep COVID-19 low and slow. To do that, we need to be slow and measured in our approach, gradually turning up the dial on how we spend time together – whether that is socializing with family, going to work or visiting friends.”

The step-by-step plan will follow approximate timelines and will ease people and businesses slowly out of the pandemic. The four steps are:

#### **Step 1: May 25 - (milestone reached)**

- 60% of adult population with Dose 1

- COVID-19 cases stable, hospitalizations stable
- Maximum of five visitors or one household allowed for indoor personal gatherings
- Maximum of 10 people for outdoor personal gatherings
- Maximum of 10 people for seated indoor organized gatherings with safety protocols
- Maximum of 50 people for seated outdoor organized gatherings with safety protocols
- Recreational travel only within travel region (travel restrictions extended)
- Indoor and outdoor dining for up to six people with safety protocols
- Resume outdoor sports (games) with no spectators, low-intensity fitness with safety protocols
- Start gradual return to workplaces
- Provincewide mask mandate, business safety protocols and physical distancing measures remain in place
- Return of indoor in-person faith-based gatherings (reduced capacity) based on consultation with public health

#### **Step 2: Mid-June (June 15 – earliest date - milestone reached)**

- 65% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases declining, COVID-19 hospitalizations declining
- Maximum of 50 people for outdoor social gatherings
- Maximum of 50 people for seated indoor organized gatherings (banquet halls, movie theatres, live theatre) with safety protocols
- Consultation process to prepare for larger indoor and outdoor gatherings with safety protocols
- No B.C. travel restrictions – check local travel advisories
- Indoor sports (games) and high-intensity fitness with safety protocols
- Spectators for outdoor sports (50 maximum)
- Provincewide mask mandate, business safety protocols and physical distancing measures remain in place

#### **Step 3: Early July (July 1 – earliest date)**

- 70% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases low, COVID-19 hospitalizations declining
- Provincial state of emergency and public health emergency lifted
- Returning to usual for indoor and outdoor personal gatherings
- Increased capacity for indoor and outdoor organized gatherings, with safety plans
- Nightclubs and casinos reopen with capacity limits and safety plans
- New public health and workplace guidance around personal protective equipment, physical distancing and business protocols

#### **Step 4: Early September (Sept. 7 – earliest date)**

- More than 70% of adult population with Dose 1
- Cases low and stable (contained clusters), COVID-19 hospitalizations low
- Returning to normal social contact
- Increased capacity at larger organized

gatherings

- No limits on indoor and outdoor spectators at sports
- Businesses operating with new safety plans
- In-class K-12 education will continue to operate under existing safety protocols for steps 1 and 2. In preparation for the return to classes in the fall, the COVID-19 education steering committee will work with public health officials to update safety guidelines.

The government is formally extending the provincial state of emergency through the end of the day on June 22, 2021, allowing health and emergency management

officials to continue to use extraordinary powers under the Emergency Program Act to support the Province's COVID-19 pandemic response. The original declaration was made on March 18, 2020, the day after Henry declared a public health emergency, and can be extended for periods of up to 14 days at a time.

Although BC-wide recreational travel is now allowed, Canada-wide recreational travel restrictions will continue to be enforced until Step 3 of the four-step plan.

**(Last updated June 18, 2021.)**

## **Men's Community Network**

### **GET OUT! GET MOVING!**

Any time is a good time to get fit. But following the terrible 18-month Covid doldrums it is even more important to get out and enjoy the freedom while getting in shape.

MCN is again beginning the walking, hiking, and biking that it initiated last year. With Covid restrictions lifting we intend to schedule these activities starting early to mid July. For updates on our activities please check the following.

#### **MCN Facebook:**

Men's Community Network Engagement (friend/friend request)

#### **Email:**

[menscommunity@yahoo.com](mailto:menscommunity@yahoo.com) (get on our mailing list)

The aim of the Men's Community Network is to encourage and engage men in common activities. While this is predominantly for the benefit of men we do include and encourage women and others to join some of our group activities.

#### **Hiking:**

*Open to men, & women of all ages. Seniors and teens are welcome.*

Hiking will be on trails in the Greater Vancouver Area and North Shore mountains. Led by Mohsen Naseri, an experienced hiker who is intimately familiar with local trails. Participants will be informed beforehand of the hike date, length, and difficulty of the route. The hikes will be held on the first and third weekend of each month. We will try to accommodate persons requiring transportation. Visit our Facebook page for details of the Norvan Falls hike on July 3.

#### **Biking:**

*Open to men, & women of all ages. Seniors and teens are welcome.*

Biking will be strictly local within the immediate UBC area and will accommodate all levels of skill. This is Casual Biking only. Most rides will be 40 to 60 minutes, late afternoon, weather permitting. Nils Bradley leads this group and will take place each week starting 6pm, July 7th.

#### **Walking:**

*Men only - all ages. Seniors welcome.*

Walking will be mostly through the Pacific Park area and will be held every week. Day and time TBA.

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All activities will be in accordance with current Covid precautions and weather permitting.

LETTER FROM UBC PRESIDENT

# See You on Campus this Fall?

Earlier this month, we celebrated Spring Graduation. As was the case last year, the event took place online. Nonetheless, it was a joyous occasion, not only for the graduates and their families, but for all of us.

Thinking of our graduating students and their proud families always fills me with joy. Graduation is a time of celebration and a time to come together as a community, whether in person or online.

I am hoping that the Fall graduation ceremony will once again be in person. Last month, the provincial government unveiled its BC’s Restart plan, a four-step plan to get the province back to normal. The plan, which is contingent on favourable vaccination rates, case counts and hospitalizations, calls for normal social contact, fully reopened workplaces and increased capacity at organized gatherings by as soon as September 7, just in time for the start of the 2021-22 academic year.

But in order to achieve this, as many of us need to be vaccinated as possible. We are now seeing steady reductions in COVID-19 case counts, declining COVID-19 hospitalizations, and increased vaccinations. It looks like everyone in the province will have the chance to be fully vaccinated by the end of August. If you haven’t registered for vaccination yet, I urge you to do so as soon as possible. It’s quick, and convenient, and it will help us all get back to normal.

At UBC, we have been watching the course of the COVID-19 pandemic carefully and

continue to work closely on our plans with public health officials at the provincial and regional levels. We feel optimistic that UBC will be able to safely welcome our students, faculty and staff back to campus in the Fall.

We appreciate that many members of our community will have questions, and some may be uneasy about a potential return to campus. It is important to reiterate that the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, faculty and staff remain our first priority. As we continue to take guidance from the provincial government and public health officials, we are also prepared to update our approach as required.

Faculties are currently finalizing the fall course schedules, assuming primarily on-campus instruction, with selected flexible options for continuity of learning where feasible.

We are developing guidance for heads and directors, supervisors, and managers to help identify and support those faculty and staff who will transition back to campus over the summer months to prepare for the arrival of students and the start of classes in September — supporting in-person instruction and other key activities and services. UBC’s research activity will also continue to increase.

Key to our approach for returning to campus is a robust safety planning process — in order to ensure the health and safety of our community. We anticipate that the fol-



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

lowing measures will remain in place:

- Completing a daily COVID-19 self-assessment and not attending work or school when ill;
- Following handwashing and hygiene protocols;
- Continuing daily cleaning protocols in indoor settings and on high touch surfaces; and
- Requiring non-medical masks in indoor common areas, depending on the rate of COVID-19 transmission.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported the university over the last year.

Many have continued to study and work on campus and others have studied and worked remotely. Wherever we have been located, we have all been enormously challenged.

We are seeing a brighter road ahead, and I am confident that together we will successfully, and safely, transition back to campus for the fall academic term.

I hope to see you on campus this fall.

**Santa J. Ono**  
**President and Vice-Chancellor**  
**The University of British Columbia**

## UBC Unveils Plan to Restart in September

*UBC plan aligns with Province-wide plan*

Fifteen months ago, faculty and staff at the University of British Columbia saw their research, teaching and work change in ways they’d never imagined due to COVID-19.

Now, with public health leaders confident in the safe resumption of on-campus activities by post-secondary institutions, progress in the provincial vaccination program, public health measures and declines in COVID-19 case counts and hospitalizations, UBC is outlining its phased approach to support faculty and staff returning to campus in preparation for the 2021/22 school year starting in Sept. This approach reflects listening sessions with faculty and staff, and other feedback from the UBC community.

“I would like to take this opportunity to thank those faculty and staff who have been on campus throughout the pandemic, providing key aspects of UBC teaching, learning, research and operations,” says UBC President Santa Ono. “Together we will bring vibrancy to our campuses, as we see the increased resumption of in-person teaching, learning, and research activity this fall.”

The planning reflects recent guidance from the provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, the Regional Health Authorities and the BC Centre for Disease Control, outlined in the *COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Prim-*

*er* and the provincial government’s recently published *BC’s Restart plan*.

The plan details a phased approach to re-starting social connections, businesses, and activities and details a return to normal social contact starting September 7, provided more than 70% of the 18+ population has received an initial vaccine dose — along with low case counts and low COVID-19 hospitalizations.

UBC’s phased approach will allow for the operational needs of each faculty and administrative unit. All units will need to have an approved COVID-19 safety plan in place.

• **Phase #1 (June-July):** Faculty and staff who are required on campus to support instructional and operational planning or preparation for the 2021/22 Winter Session will be advised of their return date.

• **Phase #2 (July-August):** Faculty and staff who are required on campus to prepare for direct, in-person teaching, learning, student support and other activities for the 2021/22 Winter Session will begin to transition back to campus.

• **Employees who are not required to return to campus as part of Phase #1 or #2 – but who wish to return earlier** – should discuss this with their deans, vice-presidents, associate vice-presidents, department heads, directors and supervisors, who will be responsible for making these decisions.

With safety as a priority, a revised *COV-*

*ID-19 Safety Planning Framework* is being developed to align with the *COVID-19 Return-to-Campus Primer* and *BC’s Restart plan*. This revised framework and accompanying guidance documents will allow the university to maintain a safe learning and working environment, reduce administrative burden, and ensure compliance with Provincial Health Officer Orders and Work-SafeBC regulations.

The framework will be available following updated guidelines from the provincial government in early July.

Some faculty and staff have raised concerns about building ventilation. A heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) working group is currently assessing building ventilation systems and forming recommendations based on information from the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Work-SafeBC, and the BC Centre for Disease Control to ensure a high standard of safety and to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

UBC Building Operations will continue the cleaning of high-touch surfaces and hand sanitizing stations will remain in place.

In addition to conducting daily self-administered health checks, staying home when sick, wearing a non-medical mask when required, and washing hands often, the university is encouraging everyone in its com-

munity to participate in the provincial COVID-19 vaccination program.

“Every adult in BC is eligible to be vaccinated. Now is the time to support each other and raise the rate of immunization,” said Ono. “If you haven’t yet received your vaccine, please register and encourage your families and friends to join the ‘*This is our shot*’ campaign at [www.thisisourshot.ca](http://www.thisisourshot.ca).”

“While our campuses are safe for our return, in alignment with public health guidelines, there may be some members of our community who have medical conditions affecting their transition back to campus,” said Ono. “There are existing processes to address these concerns, and we will continue to support faculty and staff who are affected by these situations. In addition, those faculty and staff who may be experiencing anxiety can access support for mental health and wellbeing at [www.hr.ubc.ca/health-and-wellbeing/mental-health/faculty-and-staff-mental-health-resources](http://www.hr.ubc.ca/health-and-wellbeing/mental-health/faculty-and-staff-mental-health-resources).”

“For more than a year now, faculty and staff have stepped up to the challenges presented by COVID-19. Thank you for your ongoing patience and adaptability, and for continuing to provide the high quality of teaching, learning, and research that UBC is known for. We look ahead to the fall with a continued commitment to the health and safety of our community, and with hope and excitement for welcoming back our students,” said Ono.

# New Subway Stations Speak of ‘Things to Come’

*New rapid transit line along Broadway is scheduled for launch 2025; major construction is underway*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

A heap of dirt tells the story, and this heap—not too big—lies just inside the wire fencing which since June 2 has sealed off two vacant blocks of Arbutus Street at Broadway.

Major construction will commence on these blocks shortly, and two to three years from now as gravel becomes concrete, commuters will likely consider the rapid transit station here a work of infrastructural art.

The organizers of the Broadway Subway Project—the Federal Government, Provincial Government and Municipal Government—will spend 3.8 billion dollars laying the groundwork of a new Broadway Subway Station project that consists of six stations and a line connecting them, and while this is a huge amount of money, an even larger amount will need to be spent on a second rapid transit project.

This second project is—also in the billions of dollars category—ambitiously conceived in fetching rapid transit further—from the same point in Vancouver (Arbutus) all the way to UBC.

The Broadway Subway Project is a 5.7 km extension of the Millennium Line, from Vancouver Community College-Clark Station to Broadway and Arbutus. According to

its partners, it will provide fast, frequent and convenient SkyTrain service to B.C.’s second largest jobs centre, world-class health services, an emerging innovation and research hub, and growing residential communities. The following facts are envisioned:

- 700 metres will be elevated, extending from VCC-Clark Station to a tunnel portal near Great Northern Way
- Five kilometres will be tunneled below the Broadway Corridor from Great Northern Way to Arbutus Street
- Six underground stations will connect communities and the region, including a direct underground connection to the Canada Line at Cambie Street
- The 99 B-Line bus service will connect Arbutus Street and the University of British Columbia

Early work has already begun. Construction of the elevated guideway, stations, and tunnel portal is scheduled to begin immediately with the extension in service in 2025.

Two Open Houses were held during the planning stage of the six stations. The purpose of the Station Design Open House #2 was to summarize the feedback received from the first Open House and to present proposed final station designs, including additional details about landscaping, available information on station art, next steps for construction, and information on how to stay involved.

Feedback which has been received will be provided as input to the City of Vancouver’s design advisory process to contribute towards the urban integration of the stations and will be considered by the Project in finalizing the station designs.

The Broadway Subway Project is funded



Artistic rendering of Arbutus Station street level.  
Photo credit Government of BC.



Project and construction signage.

and delivered by the Government of B.C. with contributions from the Government of Canada and the City of Vancouver.

The Broadway Subway Project is a key part of the rapid transit program in Metro Vancouver’s Mayors’ Council 10-Year Vision. The Vision is funded by the governments of B.C. and Canada, TransLink, and local municipalities.

Once constructed, the project will operate as an extension of the existing Millennium Line and will be integrated with the regional transit network and operated and maintained by TransLink.

The Broadway Subway Project Corporation is a joint venture of ACCIONA-Ghella that will design and build the Project.

Once open in 2025, the commute from VCC-Clark to Arbutus Station will take 11 minutes, saving the average transit commuter almost 30 minutes a day and relieving traffic congestion along Broadway.

With Broadway Subway project site preparations underway and major construction beginning, the updated street-level designs of the six new Broadway Subway stations

were available for public feedback.

The online Open House of the proposed station designs began on April 29, 2021, and ran through May 12. The project team was asking for input on the above-ground station features, including entrances, the adjacent plazas and other street-level aspects of the stations, as part of the station’s design advisory process, developed in collaboration with the City of Vancouver.

The first online Open House on station design was held in the fall of 2020. In response to public participation and feedback from project partners, the station designs have been updated to include:

- improved lighting;
- accessible paving treatments (tactile, coloured, slip-resistant) to make station access safer for all;
- reconfigured bike parking amenities;
- enhanced seating in exterior station plazas; and
- better integration with the neighbourhood and design features to provide a sense of place.

Input from this second online open house will be considered in finalizing the station’s street-level designs.



Broadway Subway Project construction begins at Arbutus Street.

**UNA** UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOODS ASSOCIATION

## Apply to be part of the new UNA Land Use Advisory Committee

The UNA Board of Directors is establishing a Land Use Advisory Committee to serve as an advisory committee to the Board regarding land use planning and development on the UBC Campus, as well as to act as a forum to facilitate discussions on land use planning and development with residents.

You are encouraged to apply if you are a UNA resident member motivated to help build community and have specific knowledge in one or more of the following areas:

- Accessibility
- Active Transportation
- Agriculture
- Architectural design
- Children and youth
- Community planning
- Construction/development
- Education
- Environmental matters
- Land development/construction
- Landscape design
- Recreation
- Sustainability
- Urban Planning

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

For the Land Use Advisory Committee’s Terms of Reference, please visit: [myuna.ca/una-committees](https://myuna.ca/una-committees).

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 **September 3, 2021**.

# Angus Reid Poll Pulls No Punches on Shocking Scale of Anti-Asian Racism in Canada

*Poll results are revealed on eve of national forum by UBC; comments by UBC president Santa Ono are included*

**John Tompkins**  
Editor

A new Angus Reid Institute poll (in partnership with UBC) has revealed the shocking depth and scale of anti-Asian racism in Canada and the experiences of racism in the Asian community.

Release of the Angus Reid Institute poll came on the eve of the University of British Columbia's National Forum on Anti-Asian Racism in Canada, June 10-11, 2021.

Key among the poll findings is that Canadians of Asian descent aged 18 to 34 are most likely to have experienced, and been affected by, anti-Asian racism and bigotry over the last year.

The ARI study canvassed the opinions of Canadians of non-Asian and Asian ethnicity and found that a majority (58%) of the latter group has experienced at least one of a range of situations related to anti-Asian discrimination in the last year, while more than one-in-four (28%) report exposure to these situations "all the time" or "often".

Notably, however, not all Asian Canadians have experienced the same level and

intensity of bigotry over the past year.

According to ARI's Anti-Asian Discrimination Index (AADI), respondents of Asian (including Chinese) descent fall into one of three categories, the *Hardest Hit* (31%), the *Exposed* (35%) and the *Unaffected* (35%).

Asian Canadians who are older (55+) and have higher incomes are more likely to be among the *Unaffected* while the *Hardest Hit* are more likely to be younger (aged 18-34) and lower income.

Other findings include:

- Asked for their reaction to discrimination over the past year or so, 53 per cent of Asian Canadians said it has been hurtful and stays with them. Two-in-five (38%) are troubled but able to put it aside, while nine per cent have not been impacted.

- Few Asian Canadians say the discrimination they experience is institutional. The vast majority (86%) say they have not received poor or unfair treatment by institutional organizations such as local police, the health care system, banks, or the justice system
- 79 per cent of non-Asian Canadians say that they view Asian Canadians as warm and friendly, while half (50%) say that they feel this group is often mistreated in Canada
- That said, one-in-five non-Asian Canadians say that they feel most or all Asian Canadians do not contribute to the broader community. More (one-quarter) say many or most Asian Canadians do not make an effort to fit into broader Canadian society.

- One-in-three non-Asian respondents say Chinese Canadians are more loyal to China

than to Canada regarding issues of bilateral conflict between the two nations. Just seven per cent of Chinese Canadians say this is actually the case

- Nearly the identical number of Asian (20%) and non-Asian Canadians (17%) say that they would prefer if the community they live in was people from their own race or ethnicity

- Asian and non-Asian Canadians tend to agree that this issue will take another generation to solve. Three-in-five among each group say this is the case, while one-in-four Asian Canadians (26%) do not think Canada will ever overcome some of its discriminatory practices and prejudices – 10 points higher than non-Asians (16%)

The full poll data is available at [www.angusreid.org/anti-asian-discrimination](http://www.angusreid.org/anti-asian-discrimination).

The National Forum on Anti-Asian Racism in Canada considered the implications of the poll and how to address them June 10-11.

"The discussions this week are crucial," said UBC President Santa Ono. "Through open conversations with key figures in education, health care, media, the corporate world, the not-for-profit sector and government, we'll produce bold actions and key priorities to be implemented across the country."

Ono added: "Anti-Asian racism will not be eradicated because of a two-day forum, of course, but we believe the forum will help spur a much-needed national conversation."

The first day of programming, June 10, was open to the public, with sessions focusing

on the issues impacting Asian Canadians, coalition building across Asian Canadian communities and other racialized communities, and effective access and advocacy for systemic change.

The second day, June 11, was a working session informed by discussions from the day before. The event culminated in a public session, giving attendees an opportunity to share the list of bold actions, key priorities, and pathways forward that will be presented.

"We all have a role to play in the fight against pervasive and enduring anti-Asian racism," said forum planning committee member and Associate Professor of History, Henry Yu. "To address it, we must examine anti-Asian racism within the broader context of racism against Indigenous, Black and other racialized communities. Together, we'll share stories and create productive solidarities for change."

This event was made possible through the generous support of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation.

"These stats are troubling as they expose the reality of how unsafe Asian Canadians are feeling," says Mohammed Hashim, Executive Director for the CRRF. "We know false accusations of dual loyalty and being the cause of the pandemic have fuelled such unprecedented levels of hatred. This forum will bring everyone together to consider the root causes and the necessary interventions needed for all of us to confront anti-Asian racism in the Canadian context."

## Hammered by COVID-19, Restaurants and Bars Rejoice at Reopening

*After months of unease, looser restrictions may allow businesses to breathe a sigh of relief at last*

**Nicole Duane**  
Grade 11 student,  
Lord Byng Secondary School

Indoor dining is finally an option after 57 days of to-go bags, delivery fees, and trying to prevent flyaway napkins while eating on patios. We're one step closer to a state of post-pandemic normalcy, and our eateries are eager to welcome customers back inside.

The pandemic has taken a drastic toll on the restaurant industry, from laying off workers to shutting down entire establishments. It has been a struggle for these businesses to stay afloat the past year, with the majority suffering devastating losses. A Canadian survey from early 2021 announced that over a quarter of all restaurants are expecting to operate for 12 more months before considering closure or bankruptcy. Mr. Li, owner of the beloved Chef Hung Taiwanese Beef Noodle near Wesbrook Mall, reported a 30% to 40% decrease in sales compared to before the dine-in restrictions.

Despite the rising popularity of apps like UberEats and DoorDash, take-out service

did not experience a boom at every establishment. Ordering food online just doesn't have the same appeal as sharing a meal with friends: "We haven't seen an increase in online orders since two or three months ago," Mr. Li states, "They have actually dropped slightly." He adds that, compared to pre-covid times, he is currently only able to employ half as many staff. Nationwide, employment in food services and drinking places plummeted by 29.3% in 2020 alone, and there's no doubt that the dine-in restrictions have exacerbated this decrease in labour.

Fortunately, pent-up demand for the restaurant experience is high. After the restriction was instated back in late March, many of us have glanced longingly into restaurant windows and made mental notes to revisit our favourite sites once they reopen. As of June 8th, 62% of Canadians have received one dose of the vaccine, while 8.5% are fully vaccinated. As those numbers continue to rise, many establishments are hopeful that business will eventually return to pre-pandemic levels: "I think things should be close to normal around the end of this year," says Mr. Li, "or early next year".

Restaurants and bars are maintaining many COVID-19 precautions, including mandatory face masks for all staff and customers not at a table, sanitizing frequently-touched surfaces, and limiting their maximum capacities. In addition, there is no evidence that COVID-19 or its variants can be con-

tracted through food or food packaging: the virus can be killed at temperatures above 70°C, which is achieved while cooking most meals.

Things seem to be looking up for these businesses— and we, both as customers and neighbours, can help each other by wearing our masks, booking our vaccine appointments, and washing our hands.

Statistics Canada (2021). <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/t1/tbl1/en/cv.action?pid=1410022001>

Statistics Canada (2021). <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/210318/dq210318e-eng.htm>

Our World in Data (2021). [www.ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations?country=CAN](http://www.ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations?country=CAN)

World Health Organization (2020). [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-food-safety-and-nutrition#:~:text=can](http://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-food-safety-and-nutrition#:~:text=can)



Chef Hung Taiwanese Beef Noodle in Wesbrook Village.

# Fireweed Fields

*Holly Schmidt asks us to cultivate our relationship with plants.*

**Mark Mushet**

*Photographer, Writer,  
Videographer,*

The title of the artist project Fireweed Fields fairly bursts with the promise of expanses of vivid colour on sun-drenched days. But it's no passive trapeze among the blossoms. Rather the work is a unique, pandemic-friendly outdoor installation that's part of Vegetal Encounters, Vancouver artist Holly Schmidt's three-year artist residency at the University of British Columbia's Morris and Helen Belkin Gallery. Really, the project is more akin to renewing an important relationship than simply viewing an exhibition.

The title caught my attention immediately. I grew up at the top of Capilano Road in North Vancouver in the 1970s, playing among the plants that were reclaiming the old gravel quarry used for the construction of the region's Cleveland Dam back in the 1950s. Fireweed was among them. It's bewitching in late summer as it transforms into waving poles clustered with light-catching gossamer curlicues and a riot of light pink fluff. Those visuals are rooted deeply in my memory.

But perhaps an introduction is in order for those who grew up knowing only manicured suburban lawns. Fireweed is a meadow plant, a member of the evening primrose family, and it likes to populate freshly disturbed areas such as roads, construction sites and forest burns. Great natural stands can be found a stone's throw away from UBC on Northwest Marine Drive and along the paths of Pacific Spirit Park.

Schmidt's project is not focused only on fireweed's grand, but brief, late-life presentation. It's a long hauler that asks for your patience and close attention over time, letting you delight as the lawn of the Belkin is transformed into a full-fledged meadow. Ideally, you'll feel invested enough to keep coming back throughout the summer.

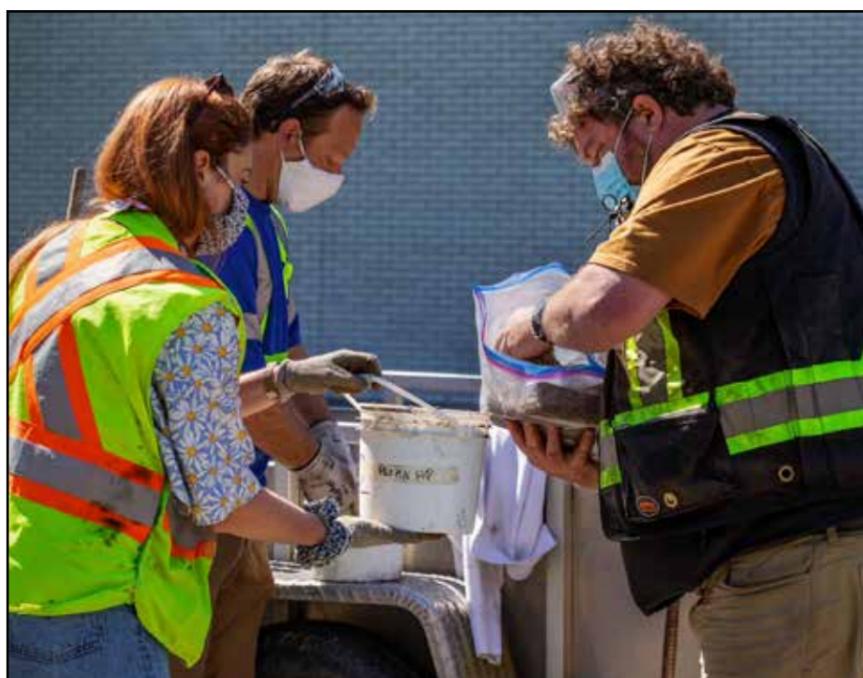
"My projects tend to emerge slowly through building relationships with people and places," Schmidt said in an interview just as the first shoots were emerging. "There are many distinct botanical sites



**Holly Schmidt.**  
Photo credit, Mark Mushet.



**Fireweed.** Photo credit, Mark Mushet.



**Planting fireweed at the Belkin, April 12, 2021.** Photo credit, Nigel Laing.

and situations at UBC, and all of them have layered and complex histories. The most foundational of which is that the campus is on the unceded, traditional and ancestral territory of the Musqueam Nation."

Of all the meadow plants, why fireweed? Schmidt says she is interested in its capacity to adapt.

"It's the first plant to grow after a forest fire, or major disturbance, and it provides sustenance and habitat for other species. It

brings to mind notions of healing, care and the resurgence of life, all of which take on heightened importance in the midst of the climate emergency and the need for climate justice."

As well, fireweed is important to First Nations' cultural practices. It's used to make twine and in the weaving of blankets.

The project was partly inspired by the ideas of ethnobotanist Robin Wall Kimmerer of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Oklaho-



**Holly Schmidt, artist's rendering of Fireweed Fields, 2021.**

ma. Schmidt cites Kimmerer's renowned collection of essays, *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants*, as a key influence on her thinking around the deep learning to be had through strengthening human relationships with plants.

"There's also potential here for cross-cultural exchange and learning around the gifts this plant has to offer and how those gifts can be reciprocated," says Schmidt. "Plants are teachers."

But the question remains: What will you actually see once you've made the trek out to UBC? Well, timing is key. And it will require a repeat visit or two to witness seasonal and successional changes in the meadow from a new cedar boardwalk in a design inspired by fireweed's delicate, snaking rhizomes.

"Fireweed Fields is intended to provide contrast to the linear arrangement of UBC Main Mall's vast expanses of grass," says Schmidt. "These formal landscapes are rooted in colonial histories and values, so by planting fireweed, I'm hoping to initiate a conversation about regeneration."

While the work stands in clear opposition to the tyranny of the lawn, I wonder if it will break the bounds of the gallery and spread, especially given the proximity of flower beds and landscaping features. Can fireweed even be contained?

"One plant can produce up to 80,000 seeds," says Schmidt. "And they can travel far and wide on wind currents, which is part of its resilience, but also why it causes concern for those trying to maintain those landscapes. But the seeds will be collected and shared in ways that are culturally appropriate and the plants will be cut and composted."

Ideally, Fireweed Fields will help people imagine spaces around them with less imposed order and with an openness to the flow of the great unkempt garden of life. It seems to me to echo the rewilding movement, which calls for a wholesale return to the natural "wild" states of our environment, wherever possible. But Schmidt rejects that notion. "I appreciate aspects of rewilding, but there can be a tendency to romanticize the idea of nature without humans, suggesting that human relationships with nature can only taint or damage. I think it's important to look to relationships of respect and reciprocity."

At a time when people are battling to save British Columbia's last stands of old-growth forest amidst the quickening pace of global ecological destruction, Schmidt's message is potent.

"There's a need to shift from an extractive mindset to one of interdependence and to increase biodiversity," she says. "I also want to create opportunities for people to slow down and think of a different kind of relationship with the natural world."

Fireweed Fields essentially asks people to ponder more deeply the complex web of life and our place in it. In a way, this is a perfectly timed intervention. The pandemic has thrust people outdoors and many are taking an interest in local flora. Furthering our understanding of plant life – and renewing a relationship that's been left fallow too long – is one way to avoid returning to "normal" after the pandemic.