History and Dialogue Centre at UBC Offers Hope to Survivors of Indian Residential Schools

Survivors and members of the UBC administration unveiled a plaque to be placed on the new Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Center which was opened on UBC campus April 9. From left to right: Lindsay Gordon, Chancellor of UBC; Adina Williams, UBC student and an intergenerational survivor; Barney Williams (no relation), a survivor of the Christie Indian Residential School and a member of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation’s Survivors Circle; Cindy Tom-Lindley, a former student at Kamloops Indian Residential School and Executive Director of the Indian Residential School Survivor Society; Santa Ona, President and Vice-Chancellor of UBC; Edward John, Grand Chief of First Nations Summit and a former student of the Lejac Indian Residential School; Michael Korenberg, Chair of UBC Board of Governors; (back) Linc Kesler, Director of the Santa Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor of UBC; Edward John, Grand Chief of First Nations Summit and a former student of the Lejac Indian Residential School; Michael Korenberg, Chair of UBC Board of Governors; (back) Linc Kesler, Director of the First Nations House of Learning and Senior Advisor to the UBC President on Aboriginal Affairs. Photo credit Paul Joseph/UBC. Please see story and Letter from UBC President on Page 5.

Ideas Workshop Shapes Culture of Stadium Neighbourhood

John Tompkins
Editor

Clearly, campus residents want a say in how Stadium Road Neighbourhood (SRN) is planned—and, to be fair, UBC is dedicated to allowing them this say. From fall of 2017, UBC has been working with the campus community to create a new Stadium Road Neighbourhood Plan for the area around Thunderbird Stadium.

So far, in the current round of public consultations, UBC Campus and Community planners have organized a charrette in January and then two Open Houses and an Ideas Workshop in April.

Perhaps the public fascination with this land development springs from its uniqueness. Not only will thousands of people live in SRN, thousands of others will visit the area to attend concerts and sports events in the redeveloped Thunderbird Stadium. Precise planning will be required to keep both constituencies happy.

Brainstorming at the recent Ideas Workshop centered on three themes: How we live. How we move. How we care.

UBC planners tossed these pivotal questions to participants, and responses poured in from the 50 or so “specific stakeholders and members of the UBC community” in attendance.

As to how future residents of the SRN will care about the community in which they live, a campus resident wondered if it will be possible for a resident to shop for a quart of milk at a store less than a ten-minute walk away from home. Shopping at Save-On-Foods in Wesbrook Place is fine and dandy, it was agreed. However, could we please have a mom-and-pop store for the occasional small purchases of groceries in the community?

UNA Board Closed Meeting Makes History

The UNA Board of Directors — which meets monthly — held its first meeting closed to the public April 11 after 16 years of open meetings.

Asked how the meeting progressed, Johanne Blenkink, UNA Executive Director, said it went well. “It was filled with fast-flowing discussion,” Ms. Blenkink said.

This, she added, should bode well for the various open meetings planned for the year. Ms. Blenkink explained familiarity with facts gained in closed meetings will allow Directors the opportunity of making better-informed presentations in open meetings.

As a way of potentially improving Board efficiency, Directors voted unanimously in March to schedule five meetings per year closed to the public and six open. UNA bylaws stipulate six Board meetings per year as a minimum. The next meeting is on May 8, and it’s open.

Noisy Fraternity Party Puts Neighbours on Edge

A noisy student party that went on until 4.5 am has left campus residents who live nearby fuming.

The residents say the party took place in Fraternity Village on Wesbrook Mall, and the incessant, clamorous sounds from it made sleeping in their apartments impossible.

In a statement to The Campus Resident, Rob McCoy, Executive Director of Campus Security, said: “We are aware of concerns regarding the level of noise coming from the Fraternity Village on the evening of April 5 and morning of April 6 and we share those concerns.”

“UBC Campus Security patrols the exterior perimeter of the Fraternity Village to monitor noise levels to enable the University to impose sanctions on the fraternities in the Fraternity Village and their Strata Corporation where appropriate. Campus Security does not have the authority to enter the Fraternity Village or intervene directly during an incident.”

“Campus Security officers attended at the Fraternity Village perimeter four times starting in the evening of April 5 and into the morning of April 6. UBC RCMP was contacted and attended the scene.”

“The University has investigated these events and will be issuing a Misconduct Notice to the Fraternity Village Strata Corporation pursuant to the Conduct Agreement governing noise issues between it and the Strata Corporation.”

“Please be aware that the fraternity houses are owned by the fraternities through long-term strata leases and are run as a strata corporation. They are entirely independent of UBC, and UBC has no role in their management.”

“UBC Campus Security began patrolling outside the Fraternity Village on Wesbrook Mall in March. In a news release at the time, Campus Security stated: “If you are a nearby resident and see or hear an unreasonable disturbance at the Fraternity Village, Campus Security urges you to phone them at 604.322.2222.”

“Upon receiving a call, a Campus Security patrol member will be dispatched to monitor the situation from the Village perimeter. While responding officers will not go into the Fraternity Village, they will remain in the area to gather information and report on the incident.”

NOISY continued on Page 6
Your Passport to Wellbeing

New Horizons for Seniors Program Grant Project
Calls for Senior Wellbeing Ambassadors

The UNA will be rolling out a free twelve week program designed for seniors in Fall 2018 that will boost seniors’ choices for wellbeing. The project Your Passport to Wellbeing is grant-funded by Employment and Social Development Canada’s New Horizons for Seniors Program. This project will be a collaboration between the UNA staff, seniors in the community, and community partners, in an effort to streamline communication and to build a stronger foundation for seniors’ programming at Wesbrook and The Old Barn Community Centres.

UNA efforts in engaging seniors were established before the opening of Wesbrook Community Centre. A UNA Seniors Working Group was created in October 2013 to help plan the seniors’ programs for the new Community Centre and to engage seniors in community participation. A series of social events was held for seniors in the course of four years, with the first Spring Meet-n-Greet in the Palm Lounge of the Bristol in Hampton Place and two Summer Meet-n-Greet at the UBC Botanical Garden. National Seniors Day was celebrated in 2016 and 2017 at Wesbrook Community Centre after its opening.

These efforts have seen positive outcomes in providing a basic framework for seniors’ programming, including social, fitness, language, and arts classes. It has also connected a group of senior volunteers who are committed to leading programs and supporting various community engagement activities. This includes attending our New Horizons Seniors Grant focus groups whose input directly impacted the UNA grant proposal for the Your Passport to Wellbeing project.

Your Passport to Wellbeing will build on the current programming and provide additional opportunities to enhance the lives of seniors in our community. The project is designed to engage seniors in our community in ways that will contribute to their overall physical, mental and social wellbeing. Participants will be offered a variety of free activities that enable each person to discover their own sense of wellbeing, while creating an inclusive seniors’ community. Every individual has their own recipe for wellbeing; by offering a range of activities, that include fitness programs, social events, educational workshops and intercultural connections, we hope everyone will feel empowered to participate. Every participant will exit this program with a community resource guide and the knowledge and confidence to continue on their own path to wellbeing.

Your Passport to Wellbeing will kick off in September 2018 with the planning stages commencing in April 2018. For the first two months of the planning stages, UNA staff and members of the seniors’ community will be collaborating with our partners, such as UBC Aquatics and UBC Bodyworks to design activities that are accessible, informative, and tailored to the seniors’ community. A finalized calendar of activities for the twelve weeks will be posted in July 2018 and registration for Your Passport to Wellbeing will begin in August 2018.

Volunteer Senior Ambassadors are an integral part of this project, as they provide a communication bridge between the seniors’ community and our staff. The UNA recognizes the importance of having a strong seniors’ volunteer team and are looking for anyone over the age of 55 who would like to volunteer for this project. As a Senior Ambassador you will receive priority registration for every activity, optional training (example: First Aid and Food safety) as well as T-shirts and other perks. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact programs@myuna.ca or call 604.822.4227.

In March, the UNA Board approved a $5.5M balanced budget for the period fiscal year ending in March 2019. Overall, this year’s budget reflects the operational strengths of the UNA while we manage external pressures arising from the UBC-Province Rural Tax and Services Levy formula. This time of change has lead to exciting innovation and new relationships. On the expense side, the budget has three categories: Engineering, Recreation and General.

• Engineering at $2.1M, comprises 39% of the expenses, the same portion as last year.
• Recreation at $1.8M, comprises 33% of the expenses vs. 37% last year. This reflects an internal expense allocation change rather than an operating change.
• General at $1.5M, comprises 28% of the expenses vs. 24% last year.

Overall, this year’s expense management reflects our continued and rewarding collaboration with UBC Campus and Community Planning to deliver neighbourhood services.

Within the General category, the budget reflects an increased use of professional fees for communications and consultants. Adding a Communication Manager to the permanent team is in response to the need for effective communication in our time of financial pressures and change. To continue our practice of last year, we will use external professionals to review aspects of the UNA operation. These studies are a valuable benchmark for the UNA to review and assess our performance.

While we can manage our expenses and develop service innovations with delivery strategies and partnerships, the same is not true with revenues. Our main source of revenue, the Services Levy, continues to decline due to the UBC-Provincial property tax formula. As in prior years, this requires the use of grants and internal transfers.

Richard Alexander
Treasurer, UNA Elected Resident Director

Your first Your Passport to Wellbeing meeting with UNA staff, seniors, and community partners.
How Stadium Neighbourhood May Benefit the UNA Community

James Ellis
Wesbrook Place resident

The newest addition to the UNA – Stadium Neighbourhood – has been the subject of much debate since it was first proposed. Rarely has a new neighbourhood been described as anything more than the likely source of more traffic, noise, and parking problems for UNA residents, especially those in Hawthorn Place. Many of these concerns are legitimate and must be addressed in the development planning, but the potential merits of Stadium Neighbourhood should also be discussed, including improved transit, greater pedestrian/cycling safety, recognition of indigenous roots, and availability of affordable housing.

Vancouver plans to extend Skytrain service to Broadway and Arbutus, and there is a strong appetite to invest funds in rapid transit projects at all levels of government. The University of British Columbia wants to develop a transit hub that will extend Skytrain service to campus, and it needs resident density to justify this investment. UBC Campus and Community (C+CP) designed Stadium Neighbourhood – has been controversial since it was first proposed. Rarely has a development concept included this much public debate.

The current community transit, including the C20 shuttle, runs largely at capacity. The Stadium Neighbourhood development provides an opportunity to integrate and rationalize public transit for residents, and it also means showing the connection to the indigenous history of the university. As previously noted, C+CP sees the Stadium Neighbourhood as “a pedestrian route that links up an extensive part of the traditional land of the Musqueam people.” This could include a centerpiece indigenous playground or other focal point that is sorely missing in the UNA, which lacks any nods to this special heritage. These new residents will be well situated to make use of our facilities, including the Old Barn, which costs more money to run than it brings in.

One of the biggest factors in Vancouver is the lack of affordable housing, and UBC frequently loses faculty and staff because they are unable to find reasonable accommodations. The Stadium Neighbourhood is targeted to house 2,000–2,500 people, which have been under-prioritized in previous developments. Affordable housing is sorely needed not only to increase opportunities, but also to provide socio-economic diversity. The UNA was never intended to be a place solely for the wealthy, and we must work closely with community stakeholders and leaders to develop community-based strategies to address issues of concern within our neighborhoods and business districts.

During his career, S/Sgt. Lan has worked in multiple roles including First Nations, rural, municipal, and federal policing. He has also worked closely with community stakeholders and leaders to develop community-based strategies to address issues of concern within their neighbourhoods and business districts. S/Sgt. Lan served on the highly-specialized Emergency Response Team for 14 years. He has also worked closely with community stakeholders and leaders to develop community-based strategies to address issues of concern within our neighborhoods and business districts.

Sgt. Lan listed numerous crime categories showing data decreases from 2016 to 2017, for example:
- domestic violence with intimate partners involved— from 5 to 9 (up 80%)
- total assaults—from 8 to 16 (up 100.00%)
- frauds from 10 to 23 (up 130.00%)
- suspicious persons—from 22 to 34 (up 54.55%)
- causing a disturbance—from 26 to 30 (up 130%)
Four survivors of what UBC President Santa Ono called a “heinous” segment of Canadian history spoke of their experiences April 9 at the official opening of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre on the campus of the University of British Columbia.

Barney Williams, Cindy Tom-Lindley, Edward John and Adina Williams (no relation to Barney) addressed a gathering of several hundred people — survivors, Aboriginal elders, Indian chiefs, UBC administrators and members of the UBC community — in a large tent erected on Main Mall adjacent to the new $5.5 million Center.

The four survivors spoke after Professor Ono — in a Statement of Apology — had acknowledged the history of the Indian residential schools and on behalf of UBC community apologized to all “who were so affected by that system — for our participation in a system that has oppressed you, excluded you, and that, through intention or inaction, continues to cause offense.”

Mr. Williams, 78, is Nuu-chah-nulth and survived years in the Christie Indian Residential School, near Tofino on Vancouver Island.

Stirring strong emotions among those gathered in the tent and outside it under a dark grey sky, he recalled how “I was ripped from the arms of my grandma when I was five and a half years old.” There followed “a horrible journey” from home to school, one which haunts him to this day.

Without exception, each survivor expressed an addiction to alcohol. What made this all harder to bear, he said, was that “we were great children.”

The experience left Mr. Williams “still hurting…the hurt was deep-rooted. I stand here as one of the persons who suffered at a residential school.”

As well as to living survivors, Mr. Williams recalled “those who died, many from addiction to alcohol.” What made this all harder to bear, he said, was that “we were great children.”

Referring to the new Centre, only yards away from where he stood under the tent, Mr. Williams said: “Now we have a place to come to deal with the hurt.”

Ms. Tom-Lindley is Siyilx, a former student at the Kamloops Indian Residential School. She is Executive Director of the Indian Residential School Survivors Society (IRSSS), which has provided wellness and healing services to survivors and intergenerational survivors through British Columbia for 24 years.

She recalled a question she has been asked many times about the cruel experiences she suffered in the Indian residential school.

“People say: ‘Why don’t you just get over it?’” She said this amounts to a Holocaust survivor being asked the same question. “Would you dare to say this to a Holocaust survivor? No. Then why do they say it to an Indian school survivor?”

A graduate in Law from UBC, Chief John called the Indian Residential Schools system as “an instrument for imposing colonialism on the Indigenous people of Canada.” He thanked Professor Ono for his strong stance in support of development of the new Center, and acknowledged former UBC President Stephen Toope for “his early investment in the Centre.”

Adina Williams is a member of Squamish First Nation and a 4th year Arts student at UBC who served recently as a youth worker for the Canadian Roots Exchange.

She is an intergenerational survivor: in the 1950s her father attended a residential school for ten years, and Ms. Williams said how “humiliating and frustrating” such an experience was for him. While her father could not attend the ceremony, her mother — another survivor — was in the audience.

“The Centre is a great step in the right direction,” Ms. Williams said, calling April 9 “truly a historic day.”

In the Statement of Apology, Professor Ono said: “As I stated earlier, that part of the responsibility that UBC bears for residential school history is in tacitly accepting the silence surrounding it. That silence has now been broken, and the ground on which willful ignorance once stood has been cut away.”

Linc Kesler, Director of First Nations House of Learning and Senior Advisor to President Ono on Aboriginal Affairs said: “The Centre exists to honour the experiences and resilience of Indigenous residential school survivors, but also to assure that from the recognition of that dark history, a very different future can emerge. It is a future worth fighting for.”

All photos on this page are by Paul Joseph/UBC.
Earlier this month, residential school survivors, Indigenous leaders and representatives, students, faculty, staff, campus residents and neighbours and others gathered at the University of British Columbia’s Vancouver campus to witness the opening of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre.

It was a moving, and I believe, historic occasion. The schools operated for over a century and damaged the lives and cultures of many Indigenous individuals and communities. The Centre will be a place for survivors of the Indian residential schools and their communities to access their records, for students and the public to learn about the history and legacy of the schools through interactive technology, and for other collaborative projects. You can find out more about the Centre at https://aboriginal.ubc.ca/indian-residential-school-centre.

At the opening, I also made a Statement of Apology for UBC’s involvement in the system that supported the operation of the Indian Residential Schools.

You can read the full Apology at https://president.ubc.ca/speeches/statement-of-apology/. Here is an excerpt:

“I apologize to all of you who are survivors of the residential schools, to your families and communities, and to all Indigenous people for the role that this university played in perpetuating that system. We apologize for the actions and inaction of our predecessors, and renew our commitment to working with you for a more just and equitable future.

“The Indian residential schools operated for more than a century as a partnership between the Canadian government and major churches, with the last school closing only in 1996. For much of that time, Indigenous children were forcibly removed to schools that sought to break their ties to their families, communities, and culture. Many spent their entire childhoods in the schools and many died there: the mortality rates at some schools at times surpassed 60%. Most suffered emotional or mental abuse, and many suffered physical and sexual abuse. Those who survived often left feeling distraught, alienated, and angry. With no experience of family life, and struggling with significant challenges, many transmitted the abuse they had endured to later generations. Nearly every Indigenous family in Canada has been affected, and the effects on communities are still with us today.

“Universities bear part of the responsibility for this history, not only for having trained many of the policy makers and administrators who operated the residential school system, and doing so little to address the exclusion from higher education that the schools so effectively created, but also for tacitly accepting the silence surrounding it. In years past, even after the signing of human rights declarations and ethics agreements that followed World War II, university professors conducted research on the residential schools that exploited their deplorable conditions without attempting to change them.

“In modern times, the continuing failure to address this history has meant that the previous ways of thinking – or of not thinking – about the residential school system have remained largely intact. Failing to confront a heinous history, even if it is one that we did not cause, is to become complicit in its perpetuation. This is not a result that we, as a university, can accept.

“That is why, today, on behalf of the UBC community, I apologize to you who were so affected by that system — for our participation in a system that has oppressed you, excluded you, and that, through intention or inaction, continues to cause offense.

“Together we must accept the responsibility to acknowledge our predecessors’ failure to stop the residential school system – an act that could have reduced, perhaps even prevented, the damage done to generations of Aboriginal children and communities. While we cannot rewrite this history, we must not deny it either. It is our history to own and learn from.

“Our commitment, as a university, and as a community of many members, must be strong, and must always result in meaningful action. That is our realization and it is our duty to act.”

Professor Santa J. Ono
President and Vice Chancellor
University of British Columbia
Post Office: When is it Coming to Wesbrook Village?

Judy Hyojoo Rhee
Student, University Hill Secondary School

Vivian Zhang
Student, West Point Grey Academy

UBC seeks Extended Liquor License at Sports Centre

Residents will have the opportunity to provide comments on a liquor application

Maria Harris
Director, Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A

UBC is applying to the BC Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) to amend its liquor license for the Doug Mitchell Thunderbird Sports Centre on Wesbrook Mall.

Three applications seek approval to:
1. Allow site-wide liquor sale and consumption during concerts. Currently, UBC obtains approval for such site-wide liquor consumption by applying on a concert-by-concert basis. This is necessary because the license contains a condition restricting the area in which liquor service may be provided during concerts.
2. Allow hawkers (i.e. liquor vendors) in all licensed areas. Previous provincial policy allowed hawkers only in licensed stadium stands.
3. Add the ‘green rooms’ (where the artists stay during the concerts) to the liquor service area. The LCLB’s concern is that the area in which liquor service may be provided during concerts can be extended to the green rooms.

UBC obtains the approval from the LCLB, the interim Liquor Control and Licensing Board will notify the Alcohol, Gaming, Liquor and Casino Regulation (AGLC) of the application. The AGLC is responsible for the administration of liquor laws in British Columbia.

UBC seeks to establish a liquor service area in the green rooms in addition to the existing liquor service areas in the Sports Centre. This would allow UBC to provide liquor service to the artists and their guests during concerts.

UBC seeks approval from the LCLB to allow liquor service in the green rooms during concerts. This would provide a more convenient option for artists and their guests.

UBC will be able to use the extended liquor service area during concerts. The LCLB will notify the AGLC of the application. The AGLC will conduct a review of the application and make a decision.

UBC seeks approval from the LCLB to allow liquor service in the green rooms during concerts. This would provide a more convenient option for artists and their guests.

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Pageant Changed My Life for Better

Tina Yao
Student, University Hill Secondary School

I was recently crowned Miss Teenage British Columbia with the Miss Teenage Canada organization, and I will represent the province at Miss Teenage Canada National Pageant Changed My Life for Better.

I wish to get the most out of my Miss Teenage BC title by volunteering and helping people in my community.

Co-founders of the non-profit youth club Hive Minds, from left to right: Cindy Zhang, Tina Yao and Sophie Park.

Co-founders of the non-profit youth club Hive Minds, please email me at missteenanga2018@hotmail.com.

I would like to end this story by quoting the words of my friend Cindy Zhang: “I wish this club will inspire you, and you will inspire others. I hope we can work together with a compassionate heart, and change our world one small step at a time.”

IDEAS continued from Page 1

Some cities — the city of Boston was mentioned — have bylaws stipulating the presence of small grocery shops conveniently located in communities under development.

As to how future residents of the SRN will move around their new neighbourhood, another workshop attendee noted these residents would be ill-served if their transportation needs were not given high priority.

Station Road runs between East Mall and West Mall, and someone said: “The C20 bus (one of the two small buses continuously rotating around campus) is not cutting it!”

Meanwhile, planners face a major bug with the wider UBC community. Transportation needs were not given high priority. Station Road runs between East Mall and West Mall, and someone said: “The C20 bus (one of the two small buses continuously rotating around campus) is not cutting it!”

The highlights of Scenario 1 are: stadium building on East Mall as part of an urban street; Main Mall as community green space; east-west connection links Thunderbird Playing Fields to UBC Botanical Garden; and density focused around Stadium Road.

The highlights of Scenario 2 are: stadium building on Main Mall as part of a central plaza with the field in current location; East Mall as an urban neighbourhood street where density is focused; and Stadium Road shifted south as key east-west connection between Thunderbird Park and the stadium.

The highlights of Scenario 3 are: stadium field fronting East Mall as part of an athletic-orientied precinct; Main Mall opens into a major community plaza next to the stadium; and density focused around Stadium Road and Main Mall.

Neil LaMontagne, hired by UBC to lead creation of the SRN plan, said he was “surprised, pleasantly surprised” by the large turnout for the Ideas workshop.

Mr. LaMontagne said the purpose of the workshop was to bring together stakeholders with the wider UBC community and have them delve into all the potential programming opportunities that could help shape the culture of SRN and support the well-being of its future residents and users.

He and planning assistant Meghan Murray will gather up all the written responses made at the workshop and package them for presentation to UBC Governors, likely at their June meeting.

Michael White, Associate Vice-President, Campus and Community Planning, said that in its most basic terms, the SRN housing program amounts to development of 1.5 million sq. ft. of floor space: 60% of which will be market lease and 40% non-market rental. A variety of publicly funded programs would fit into non-market spaces: central plaza, active streetscape, green-open space, natural parkland, children’s play, green roofs, community gardens.

Deadline for completion of the Stadium Road Neighbourhood Plan is spring 2019.

We heard clearly that Stadium Neighbourhood should be shaped by the culture of the UBC community and our responsibility to protect and enhance the natural ecology that surrounds us. We also see an opportunity to plan public and open spaces that support active community life and sustain our environment and our mutual health and wellbeing.

UBC Campus and Community Planning

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Ideas continued from Page 1

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Meanwhile, planners face a major bug with the wider UBC community. Transportation needs were not given high priority. Station Road runs between East Mall and West Mall, and someone said: “The C20 bus (one of the two small buses continuously rotating around campus) is not cutting it!”

The highlights of Scenario 1 are: stadium building on East Mall as part of an urban street; Main Mall as community green space; east-west connection links Thunderbird Playing Fields to UBC Botanical Garden; and density focused around Stadium Road.

The highlights of Scenario 2 are: stadium building on Main Mall as part of a central plaza with the field in current location; East Mall as an urban neighbourhood street where density is focused; and Stadium Road shifted south as key east-west connection between Thunderbird Park and the stadium.

The highlights of Scenario 3 are: stadium field fronting East Mall as part of an athletic-orientied precinct; Main Mall opens into a major community plaza next to the stadium; and density focused around Stadium Road and Main Mall.

Neil LaMontagne, hired by UBC to lead creation of the SRN plan, said he was “surprised, pleasantly surprised” by the large turnout for the Ideas workshop.

Mr. LaMontagne said the purpose of the workshop was to bring together stakeholders with the wider UBC community and have them delve into all the potential programming opportunities that could help shape the culture of SRN and support the well-being of its future residents and users.

He and planning assistant Meghan Murray will gather up all the written responses made at the workshop and package them for presentation to UBC Governors, likely at their June meeting.

Michael White, Associate Vice-President, Campus and Community Planning, said that in its most basic terms, the SRN housing program amounts to development of 1.5 million sq. ft. of floor space: 60% of which will be market lease and 40% non-market rental. A variety of publicly funded programs would fit into non-market spaces: central plaza, active streetscape, green-open space, natural parkland, children’s play, green roofs, community gardens.

Deadline for completion of the Stadium Road Neighbourhood Plan is spring 2019.

We heard clearly that Stadium Neighbourhood should be shaped by the culture of the UBC community and our responsibility to protect and enhance the natural ecology that surrounds us. We also see an opportunity to plan public and open spaces that support active community life and sustain our environment and our mutual health and wellbeing.

UBC Campus and Community Planning
Musqueam Names on Street Signs at UBC
Supplement English Names

Installation of the signs—designed in partnership with Musqueam First Nation—is celebrated in ceremony on campus

John Tompkins
Editor

The Musqueam names on the signs are inherently connected to their territory. The English names on the signs are supplemented with names in hən̓q̓̑əmətlən̓, the traditional language of the Musqueam people, and installation was celebrated April 3 in a brief but poignant ceremony on campus.

Speaking on behalf of the Musqueam First Nation, Elder Larry Grant said: “This is something we have worked on for years. Now, there’s a visual that represents the Musqueam language.”

Mr. Grant chided the English-speaking world, “We don’t have monuments created for a person. Indigenous languages. “It’s a little different from English. It might seem a little hard to understand at first, but it’s an easy language to learn.”

The Musqueam elder explained that the new signs do not serve to memorialize historic figures. “We don’t have monuments created for a person. Indigenous people don’t really do this.”

Mr. Grant said the Musqueam names on the signs refer to UBC geography: for example, the word šxʷʔey̓eʔ (middle) describes the central location of Main Mall on campus, and the word xʷsel̕əm (centre) refers to going around the perimeter of a building, describing the location of Crescent Road near the edge of campus.

Speaking on behalf of the University, President Santa Ono said: “We are fortunate to have the University on (unceded) Musqueam land.”

Professor Ono also said the bilingual street signs project could—going forward—lead only to “a deeper relationship” between UBC and the Musqueam people. He gave credit to UBC Okanagan and its local First Nation to be the first to develop bilingual street signs on campus.

Referring to both projects—in UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan—Professor Ono said: “I hope this prompt youth around the world to see what happened here.”

Language experts from the Musqueam First Nation provided UBC the names using their traditional approach to place-naming. The hən̓q̓̑əmətlən̓ names are written in a phonetic alphabet developed with linguists to represent sounds used in oral languages.

The street signs contribute to a growing visible Musqueam presence on campus. The Musqueam gifted the name cənəsəʔəm to a Totem Park (student) residence last fall, the word cənəsəʔəm was the name of a Musqueam village, which existed on the səyidə (now called the Fraser River) long before Vancouver was founded. In 2016, a striking 34-foot cedar post— the səʔiʔəp (double-headed serpent) qeqən (post) — was placed at the intersection of University Boulevard and East Mall. The post was carved by Musqueam artist Brent Sparrow Jr. during UBC’s Centennial year and tells a story about origins of the Musqueam.

UBC Campus and Community Planning expresses its gratitude for Musqueam support in the street signs project and for the guidance of the Musqueam Community, Chief and Council, Elder Larry Grant, and John Tompkins, Editor.

The sign installed at Memorial Road 6300 reads “That which is used to remember them.”

Leona Sparrow, Jill Campbell, Vanessa Campbell, and Jason Woolman. They also acknowledge the Office of the President, First Nations House of Learning, UBC Buildings Operations, UBC Brand and Marketing, and UBC Media Relations as well as Ross Mills of Tiro Typeworks.

The sign installed at Memorial Road 6300 reads “That which is used to remember them.”

Musqueam Elder Larry Grant receives framed photo of bilingual street sign from UBC President Santa Ono in a ceremony April 3 on UBC Vancouver campus.

Photo credit Geoff Lister/UBC.

xʷsəl̓eʔzən̓ refers to going around the perimeter of a building, denoting Crescent Road’s location near the edge of campus.

cəl̕qʷas describes the location of East Mall, as to be facing East from its location is to face inland and away from the Salish Sea.

səmnətsəm describes movement north along West Mall as it faces the direction of the ʃəʔələkətstəm (North Shore mountains).

ixʷsəyəʔo describes the location of Main Mall which runs along the middle of the UBC Point Grey campus.

xʷsəyəłəstəm recognizes that the land on which UBC was built has been, and continues to be, a place of learning for the Musqueam people and for the world at large.

q̓ʷəlx̣əsən̓ refers to a bird’s nest, a reference to the “Student Nest” in the nearby AMS Student Union Building.

Staywat describes the experience of walking along Lower Mall which is close to the shoreline and feeling a westerly wind off the Salish Sea.

Memorial Rd 6300
xəʔwak̓mat refers to the way we remember the people and events that have passed before us.

Map of the bilingual street signs on UBC campus.