Open Letter to the Campus Resident

Neighbours Out Walking / Shopping Need Better Protection from Speeding Drivers

In light of the recent accidents in and around the South Campus neighbourhood, we wish to voice our concern for current safety measures in place for pedestrians and cyclists and call the community to action for more effective traffic-calming and safety improvements.

As residents of Oakwood, which is a Village Gate Homes collection of townhomes located along Ross Drive in the Wesbrook Place neighbourhood, we represent a fair sample of UBC community residents. Collectively, we commute to campus for work, we send our children to neighbouring schools, and we shop and do business locally, either on foot or by bike.

Every day, we are witness to speeding cars on Ross Drive and W. 16th Avenue, and cars that don’t respect speed limits or stop signs. Wesbrook Village, and the UBC community in general, is, by design, a community of students and UBC faculty, staff and families. Everyone is entitled to feel safe crossing the street, walking and riding their bikes to school or work, and feeling safe as a driver on the road.

We would like to call on community, campus and provincial partners to work together to create effective road safety measures. Speed bumps and other improved traffic calming measures, and robustly visible and effective signage, need to be reviewed and implemented sooner rather than later.

UNA Announces Record Number of Election Candidates

Thirteen UNA members sign up to run for office; subject to election, seven will be granted seat on Board.

The University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA) has announced 13 of its members will compete for seven seats on its Board of Directors in the 2021 UNA Elections that will run from November 8 to November 30. This is by far a record-setting number of candidates. The availability of seven seats on the Boardroom is also a record.

The deadline for nominations was October 8, 2021. The candidates for the elections are as follows:

- Tony Cheng
- Erin Co
- Maria Gallo
- Mary Gan
- Eagle Glassheim
- Bill Holmes
- Zheng (Jane) Kang
- Fei Liu
- Murray McCutcheon
- Ali Mojdehi
- Sofia Ngieng
- Mitchell Prost
- Richard Watson

To learn more about each candidate, please visit the UNA website at myuna.ca/elections or download a PDF of their candidate statements.

The UNA aims to facilitate a fair election and candidate statements are published as they are submitted. The UNA relies on the candidates to ensure the accuracy of their statements and forwards the statements to UNA members as a courtesy.

UNA members will receive an elections package in the mail containing their ballots and information on how to vote during the week of November 8, 2021.

As well, UNA members are invited to learn more about the candidates in an All-Candidates Forum through video conference (Zoom) on November 18, 2021, 7-8:30 p.m. A registration link to attend will be emailed closer to the date of the event.

Results of the UNA Elections will be emailed to members and announced on the UNA website. At press time, The Campus Resident had received copies of all 200-word statements prepared by the candidates. (Please turn to Pages 2 - 4 for statements).

While the number of successful candidates this year is seven, the previous highest total was three or four. Each of these new Directors will spend a minimum number of three years on the UNA Board—also up considerably from previous years when the number was only two years (even one year).

For First Time, New Board Will Be Entirely Elected

Charles Menzies, UNA Resident

The UNA has finally got the election underway for a new board of directors. This will be the first time that the board will be entirely elected, as opposed to carrying unelected appointees who were tied to the university administration and the student political elite on campus (neither group having direct residential involvement).

Thirteen (13) candidates are running for 7 elected positions.
CANDIDATES continued from Page 1

In a post on their website, the UNA Board of Directors explained how it oversees, develops, and sets out the strategic priorities of the UNA.

“Becoming a UNA Director is an opportunity to make direct, meaningful impacts to the community. All UNA members are invited to run for one of seven Director positions on the UNA Board. “ As well, all potential candidates were asked to please note:

Per UNA Bylaw 5.3, a UNA resident member seeking to be elected as a Director must be nominated by no fewer than five other UNA members.

It was recommended that potential candidates receive a number of additional signatures on their nomination form should a signature included be invalid (i.e. not correspond to a member of the UNA).

• Each potential candidate was required to submit all of the following requirements to the UNA Main Office at 202-5923 Berton Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. no later than October 8 at 12 p.m.

• A high-resolution head shot photo (300 dpi JPEG or TIFF, for publication on the UNA website, The Campus Resident newspaper and elections package)

• Candidate statement (strict limit of 200 words, for publication on the UNA website, The Campus Resident newspaper and elections package)

The UNA provided the following information:

• September 24 Notice of Election and Call for Nominations

• October 8 Deadline for Nominations and Announcement of Candidates

• November 8 Mailing of Election Packets

• November 18 All-Candidates Forum

To prelude, UNA can implement the following:

• Security and safety – Holistic view from Land Use, Road Control, First Responders, Utility Supply Service, identify pitfalls and the related mitigation plan.

• Hear the voice – A comprehensive email service to expedite concerns easier.

• Environmental conservation – Increase electric vehicle chargers and apply green energy compliance.

• Land usage – Accommodate locations for pets and children.

My family relocated to the UBC area two years ago. With 30 years of work experience and an MBA degree, I held several IT managerial positions in Shanghai, Nanjing, and Hong Kong for some multinational organizations (Airline, Shipping & Logistics, Property Development & Management and Education). I thrive in multicultural environments and possess strengths in governance & compliance, budget control, operation, and projects management.

I believe my expertise in IT and management can augment the development of the UNA.

To be elected, I will be a strong voice for the community to be involved in the decision-making process that directly impacts them. I was inspired to run for the UNA Board of Directors as I began to talk to residents about safety, noise control, future land use development, and social amenities.

My candidacy for the UNA Board of Directors focuses on actively engaging residents through new communication methods such as social media, making certain that future land use plans take into account the voices of our residents, and working with staff to ensure that the UNA is as transparent as possible.

I invite you to reach out to me via email at gan.mary2@gmail.com.

Tony Chen
Wesbrook Place

Recently, a known sex offender was charged for murdering a young woman and her 16-month-old son in Alberta. A petition ex-horted legislative changes to prevent similar recurrences.

Some issues in the UBC area:

• Two students were killed by a vehicle.

• Locker break-ins prevail in some condos.

• One broken electric pole caused a power outage.

I am passionate about wellness, and I believe one’s community can deeply influence one’s physical, social, emotional & mental dimensions. And this is something I’ll work to improve for all of us and our community.

Thank you for considering me for your vote.

Erin Co
Wesbrook Place

Hello!

My name is Erin Co, and this year, I’m running to be on your UNA Board of Directors where I plan to be the voice for all UNA residents.

I have a strong passion for ensuring that all residents are being delivered the services that they count on – whether those are municipal services, recreational programs for you and your youth, or social programs which contribute to the betterment of our neighbourhoods.

If I am elected, a key focus of mine will be liaising with residents and enforcement agencies to ensure a safe community for us all – both in the short-term and long-term. The UNA is also slated to serve as the primary consultant for the renewal of UBC’s land use plan as laid out in their Engagement Charter.

As someone who has extensive experience in being a fierce advocate, if elected, I will be a strong voice for you during this consultation phase. Among other items, this land use plan will determine what our neighbourhoods will look like in the long-term.

If you’d like to reach out, I’m happy to chat via email at erin.tanco@gmail.com or on Facebook at Facebook.com/erinsco.

Mary Gan
Wesbrook Place

Hi my name is Mary Gallo and I have lived in Wesbrook Village since 2017, along with my 5 year old son, husband and our dogs. I teach on campus and love living in our neighbourhood as proud members of this wonderful community. Our neighbours and neighbourhood continually impress me; it’s a vibrant, growing community filled with working professionals raising young families. And I care about our young families.

Its potential to be the best place to live is evident; however, its safety, sustainability and diversity are topics that I would like to better if nominated. A balance between housing, commercial real estate and nature (green space) are topics of conversations I would like to engage in and address.

I am passionate about wellness, and I believe one’s community can deeply influence one’s physical, social, emotional & mental dimensions. And this is something I’ll work to improve for all of us and our community.

Thank you for considering me for your vote.

Maria Gallo
Wesbrook Place

Hello!

I’m Mary Gan and I am running to be a part of the UNA Board of Directors.

I’m a recent UBC graduate where I received my degree in Biology from the Faculty of Science. Through my residency at Wesbrook Village, I know firsthand how important it is for the community to be involved in the decision-making process that directly impacts them. I was inspired to run for the UNA Board of Directors as I began to talk to residents about safety, noise control, future land use development, and social amenities.

My candidacy for the UNA Board of Directors focuses on actively engaging residents through new communication methods such as social media, making certain that future land use plans take into account the voices of our residents, and working with staff to ensure that the UNA is as transparent as possible.

More over, I am also eager to represent your concerns to the UBC Board of Governors through the UNA-UBC Liaison Committee.

I invite you to reach out to me via email at gan.mary2@gmail.com.

2021 UNA Election Candidates
Since March 2021 I have chaired a committee whose goal is to update and improve the Neighbours Agreement between the UNA and UBC, including by enhancing the UNA’s role in its relationship with UBC. I seek election also so that I can continue to lead the effort to obtain fair property tax treatment for our community.

I joined the UNA Board in February 2020 as an appointed director, replacing an elected director who moved away, and have been Chair of the Finance Committee since November 2020. However, my involvement with the UNA began long before (in 2012) and has included serving as an active member of the elections advisory committee and committees for revising the UNA Bylaws and the Neighbours Agreement. Hampton Place has been my home for almost 20 years. I am a UBC alumnus and have had two careers, first as an actuary and then as a tax lawyer. I’m now retired.

Bill Holmes
Hampton Place

I’m seeking election to the UNA Board so that I can help make the UNA a stronger representative entity for residents. A big step in this direction was taken with the change to an all-elected Board, a reform which I helped initiate and implement.

I understood our neighbourhood history, the relationship with other organizations, the policies and the work process during last two years as elected director. I worked with other UNA board directors and staff to communicate most residents well and the new bylaw and constitution finally were gone through to bring a new chapter of UNA. Under working a more effective staff team management last year our finance report showed significant healthy even during Covid-19 pandemic. I am leading CEAC (engagement committee) to ensure more residents voices can be heard.

There are more things I could do in the next few years such as to build the survey channel, dog bylaw and improve traffic and safety issues. I am a team player and quick learner, patient listener to achieve more for UNA. I respect honesty and integrity beyond everything. I determined to make our society a better place in great Vancouver.

Murray McCutcheon
Hawthorn Place

As a mother of two children (7 and 12), Fei has been the NRP PAC Parent Education committee chair for three years. Through PAC, Fei recognized concerns to the newcomer’s settlement, traffic safety and after-school activities requiring community-led initiatives.

Volunteering with universities, Immigrant Women’s Center, seniors’ home, Harvest and Hunger Food Forum, church, and successfully organizing the Vancouver #StopAsianHate rally on March 26th, 2021 surpassing 1,000 attendees will enable her to:

- Community Engagement (Expand connections community-wide, Empower new immigrants and underrepresented groups)
- Security and Sustainability (Reinforce Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; Combat climate change; Enhance community and road safety)
- Stakeholder Relationships (Maintain and establish partnerships with the Musqueam Indian Band, UBC, UEL, RCMP, VSIB, YMCA, NRP, UHill Elementary and Secondary, BC Transit, government, etc.)
- Land-use Planning (Mediatize communities with housing, local business, schools, and recreation)

I am an elected UNA Board Member running for re-election. My aim is to help create an effective, accountable UNA Board committed to promoting the livability and community orientation of the UNA neighbours.

I am proud at the progress we have made during my Board tenure. We redefined the executive leadership position of the UNA to be a municipal like Chief Administrative Officer and conducted a successful leadership search that culminated in the hiring of Sundance Topham, who has excelled in his role. Backed by a 94% favourable vote of members, we revised the UNA constitution and bylaws to provide for a fully elected Board that represents interests of residents and is prepared to take positions on matters relating to land use and development.

We are entering a critical time for the UNA and the future of our community as UBC embarks on its Campus Vision 2050 project. We need a strong, effective Board to ensure the future developments prioritize quality of life, community-oriented design, affordability, and green space. I am confident in continuing my advocacy for residents and would be honored to serve again.

Zheng (Jane) Kang
Westbrook Place

Our area is my first home when I moved to Vancouver. During the past 10 years, I learnt a lot from my neighbours especially the culture difference. Our neighbourhood is filled by academic professional people also well educated new immigrants from all over the world. That really love here and adopted to be open-minded.

Zheng received her MA in Adult Education from UofRegina eight years ago. She has worked in education at two non-profit organizations in SK and BC. Before moving from China in 2012, she was an exhibition coordinator. With certificates in both Strategic PR and University Teaching in Canada, Fei, an active volunteer, applied her expertise in community participation, event management and strategic planning.

I am an elected UNA Board Member running for re-election. My aim is to help create an effective, accountable UNA Board committed to promoting the livability and community orientation of the UNA neighbours.

Zheng is an active volunteer, applied her expertise in community participation, event management and strategic planning.

Zheng received her MA in Adult Education from UofRegina eight years ago. She has worked in education at two non-profit organizations in SK and BC. Before moving from China in 2012, she was an exhibition coordinator. With certificates in both Strategic PR and University Teaching in Canada, Fei, an active volunteer, applied her expertise in community participation, event management and strategic planning.
ALI MOJDEHI
Hawthorn Place

Ali immigrated to Canada and landed on unceded territories of Coast Salish people in 1993; Canada has been his home ever since. After working on campus for several years, he and his young family decided to move to campus, the unceded territory of Musqueam people, in 2015. Ali believes UBC is a beautiful, safe and vibrant community to live and raise a family. Being close to home and not having to deal with traffic every day is helpful too!

Ali has worked in the UBC Campus Security department for almost 12 years and is currently the Acting Director of Campus Security. In his role, Ali recognizes reaching out to the community plays a significant role in the safety and security of the campus. He has built strong relationships with community partners, including RCMP, VF and the UNA.

Ali values good leadership and honesty; he cares about this community and is open to learning about our needs. If elected, Ali will help this great community by providing educated advice on safety and security issues and reaching out to our diverse community. “I am honest with the intention of building relationships that are co-creative,” Ali says.

The UNA is a special place and the future depends on us to guide the growth of this by directly engaging with our residents. If elected, I will work towards ensuring that residents are being directly consulted on the issues that impact them – whether those issues pertain to land use development, community engagement, recreational services, or noise control.

Throughout my career, I have served on a wide variety of committees and boards, including the Regional and Civic Affairs Committee of the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, the Renters Advisory Committee of the City of Vancouver, and the Board of Directors of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls.

As a UNA Director, I will bring my previous board and committee experience to be an active and effective advocate for the change that you want to see from our community and the UNA as an organization.

I can be contacted via email at sofiangieng@gmail.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/profile.php?id=1000641428972

MITCHELL PROST
Hawthorn Place

Hi there!

My name is Mitchell Prost and I am a recent graduate of the University of British Columbia and a resident of Hawthorn Place.

In my time at UBC, I have developed a vision for fostering an inclusive and collaborative community that supports its members. I believe the UNA can work towards positive social engagement and cultivating space to gather, garden, walk, inquire, stay healthy, raise children and have a sense of belonging is central. Effective use of community centres, access to amenities like EV stations, as well as ecologically responsible landscaping, re-cycle and reuse practices are important too.

Safety – A new Bylaw for Dogs and improved traffic safety are key. Lobbying and Stakeholder relationships with UBC, Metro Vancouver, the Province and the RCMP will be important for success.

The UNA is fighting for the interests of residents as UBC renews its Land Use Plan by advocating for stronger climate action through improved sustainable initiatives, working with residents to understand interests and concerns related to land use development, and supporting the advancement of transit solutions that we use as a part of UBC’s larger community.

Moreover, I am increasingly excited to continue to work with all key relevant stakeholders to improve the municipal-like, recreational, and social services that the UNA provides YOU, the residents.

For too long, we’ve had an insularity problem when it comes to the UNA’s governance and, if elected, I will change that problem by ensuring that we’re working with residents while also working with the relevant stakeholders to increase external engagement.

Feel free to reach out to me via email at mitchell.prost@gmail.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/profile.php?id=10000641428972

RICHARD WATSON
Hawthorn Place

It’s been a pleasure to serve as Elected Director and Chair. We accomplished a great deal - new bylaws and governance structure, a new CAO, and survival through the pandemic!

The Board is an important body for cultivating and developing this culturally diverse community. I think we made a difference but it’s time to look to the future. Here is my focus:

Redefining Strategic Goals – A lot has changed in two years and we need to revisit our priorities. Land use planning and UNA input to UBC’s Vision 2050 are important components.

Activating Community – Promoting positive social engagement and cultivating space to gather, garden, walk, inquire, stay healthy, raise children and have a sense of belonging is central. Effective use of community centres, access to amenities like EV stations, as well as ecologically responsible landscaping, re-cycle and reuse practices are important too.

Safety – A new Bylaw for Dogs and improved traffic safety are key. Lobbying and Stakeholder relationships with UBC, Metro Vancouver, the Province and the UNA input to UBC’s Vision 2050 are important components!

Moreover, I am increasingly excited to continue to work with all key relevant stakeholders to improve the municipal-like, recreational, and social services that the UNA provides YOU, the residents. For too long, we’ve had an insularity problem when it comes to the UNA’s governance and, if elected, I will change that problem by ensuring that we’re working with residents while also working with the relevant stakeholders to increase external engagement.

Feel free to reach out to me via email at mitchell.prost@gmail.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/profile.php?id=10000641428972

SOFIA NGIENG
Hampton Place

My name is Sofia Ngieng and I am running to be a Director on your UNA Board of Directors!

As a senior undergraduate political science major at UBC from the Hampton Place neighbourhood, I recognize how important it is to cultivate an affordable, accessible, and equitable COMMUNITY FOR ALL.

The UNA is fighting for the interests of residents as UBC renews its Land Use Plan by advocating for stronger climate action through improved sustainable initiatives, working with residents to understand interests and concerns related to land use development, and supporting the advancement of transit solutions that we use as a part of UBC’s larger community.

Moreover, I am increasingly excited to continue to work with all key relevant stakeholders to improve the municipal-like, recreational, and social services that the UNA provides YOU, the residents. For too long, we’ve had an insularity problem when it comes to the UNA’s governance and, if elected, I will change that problem by ensuring that we’re working with residents while also working with the relevant stakeholders to increase external engagement.

Feel free to reach out to me via email at sofangieng@gmail.com or on Facebook at facebook.com/profile.php?id=10000641428972

For flourishing in generations to come. As a 15-year resident I have the experience and passion to re-present you.
Two months ago, the UBC Vancouver campus came to life again as in-person classes resumed at the start of the fall term. I am pleased to say that the campus reopening was very successful and we are continuing to do very well with regard to COVID-19.

As of the writing of this column, ninety-five percent of students, faculty and staff had completed their vaccination declaration, and 80 percent had verified their vaccination status. Ninety-eight percent of respondents are either fully or partially vaccinated. The number of confirmed COVID cases at UBC is very low—much lower than one would expect for a community of our size.

These gratifying numbers are a result of all our efforts, and I would like to thank everyone for keeping UBC COVID safe.

Because we are doing so well, I am pleased to announce that UBC’s Fall 2021 graduation ceremonies will be delivered in person on campus. All ceremonies will take place at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts from Tuesday, November 23 to Friday, November 26.

The safety of all our graduates, guests, and the UBC community is of utmost importance, and ceremonies will be planned according to Public Health Orders and guidelines.

We will also live stream all the graduation ceremonies at graduation.ubc.ca. I hope you can join us, whether virtually or in person.

As you know, earlier this year, we hosted a national forum on anti-Asian racism. The Forum, which involved 126 panelists and more than 2,100 participants from across Canada, was held in June amidst a surge in anti-Asian racism and violence. The Forum report has now been released, and we now need to reflect on its findings and recommendations. You can find a link to the full report online at president.ubc.ca.

Along with the report, we also released the results of a survey on racism aimed at Canadian youth. The results of the survey, done by the Angus Reid Institute in partnership with UBC, were disturbing, with 58 percent of Canadian youth saying they have seen kids insulted, bullied or excluded based on their race or ethnicity at school. Another 14 percent said they’ve experienced it themselves, with visible minority children three times as likely, and Indigenous children twice as likely, as white children to say that they have faced personal abuse.

Racism and bias have no place in our community and no child should ever have to experience bullying and exclusion because of their race or ethnicity. It is my hope that here at UBC 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.

Finally, I’m pleased to report that an overwhelming 92 percent of metro Vancouver residents support extending SkyTrain to UBC, according to the results from TransLink’s recent public engagement process.

As we get back to workplaces and campuses, it is once again clear that a robust transit network is crucial for keeping our region moving. SkyTrain to UBC is part of the long-term vision for an integrated regional transportation system that will enhance mobility, affordability, sustainability and access to education for people living throughout Metro Vancouver.

UBC has partnered with Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and the City of Vancouver to jointly advocate for the line and we are working closely with TransLink and the province to realize the extension of SkyTrain to the Vancouver campus.

Our aim is to enable the project to be built as a seamless continuation of the Broadway Subway Project, now under-way, which terminates at Arbutus Street. If we are successful, we could see a station at UBC by 2030. I am grateful that the people of metro Vancouver support this much-needed project.

President Santa Ono

President Santa Ono Presents UBC Priorities, 2021-2022

September 20, 2021

President Ono said today, “I am pleased to present my priorities and goals for the 2021-22 year.”

Briefly, the priorities fall into the following categories—equity, diversity and inclusion; indigenous engagement and reconciliation; climate change; COVID-19 response; operational efficiency; and the President’s Academic Excellence Initiative.

1. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
   • Work with the UBC community to complete the Taskforce Report of Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence;
   • Identify priorities for implementation from the Taskforce Report;
   • Support the implementation of top annual priorities from the Inclusion Action Plan;
   • Release the Report from the National Forum on Anti-Asian Racism;
   • Ensure that the “Beyond Tomorrow Scholars Program” is successfully launched.

2. Indigenous Engagement and Reconciliation
   • Work with the entire UBC community and indigenous partners to implement the Indigenous Strategic Plan;
   • Continue to foster strong relationships with Musqueam;
   • Work with the Executive, Provosts, Deans and ISP Coordinating Committee to plan Indigenous faculty, staff and student recruitment;
   • Work with Professor Sheryl Lightfoot and the Deans to develop a synergistic partnership between the Faculties of Applied Science and Science with 3 First Nations.

3. Climate Change
   • Continue to lead climate action in my second year as the President of the University Climate Change Coalition (UCCC);
   • Represent UBC and Canada at the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow;
   • Continue to lead as Chair of the Committee of Presidents of the U7+ Alliance of 45 universities to address pressing global challenges such as climate change;
   • Prepare to host the global Climate Change Summit at UBC in summer 2022.

4. COVID-19 response
   • Continue to lead UBC’s strategy to support a healthy and safe community during this year of Return to Campus, working with provincial leaders and health authorities;
   • Ensure that the “Beyond Tomorrow Scholars Program” is successfully launched.

5. Operational Efficiency
   • Work with Executive and others to enhance programming for students as they return to campus after 18 months away;
   • Evaluate and apply lessons learned from the pandemic into future planning to mitigate risk and leverage opportunities.

6. President’s Academic Excellence Initiative
   • Oversee the accelerated phase of the PAEI and support the development of the campus-phase for both campuses;
   • Engage with the Provosts and Deans to leverage PAEI to support the EDI priorities of the university.
   • And work with the Provosts, VP Research and Deans to support infrastructure investments to support new faculty members created by PAEI.

Accordingly, UBC will be signing the Scarborough Charter on Anti-Black Racism and Black Inclusion in Canadian Higher Education. The Charter’s four principles of Black flourishing, inclusive excellence, mutuality and accountability will guide UBC as we develop our own action plan to redress anti-Black racism.

It is my hope that here at UBC 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.

Letter to the Editor

It may be of interest to the UNA Board to note that The Excise Tax Act in subsection 123(1)(a) defines a municipality to include … an incorporated local authority … and in (b) as … such other local authority as the Minister determines to be a municipality… and with CRA recognition as a municipality, the UNA may be able to claim full input tax credits for all the GST it pays out to carry on its local authority work.

As well, federal recognition as a municipality may help with the case the UNA is advancing to the BC Government.

Corazon Orata
UBC Resident
UBC Express & GO Station Brings New Convenient Way to Recycle On-Campus

Recycling company Return-It and UBC partner to launch the first Express & GO station at UBC: this will allow for quick and easy recycling of empty beverage containers.

School is back in full-swing, and starting today, UBC students, faculty, staff, and residents of the UBC community and surrounding area can drop off their empty beverage containers, to be recycled at the campus’ first Express & GO recycling station.

The cashless, contactless, and solar-powered recycling station is housed in a 20-foot repurposed shipping container and is one of the ways Return-It is addressing accessibility and innovating recycling in areas where a traditional depot is not viable.

“We appreciate Return-It bringing this low-carbon footprint and convenient recycling solution to UBC,” said a senior UBC planning administrator. “At UBC, we take great pride in our environmental leadership. This recycling station supports UBC’s Zero Waste Action Plan, which outlines our commitment to waste reduction and management on campus and is one of the key focus areas of the university’s Climate Action Plan.”

Through the Express & GO system, British Columbians have a contactless way to recycle their unsorted empty beverage containers in under a minute. Deposit refunds are uploaded through the user’s free online account, which can be redeemed by Interac e-transfer or cheque. Students, faculty and residents also have the option of donating their refunds directly to local charities or student groups – all they need to do is sign up!

"At Return-It, we are focused on increasing recycling rates in BC through innovation, and we are proud of our Express & GO stations which have proven to be successful in a number of high-traffic areas within our province,” said Allen Langdon. "Thank you to UBC for helping to make this possible, thereby increasing recovery rates and diverting material from landfill," Mr. Langdon added.

The station can be found at 2465 Health Sciences Mall and Thunderbird Park (south of Health Sciences Mall parking lot (corner of West 16th Avenue and Health Sciences Mall) and is open between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm to accommodate busy schedules. Visit express.return-it.ca for more information.

Return-It Express & GO Station on UBC Campus at 2465 Health Sciences Mall.

Police Contribute to UNA Board Meeting

RCMP Staff Sergeant Chuck Lan attended the UNA Board of Directors meeting October 19, and at the invitation of Chair Watson reported on events of interest to the University detachment the prior month.

Some events are recorded below.

S/Sgt Lan said parties were held on Wesbrook Mall, and they were loud enough to necessitate campus police in attendance.

On a second front, a complaint was raised about S/Sgt Lan that a second crash took place not far from the first one. Charges were laid in the latter case. The former case is still being investigated.

He reported that the names of safety. Many of us have had near misses or been injured due to poor safety measures and driving practices. Even one accident can set us back to pick up speed. This is also a stretch of road where people, including children and pets, cross to get to and from University Hill Secondary, the soccer fields, Wesbrook Village, UBC Farm, and other parts of campus and the city.

We have a few recommendations for the powers that be to consider:

- Install more robust crosswalk lights at their existing locations in the roundabouts to W. 16th Avenue (adjacent to University Hill Secondary).
- The current crosswalk lights seem to whiteness that there is a pedestrian traffic light. These lights need to scream.
- Google maps indicates that the crosswalk lights on W. 16th Avenue adjacent to University Hill Secondary are actual traffic lights (red, yellow, green). In fact, the lights here are just regular, pedestrian crossing lights. Make this a traffic light.
- Install speed bumps along Ross Drive. This is currently a stretch of road that begs cars to pick up speed. This is also a stretch of road where people, including children and pets, cross to get to and from University Hill Secondary, the soccer fields and Wesbrook Village, UBC Farm, and other parts of campus and the city.
- Install a stop sign on the north and south sides of the Birney Avenue and Ross Drive intersection.
- Consider adding crossing lights here as well. There are multiple bus stops near this intersection (both Translink and school bus). Cars typically do not stop at the existing stop sign on the NE corner of this intersection, and there have been multiple collisions and near collisions at this intersection.
- Install clear signage that acknowledges and accounts for all aspects of a sustainable community: school zones, children playing, heavy pedestrian zones for all the neighbourhoods surrounding the university, and all other methods of non-motorized modes of transportation in the name of safety.

Many of us have had near misses or been injured due to poor safety measures and driving practices. Even one accident can set us back one too many, and one fatality is beyond our reach.

We invite our neighbours to add to the discussion with their own concerns and suggestions for improvement, and we would like to see a town hall discussion with campus, community, and provincial partners involved with the goal to make things happen.

Signed,

Concerned neighbours of Oakwood

CORRECTION NOTICE

The deadline for nominations was incorrectly advertised as November 8, 2021; the date should have read October 8, 2021.

November 8, 2021 is the start of the 2021 election period.

For information on the elections and nominations, please visit myuna.ca/elections.

We would also like to call on our campus and community neighbours, including all those who use these roads, whether in a car, on foot, on a bike, skateboard or other method of getting around, to be more mindful that we share these roads.

Please respect speed limits, stop signs and other traffic signage. If you’re a driver, please be hyper-aware of pedestrian traffic, and if you’re a pedestrian, please be vigilant about oncoming traffic. It’s not enough to rely on crosswalk lights, cars may not see them flashing or choose not to stop.

We have a few recommendations for the powers that be to consider:

- Lowering the speed limit between the roundabouts on W. 16th Avenue (currently at 50 km/hour) to 30 km/hour, to match the speed limits around the roundabouts.
- Install more robust crosswalk lights at their existing locations in the roundabouts to UBC. These lights need to scream.

Concerned neighbours of Oakwood

DRIVERS continued from Page 1
Dear Members,

Last year was one of the most difficult times in recent history. On behalf of the UNA Board of Directors, I want to thank you for your commitment to preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our neighbourhoods and I want to extend my gratitude to UNA staff for ensuring that we can continue to have safe access to services that are so important to the well-being of our community.

Fiscal year 2020-2021 was the third year of implementing the Strategic Plan developed by the Board of Directors in 2018. Despite the limitations of the pandemic, significant progress has been made in each of the four areas of focus: Governance, Financial Sustainability, Operational Capacity, and Community and Stakeholder Relations. Details of the Board’s key accomplishments as they relate to the Strategic Plan are included within the UNA’s annual report.

In July of 2020, we concluded our search for a new Chief Administration Officer for the UNA and welcomed Sundance Topham into our organization. An experienced administrator, he has been invaluable to staff in leading their work on improving operational capacity, and to the Board in helping us with our work of evolving the UNA’s governance structures. Perhaps, one of the biggest accomplishments of the Board this year was the adoption and implementation of the new UNA Bylaws and Constitution that members voted on during the Special General Meeting on September 30, 2020.

The UNA Board is grateful to the working groups that fantastically reviewed and improved the foundational documents of our organization and to members who engaged with us and provided us with feedback and advice during this process. With the change in the Bylaws, comes a change in the composition of the UNA Board of Directors and a change in the UNA Elections cycle. UBC-appointed directors and AMS-appointed directors have continued to provide us with their valuable insights in observer roles and we thank Carolle Jolly, Thor Album, James Heth, Kalith Nanayakkara and Saad Shoaib for their service to the UNA.

In November 2021, the term of the current Board will end and UNA members will be electing seven Directors into the Board. In advance of that, I’d like to thank Directors Jane Kang, Bill Holmes, Murray McCutcheon and Terry Mullin for all their work and contributions in the last two years.

As we look ahead, let us remember the lessons and skills we have learned during the pandemic: adaptability, collaboration, kindness and looking out for each other, so that we may continue to work towards building a strong community. Stay safe and see you around the neighbourhoods!

Sincerely,

Richard Watson, Chair
UNA Board of Directors

---

**JAC’s Back!**

A play is underway at JAC. The play is Spinning You Home, written by dramatist Sally Stubbs, who once taught drama at University Hill Secondary School. Vancouver School Board archives show Mrs. Stubbs has received a Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence. In her current work as a dramatist she shows more of the same excellence.

Spinning You Home tells the story of the British Columbia North. The play starts as follows: A storm rages. Trapped inside, Sarah and Grampa bring to life the remarkable story of legendary gold prospector John ‘Cariboo’ Cameron and his miner-wife Sophia.

Spinning You Home celebrates a haunting chapter in BC gold rush history; promises more of the same excellence.

At University Hill School, Sally Stubbs taught grades 8-12, performing arts, drama, theatre company, drama leadership. She implemented many large-scale projects that drew on student interests and strengths and integrated various disciplines. She initiated the Myth-Takes project, based on Mythology and myths pertaining to racial stereotyping.

Ms. Stubbs acted as project coordinator for the Will Power project, which placed University Hill students in a mentorship role with elementary students producing their own Shakespeare festival.

On a related note, how did JAC manage to get through Covid? “We practiced careful COVID-19 distancing protocols,” the centre states at its website. This included the following:

- Visitors must book in advance and leave contact details.
- A maximum of 50 distance audience members is permitted in the theatre.
- Movement through the building is one way, distanced and marked.
- The theatre is cleaned between performances.
- If you are sick or appear sick, we ask you to please stay home. We are happy to send you a link so you can watch the performance from your computer, tablet or phone.

Sarah conjures her late Grampa and together they spin a haunting BC gold rush tale that celebrates the power of love and storytelling. Spinning You Home/Simon Webb and Sarah Roa.

Photo credit: Mitsuru Naga.

---

**Message from the UNA Chair**

We have a ward-like system (just like we do) with a ward in each of the four local areas. So that we may continue to work towards building a strong community. Stay safe and see you around the neighbourhoods!

---

**JAC is the Jericho Arts Centre in West Point Grey**

Four candidates are seeking re-election: Bill Holmes, Jane Kang, Murray McCutcheon, and Richard Watson. Each of these candidates have demonstrated a strong work ethic and commitment to representing all UNA residents.

There is a strong student contingent. Two of the candidates are current undergraduates (Erin Co, Sofia Ngieng) and two are recent graduates (Mary Gun and Michelle Prost). Gun is currently the VP Finance of the AMS (student union). Prost is also an employee of the AMS. The AMS, and other members of the UBC student leadership, have been quite opposed to loosening their appointed UNA Director position. They campaigned hard to keep the appointed director position. Seeing two closely AMF affiliated candidates is not a surprise, especially given recent social media posts on the subject by student activists.

There are several UBC faculty and staff running: Maria Gallo (Professor of teaching, Kinesiology), Eagle Glassheim (Full Professor, History). Glassheim, incidentally, has been actively involved for many years in the community and the community schools. Al Mojdeh (acting director UBC Campus Security) is a long-time resident with strong connections to our local community.

The remaining two candidates are relatively recent residents of the UNA, Tony Cheng since two years and Fei Liu a bit longer. Fei Liu has been actively involved for the past three years on the parent advisory council at University Hill School, Sally Stubbs taught grades 8-12, performing arts, drama, theatre company, drama leadership. She implemented many large-scale projects that drew on student interests and strengths and integrated various disciplines. She initiated the Myth-Takes project, based on Mythology and myths pertaining to racial stereotyping.

There are seven candidates from Wesbrook Place (Cheng, Co, Gallo, Gan, Glassheim, Kang, Liu). You will waste your votes if you vote for more than three of these candidates. Even if these seven scored the top votes, given that there are enough candidates from two other local areas to fill the remaining four positions, only three from Wesbrook can be elected according to by-law 5.14.

There are four candidates from Hawthorn Place (Watson, Mojdeh, McCutcheon, Prost). Again, at most three of these candidates can be successful.

We have two candidates from Hampton Place (Holmes, Ngieng). Both could get elected if they ranked at least 5th or 6th overall. But even if they ranked 8th and 9th or lower, one of them would get elected under the provisions of by-law 5.14.

We have a ward-like system (just like we have a ‘municipal-like’ UNA) for selecting successful candidates, but an at-large system for voting. If you want to make sure all of your votes count you should restrict yourself to voting for no more than three candidates from any one local area.

It will be an intriguing election given the mix of established candidates with strong track records, student advocates, and newcomers alike. As the election progresses, I will be profiling the various candidates on my local news blog (https://university.town.blogspot.com/).

Disclosure: Charles Montez served as an elected resident director for two terms from 2012 - 2016, was an elected faculty representative on the UBC Board of Governors 2017-2020, is currently an elected faculty member on UBC’s Senate. Men- zies is a Hawthorn Place resident and has lived in the UBC/UNA area since 1996.

The above is expressly his personal perspective.
UNA Directors Debate Ways of Spending Gas Tax Money

Metro Vancouver has received (federal) Gas Tax monies through a Community Works Fund; these funds (of the order of $630,000) may be used for eligible projects to benefit Electoral Area A communities.

At their meeting in September, UNA Directors approved a motion advancing four joint UNA and UBC projects to the Electoral Area A Community Works Fund group.

The total amount of funding available to be allocated to the UNA/UBC area through 2023 is $636,703.30.

The four projects are:

1. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations Project

2. Solid Waste Receptacle Replacement Project

3. Wesbrook Outdoor Basketball Court Project

4. Acadia Neighbourhood Active Transportation Improvement Project

The University Endowment Lands (UEL) received Gas Tax funds also but chose not to join the UNA-UBC group in debating how to use them.

To help Metro Vancouver decide which projects would benefit the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA), Jennifer McCutcheon, Chair, Electoral Area A Committee, invited the UNA to appoint representatives from the UNA Board and staff to participate in a process to discuss potential projects.

These projects are being presented to the Board for review and approval for advancement, before being brought to the Electoral Area A Community Works Fund working group for further consideration. The Directors received the following report on the projects from CAO Sundance Topham prior to their deliberations.

Potential Projects are as follows:

1. Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations

This project would see UBC installing new Level 2 EV Charging Stations in the UNA neighbourhoods.

There are currently two existing or proposed EV Charging Stations in the Wesbrook neighbourhood (one Level 3 Station (faster) and a proposed Level 2 Station).

With this project it is proposed that two new Level 2 public EV Charging Stations would be installed in each of the Hawthorns, Chancellor and Hampton neighbourhoods, along with one additional Level 2 public EV Charging Station in the Wesbrook neighbourhood.

Installing an EV Charging Station requires pre-planning/feasibility work to ensure that they can be installed in the neighbourhoods. Each Level 2 EV Charging Station is anticipated to cost $25,000 (for a two-charger station) – along with an additional $5,000 per station for a feasibility study.

The total high level cost estimate for this project would be approximately $210,000 for the seven new stations and feasibility study.

The first step in the project will be to undertake a feasibility study to determine where new stations could go - as installing the stations is a technically challenging process, and there may need to be adjustments to the plan, such as number or location of proposed stations.

The Community Works Funds will only cover a feasibility study if it is attached to a capital project – so there is a slight risk that the study would not identify any locations – in which case UNA and UBC would be on the hook for the cost of the study.

2. Solid Waste Receptacle Replacement Project

This project would see UBC replace the existing stand-alone garbage containers within the UNA neighbourhoods with new multi-stream solid waste containers.

This would build upon existing work and policies contained with the UBC Zero Waste Strategy.

High level numbers show that it would cost approximately $3,500 per new receptacle, and that there would be approximately 35 receptacles to be replaced, for a total estimated cost of $112,200.

This potential project ties into the work that Campus + Community Planning (C+CP) staff indicate that there would be approximately 35 receptacles to be replaced, for a total estimated cost of $112,200.

Any capital replacement of the existing garbage cans will wait until that process is finalized, to ensure that the new solid waste streams can be integrated into our existing contracts/pick-up process.

3. Wesbrook Outdoor Basketball Court

Identifying a suitable location, and constructing an outdoor basketball court in the Wesbrook neighbourhood has been requested by UNA residents for a number of years.

Finding funding and a suitable location has proven to be challenging, but there may be an opportunity to address this through the Community Works Funding - utilizing the currently vacant site that is earmarked for the future elementary school.

Initial conversations with Campus + Community Planning (C+CP) staff indicate that the elementary school site will sit vacant for approximately 10 years, and that the installation of a basketball court on the site, on the corner of Birney Avenue and Webber Lane, adjacent to the water park would be considered – subject to further engagement with the Vancouver School Board and any required permitting processes.

The idea would be to try and incorporate any court into the design of the future elementary school site - but that wouldn’t be guaranteed.

The total estimated cost for a full-sized outdoor court and related connecting paths and potential fencing is approximately $200,000.

4. Acadia Neighbourhood Active Transportation Improvements

The Transportation Engineer at C+CP has identified a number of active transportation projects that will improve the Active Transportation Corridor in Acadia Park.

The enhancements are composed of items such as formalizing the active transportation route with crushed gravel paths and carrying out landscaping and asphalt paving improvements to improve pathway conditions.

These enhancements would improve pedestrian safety for children accessing Norma Rose Point School. Potential improvements up to $100,000.

If the Board approves advancing the projects to the next level, Mr. Topham said in a report to the Board, the following steps will take place:

• Provide Area A with description of potential projects – September working group meeting. Receive approval to advance the projects.
• Move forward with any required studies/detailed costing.
• Adjust/amend the projects as necessary. Provide update to UNA Board. Request approval of final projects.
• Bring finalized projects to Electoral Area A Committee for approval and advancement to Metro Vancouver Regional District Board for approval.

Financial Implications

The total amount available for the projects through to 2023 is $636,703. Current cost estimates for the projects are as follows:

- Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations $210,000
- Solid Waste Receptacle Replacement $122,000
- Wesbrook Outdoor Basketball Court $200,000
- Acadia Neighbourhood Active Transportation Improvements $100,000

Total: $533,000