Young Mathematicians Win Provincial Titles

Math Challengers competition winners from Norma Rose Point School and University Hill Secondary School with their coach Andrew Lin (first from left), a Grade 12 student at UHill and the Head Coach at NRP Math Challenge Club. Photo credit Connie Chen. Please see story on Page 7 along with an article by Lisa Yang, founder of the Norma Rose Point Math Challenge Club.

Consultant to Help UNA Create Business Plan

Vote in favor is unanimous

Following a staff recommendation, UNA Directors at their May 8 meeting voted to retain Fletcher Consulting to help create a Strategic Business Plan for this fiscal year and the next. The work with the Consultant will also lay the groundwork for the larger planning process in the next few years.

All eight Directors voted in favour of retaining Fletcher Consulting that has considerable experience assisting municipal entities to develop practical business plans.

In a staff report, the UNA did not divulge financial details of the contract save to say “the cost is within budget.”

The proposal for consulting services submitted to the UNA by Fletcher Consulting has considerable experience assisting municipal entities to develop practical business plans. In a staff report, the UNA did not divulge financial details of the contract save to say “the cost is within budget.”

UBC–UNA Liaison Committee Discusses Services Levy and UNA Governance

Prominent campus resident comments: “This statement about governance shows that the UNA Board is ignoring the strong message sent by residents at the January AGM.”

John Tompkins

Editor

At its February 15 meeting, the UBC Board of Governors approved the establishment of a Board of Governors and University Neighbourhoods Association Liaison Committee, and on April 16, this new committee sprang to life with its inaugural meeting held on campus.

Yang Zhou, Chair of the University Neighbourhoods Association, co-chaired the meeting with Sandra Cawley, Vice-Chair of the UBC Board of Governors and Chair of the UBC Property Committee.

Richard Alexander and Johanne Blenkin also represented the UNA at the meeting.

The UNA Board is taking a phased approach towards amending bylaws with the first phase (Phase 1) focussed on the issues of the AGM and the Board Election. Creation of a new UNA Bylaw Committee was approved at the March Board meeting with two UNA Directors as members: Laura Cottle (Chair) and Rose Wang. In May, three UNA residents were approved as members of the Bylaw Committee: James Ellis, Laila Said and Mike Becir.

Potential members have been selected by the Chair of the Bylaw Committee for Phase 1 only. In an interview after the May 8 UNA Board meeting, Ms. Cottle said: “My criteria was an interest in UNA affairs and particular interest in the By-laws. This was due to fact that we’re hoping to get something ready to put forward for vote at the fall AGM.

“For subsequent Bylaw Committee review phases, a more robust manner in which to select committee members will be implemented — i.e., through a call-out for expressions of interest that will be based on particular criteria.”

The Chair of the Bylaw Committee said that Phase 1 will focus on operational efficiency. “Phase 1 will look at the timing and processes of both the AGM and Board Election. As our bylaws stand now, the AGM and Board Election are tied together. Efficiency of process should be achieved if we separate these two.”

The next UNA Board open meeting will be on June 19 at 5 pm

LIAISON continued on Page 3
On April 16th, I attended and co-chaired the first meeting of the UBC-UNA Neighbourhood Liaison Committee. This committee was recently established in partnership with UBC to help strengthen communication between the campus residents and UBC, and provides an additional tool to work together to resolve neighbourhood issues. The first meeting focused on approving the Terms of Reference for the committee, the appointment of committee members, and the priorities for the year. We are now seeking expressions of interest for the Resident Member at Large position on this committee. More information about this, including the Committee Terms of Reference, is available at www.myuna.ca. I am also pleased to share with you a letter from the UBC Board of Governors Chair, Michael Korenberg, which reaffirms UBC’s support for continued collaboration with the UNA, and summarizes key priorities over the coming months. In its first year, the Committee will focus on the UNA’s financial structure, exploring options to ensure continued success of the UNA and its long term fiscal health.

I will continue to keep you informed of the progress of the Committee and other emerging priorities of the UNA Board.

Sincerely,
Ying Zhou, UNA Elected Resident Director and Board Chair

Editor’s Note: Please see a Letter from the UBC Board of Governors on Pages 6 and 7

Lawn Watering Regulations

Metro Vancouver lawn watering regulations came into effect on May 1 and will remain in place until October 15. The Stage 1 regulations are being activated two weeks earlier than last year, as part of Metro Vancouver new Drinking Water Conservation Plan.

Stage 1 residential lawn and garden watering allowed:
• Even-numbered addresses Wednesday and Saturday mornings—4 am to 9 am
• Odd-numbered addresses Thursday and Sunday mornings—4 am to 9 am
• Watering trees, shrubs and flowers is permitted any day—4 am to 9 am if using a sprinkler, or any time if hand watering or using drip irrigation. All hoses must have an automatic shut-off device.

Stage 1 non-residential lawn and garden watering allowed:
• Even-numbered addresses Monday mornings—1 am to 6 am, and Friday mornings—4 am to 9 am
• Odd-numbered addresses Tuesday mornings—1 am to 6 am, and Friday mornings—4 am to 9 am
• Watering trees, shrubs and flowers is permitted any day—1 am to 9 am if using a sprinkler, or any time if hand watering or using drip irrigation. All hoses must have an automatic shut-off device.
The UNA has failed as a municipal-like body

Charles Menzies
Campus resident, former elected UNA Director, member of UBC Board of Governors

The UNA has failed as a municipal-like body. It’s said that even the composition of Governors, famous for its secrecy these past few years, has turned a new leaf and is busy revamping governance structures in order to be more open, democratic, and transparent. The UNA, however, is going the other direction and has decided to close the door on transparency by closing 50% of the Board’s meetings.

The UNA Board vocabulary. It’s a shame given that even the UBC Board of Governors, for its secrecy these past few years, has turned a new leaf and is busy revamping governance structures in order to be more open, democratic, and transparent. The UNA, however, is going the other direction and has decided to close the door on transparency by closing 50% of the Board’s meetings.

The UNA Board has this to report on their closed meeting policy in April: “If quick note on the closed meetings. We have identified six this year, but may not need all. They are placeholders to ensure the time is in everyone’s calendar if we need them. The number of closed meetings will vary from year to year depending on the need. The criteria for what is discussed in a closed meeting and what is discussed in an open meeting has not changed. Those criteria are consistent with those of similar organizations. The value of closed meetings is to provide a space to exchange a number of ideas and options on potentially sensitive issues prior to public discussions. It encourages a better idea exchange in a way that doesn’t risk adversely affecting external parties. We remain committed to reporting on decisions made and outlining the issues that were on the table.”

It is nice that they “remain committed to reporting on decisions made” in closed meetings. But that really misses the point. So far, one of the primary “sensitive” items they felt the need to discuss in private was a Strategic Plan. The Board’s secret discussion seems to be resulting in the spending of thousands of dollars for yet another consultant/close friend of UBC. It’s wonderful that the UNA will bring the spending decision to an open meeting but I suspect the Board will simply rubber stamp an expensive Strategic Plan consultant contract. The process that led to this decision will remain closed to democracy. Any rationale for the expensive plan will reflect an agreed upon script that papers over any of the diverse perspectives (if there were any) that should properly be heard in public session.

Democracy requires a willingness to be subjected to the public gaze. No amount of hiding in private removes that obligation. If our directors feel constrained to speak publicly, if they are uncomfortable expressing themselves in front of an audience, then they really have no place in public governance.

In 2012, when I ran for election to the UNA Board, I did so on a platform of democratic reform. When we were elected, we had high hopes for change. Yet very quickly democratic reform was thwarted by foot-dragging on the part of appointed directors and UNA staff.

In 2014, when I ran for re-election, I did so in alliance with Alain Craigie, again on a democratic reform platform. But by then, the forces of open governance were wakening. Attempts to open UNA committees to public scrutiny kept getting shutdown.

In 2016, with a new slate of resident directors in control (I did not run for re-election, deciding instead to run for election to the UBC Board of Governors), the UNA standing committees were essentialized, and today we are in the situation in which 50% of the UNA Board meetings are held behind closed doors.

What a sorry state of affairs. Despite that brief glimmer of democratic opening 6 years ago, the situation in the UNA has in fact become far more restrictive, far more opaque. The model that is being held up as the exemplar is an old fashion corporate board. More than ever we need to clean house and reform the UNA.

The UNA has failed as a municipal-like body (much of the current communications from the UNA has actually dropped that descriptor). As the Services Levy crisis created by UBC’s sweetheart deal with Metro Vancouver years ago is compounded by the added impact of the fire protection services fee, the fiscal solvency of the UNA is even more in question.

UNA residents need real effective local government. We’ve gone past the point of tinkering with structures via overpaid consultants’ reports. We need real change that brings responsible government to our community.

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LIAISON continued from Page 1

In response, Bill Holmes, a prominent campus resident, said in an e-mail to The Campus Resident: “Potential Service Levy solutions is a euphemism for increasing the Services Levy so that our property tax bills exceed what they would be if our properties were in Vancouver. The reference to ‘legislative approval’ means that the UBC Administration is even considering asking the provincial government to enact legislation that overrides our leases to impose a higher rate for the Services Levy. These solutions are for the benefit of UBC and contrary to the interests of residents. There was no mention in Ms. Cawley’s report of the UBC Administration doing anything to try to address the main source of the UNA’s financial difficulties, which is that our community is taxed unfairly by the Province.”

Mr. Holmes has been very active — as a member of the University Neighbourhoods Taxation Working Group — in opposing the fire protection services charge imposed on campus residential community by the Province.

On the issue of UNA governance structure, Ms. Cawley said that Ms. Zhou, her Co-Chair, had provided an overview of the composition of the UNA Board of Directors, noting that while some university neighbourhoods residents would prefer to see a fully elected Board, the UNA Board itself values the contribution of its UBC- and AMS-appointed members.

Ms. Cawley added: “It was suggested that providing residents with information about the responsibilities of directors, whether they are appointed or elected, and differences between municipal and not-for-profit governance models would be helpful. Approaches such as moving to a skill-based Board are under consideration.”

In his e-mail to The Campus Resident, Mr. Holmes — who has advocated strongly for the elimination of elected director positions and who helped to mobilize defeat of the revised UNA Bylaws — said further: “This statement about governance shows that the UNA Board is ignoring the strong message sent by residents at the January AGM. Almost four months have passed since the AGM and, as far as residents can tell, the UNA Board has done nothing to put in place a process to examine reform of Board membership. Instead, the Board thinks that what is needed is to educate uninformed residents. Furthermore, as reported in the E-Brief of its April closed meeting, the UNA Board has decided to set up a new Bylaw Committee whose mandate will not include the principal issue of concern to residents, namely the composition of the UNA Board.”

At the January AGM of the University Neighbourhoods Association, UNA members voted down a special resolution to repeal the current UNA constitution and bylaws and replace them with a new set of constitution and bylaws. The special resolution on revised bylaws was defeated with only 25 members in favor and 176 against. If passed, the resolution would have—among other things—perpetuated the right of UBC to appoint two directors to the UNA Board and the right of the Alma Mater Society (AMS) to appoint one director to the UNA Board.

The existing UNA bylaws—bylaws 5.4 (b) and 5.4 (c)—allow the appointment of two UBC representatives and one AMS representative to the eight-member UNA Board along with election of five resident directors.

The UBC-UNA Liaison Committee was created — under the UBC Board of Governors Property Committee — in response to increasing financial pressure on the University Neighbourhoods Association from the declining Services Levy revenue and the recent downloading of fire protection services fee by the Province.
Letter from UBC President

Dear friends and neighbours,

In my last Campus Resident column I discussed UBC’s new strategic plan, Shaping UBC’s Next Century. I am delighted to announce that the UBC Board of Governors has now endorsed the plan in principle, as UBC embarks on our next century as a leading public university.

Shaping UBC’s Next Century focuses on three themes that we believe are critical to society today: inclusion, collaboration and innovation. (You can read the plan online, or download it at https://strategyplan.ubc.ca/.)

All three themes call for improved connectivity with the rest of the region, and one key way of achieving this is fast, frequent, high-capacity transit service stretching from the university to Coquitlam, meeting demand well into the future and enabling the university and the region to achieve shared goals of sustainability, livability and affordability. Recognizing the need for improved transit, the Board of Governors also approved UBC’s advocacy strategy to secure a rapid transit line to the Vancouver campus.

TransLink and all levels of government are already committed to extending the Millennium Skytrain line from its current terminus at VCC-Charter to Broadway and Arbutus. UBC is advocating that the line be further extended to the Point Grey campus, rather than have UBC-bound passengers transfer to buses at Arbutus.

If committed, the extension could be in service as early as 2028. The alignment and station locations for the extension would be determined through the planning and design of the system, but as part of that work, UBC is exploring the potential for two stations on our Vancouver campus: one to serve the heart of the academic campus and one to serve the growing community of south campus.

Recognizing the need for improved transit beyond Arbutus is clear. Just look at the current situation:

- More than 80,000 trips per day to/from UBC are on transit (52 per cent of all trips to the campus)
- More than 1,000 buses per day flow through UBC Bus Exchange

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The need for rapid transit beyond Arbutus is clear. Just look at the current situation:

- More than 80,000 trips per day to/from UBC are on transit (52 per cent of all trips to the campus)
- More than 1,000 buses per day flow through UBC Bus Exchange

The benefits of extending the Millennium Line to Point Grey are many:

- It connects UBC to the region, helping our residents, faculty, staff and students move back and forth with ease.
- It lets us improve housing options for our faculty, staff and students.
- The convenience, speed and comfort of rapid transit would encourage people to use transit, with benefits both to the environment, commuters and residents.

You can learn more about UBC’s proposal at https://ubc.ca/rapidtransit. I encourage you to get involved in TransLink’s public engagement processes to make sure this important project is identified as a near-term priority. The next stage of consultation for the phase to Arbutus began April 30th.

Best wishes

Santa J. Ono

UBC Land Use Presentation

Highly Rated by Residents

The UNA will develop more presentations on topics of interest for campus residents.

On April 16, over 70 residents attended a presentation on land use at UBC by Michael White, Associate VP, Campus and Community Planning, and Aubrey Kelly, CEO of UBC Properties Trust. The presentation was followed by a question and answer period. This topic was suggested by a number of residents who attended the Strata 101 workshops held this winter. The UNA looks forward to facilitating and supporting more presentations on topics of community interest.

“I found the presentation gave an excellent overview of the work of UBC Properties Trust and association with C+CP. I was unaware that Property Trust functioned as an integrated business with its own responsibilities to arrange financing, sell builders and manage complexes. Also it was interesting to learn that a dividend was paid to UBC annually!” - UNA Resident

“The format was a great way to allow residents to raise issues with senior people at the University and to have a larger sense of community in their lives, shared ideas on how to enhance it and learned how to sustain a sense of community over time.” - UNA Resident

Award-winning psychologist Collin van Uchelen led a Heart of Belonging workshop at the Wesbrook Community Centre May 1 sponsored by UBC Campus and Community Planning.

An educational and fun workshop—lasted three hours—focused on the psychological sense of community. It included individual exercises, partner interactions, group activities, discussions and presentation by the facilitator. The participants examined the sense of community in their lives, shared ideas on how to enhance it and learned how to sustain a sense of community over time.

Mr. van Uchelen holds a doctorate in Clinical-Community Psychology which was awarded for his research on belonging and community empowerment.

In 2017, he received the Governor General’s Caring Canadian Award for his dedication to enhancing a sense of community through his workshops, volunteer activities and leadership in this area.

Shaping UBC’s Next Century

• UBC-Broadway is the busiest bus corridor in North America (more than 100,000 people/day)
• Increasing congestion and overcrowding is leading to slower 99 B-Line speeds every year (now averages 20.7 km/hr)
• More than 500,000 pass-ups occur every year on UBC-Broadway corridor
• 70 per cent of transit trips to and from UBC are on corridors that, with the Millennium Line extended to campus, would be served by rapid transit.

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Best wishes

Santa J. Ono

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

UBC Rose Garden is a favorite place for campus residents. Photo credit Martin Dee.
Letter from UBC Board of Governors to the University Neighbourhoods Association

The Liaison Committee is an important opportunity for campus residents, UNA Directors and UBC Governors to explore issues of importance to our campus neighbourhoods.

At the Liaison Committee’s inaugural meeting on April 16, 2018, I reaffirmed UBC’s support for continued collaboration with the UNA, and the University’s commitment to work together collectively to address challenges.

The financial framework for neighbourhood service delivery is a key challenge that the Liaison Committee has resolved to explore in the coming months.

Michael J. Korenberg, Chair, Board of Governors

April 19, 2018

Ying Zhou
Chair, Board of Directors
University Neighbourhoods Association
202-5923 Bertram Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6S 0B3

Dear Ms. Zhou:

I am writing to you, the University Neighbourhoods Association’s Board of Directors and, through you, to the entire campus residential community on behalf of UBC’s Board of Governors to express the University’s continued commitment to support our campus neighbourhoods.

As we discussed, the University and campus residents have a strong history of collaboration. We partnered together to create the UNA in 2002. We evolved that partnership in 2008 through the Neighbours Agreement, supporting residents in their delivery of neighbourhood services and programs. And we recently strengthened that partnership with the Neighbours Agreement update in 2015, the UNA Chair’s annual presentations to UBC’s Board, regular meetings between the UNA Board and UBC Executive, and enhanced community engagement.

I am pleased that the UBC and UNA Boards have endorsed the next evolution in our relationship: creation of the Neighbours Liaison Committee, so ably Co-Chaired by you (on behalf of the UNA) and my colleague, Sandra Cowley, the Vice-Chair of UBC’s Board of Governors. The Liaison Committee is an important opportunity for campus residents, UNA Directors and UBC Governors to explore issues of importance to our campus neighbourhoods.

The Liaison Committee’s creation reflects that UBC and its Board of Governors, along with the UNA, play an important role in making the campus a wonderful place to live. At the Liaison Committee’s inaugural meeting on April 16, 2018, I reaffirmed UBC’s support for continued collaboration with the UNA, and the University’s commitment to work together collectively to address challenges.

The financial framework for neighbourhood service delivery is a key challenge that the Liaison Committee has resolved to explore in the coming months. As you know, a UBC-UNA Joint Financial Task Force was established in 2016 to address declining UNA revenues and budget pressures. These pressures are largely due to external factors: the Province’s download of neighbourhood fire costs; the pegging to City of Vancouver tax rates required by UBC campus neighbourhood leases; and the resultant depletion of UNA financial reserves. The Task Force made recommendations to effectively manage these pressures: reduced costs from UBC for neighbourhood service delivery; reduced UNA expenses; and direct support for neighbourhood service delivery costs via a UBC Community Services Grant, funded through land development proceeds.

The Liaison Committee has supported additional work in the coming months to further manage these pressures:

- Continued provincial government engagement on the tax framework for campus neighbourhoods, including clarity on the province’s use of rural tax revenues;
- Refining a five-year UNA budget projection, including ongoing monitoring of market conditions for changes in revenue projections;
- Continued UBC support for neighbourhood service delivery through the Community Services Grant; and,
- Supporting analysis of UBC and UNA community service levels.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Liaison Committee is an important opportunity for campus residents, UNA Directors and UBC Governors to explore issues of importance to our campus neighbourhoods.

I reaffirmed UBC’s support for continued collaboration with the UNA, together collectively to address challenges.

The financial framework for neighbourhood service delivery is a key challenge that the Liaison Committee has resolved to explore in the coming months.

Michael J. Korenberg, Chair, Board of Governors, University of British Columbia

I hope this work will be the first of many positive outcomes from the Liaison Committee and our respective Boards. I also hope it clearly demonstrates to you, the UNA Board of Directors and all campus residents that the University of British Columbia intends to work with the community to resolve our joint challenges.

In closing, I want to thank you and the University Neighbourhoods Association for nearly 20 years of collaboration with UBC to make the campus a great place to live. Both Sandra Cawley and I, together with our other Liaison Committee nominees, look forward to this next phase in our partnership.

Yours sincerely,

Michael J. Korenberg
Chair, Board of Governors
University of British Columbia

cc: Sandra Cawley, Vice-Chair, UBC Board of Governors, University of British Columbia
CELEBRATION of LIFE

Pat Wakefield: A Warm-Hearted and Forever-Young Lady

Ying Zhou
Chancellor Place Resident

I would like to write a few words in memory of Pat Wakefield who passed away in May. Pat was a Hampton Place resident who, as she expressed it, “fell in love with the community” from the moment she arrived. She was devoted to her community and put her words into action. There are so many words to describe Pat: warm-hearted, dedicated, fun-loving, compassionate, a very fashionable lady, and, I must add, even at the age of 95, a ball of energy. When she gave a lecture at the UNA Connection Night four years ago, she spoke for over two hours at a meeting entertaining the crowd with her sense of humor. A feat that would have left most people exhausted, but not Pat. She carried on full speed ahead with her wonderful sense of humor. It was so impressive!

Pat was my cherished friend and mentor. My friendship with Pat goes back to 5 years ago when she encouraged me — as a newcomer to Canada — to run in the 2013 UNA election. She strongly believed that reaching out to immigrants, supporting all ages and backgrounds, and helping them to integrate into society would build a better community. With Pat’s encouragement and example, I have continued to participate actively in our community.

Pat was one of the most active and senior volunteers in our community. She was an enthusiastic and devoted leader of the UNA Seniors and Friends Program which provided opportunities for seniors and newcomers to mix together and break down cultural and language barriers. For her dedication and service, Pat was nominated Volunteer Leader at the UNA in 2014. We owe Pat a debt of gratitude as I firmly believe her example encouraged so many other seniors to volunteer. Our active Seniors Volunteer program played a large part in the UNA receiving a grant from the federal government to enhance services for seniors in our community.

Pat was a shining example of a truly good person with a commitment to improve the lives of others. I will be eternally grateful to such a wonderful person who will continue to be a role model for me. Thank you, Pat, for sharing so much of your life with us.

Glen Lockhart: Retired Businessman and Community Volunteer

John Tompkins
Editor

The late Hampton Place resident Glen Lockhart—who passed away almost a year ago at the age of 81—often spoke in glowing terms of the ‘cup of sugar’ approach to building the residential community at UBC. Glen, a retired businessman, well-known in the residential community for his volunteer work among seniors and newcomers, referred to the cup of sugar as a symbol for neighbourliness. The symbol dates from the days when people were more reliant on one another.

Glen was born in Burnaby and attended UBC (Chemistry) and Pacific Lutheran University (MBA). He had a successful career in marketing, investments and chemical sales in London, Washington and in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia.

His biggest passions were golf and family. He was a member of the 1956 English Conference golf champions with UBC and competed in several national seniors’ golf tournaments.

Family members say that Glen was good at playing the piano, refereeing soccer games and telling stories. One story he told—a book titled Last Man Standing—was about Ernest ‘Smokey’ Smith, remembered for one of the most valorous acts in the history of the Canadian Army.

Published by Friesen Press of Victoria, Last Man Standing is a stirring story which outlines the heroic military victory of Allied forces in the Battle of Italy, 1943–1945, and the extraordinary valor of Sgt. Smith (then Private Smith) who—as a member of the Seaforth Highlanders, 72nd Battalion, of Vancouver—single-handedly destroyed multiple German tanks with projectile infantry anti-tank guns and—firing a machine gun—protected a wounded comrade from enemy forces on the night of October 21–22, 1943, at the Savio River Bridgehead, near Cesena, Italy.

Glen was actively involved in the volunteer work in the community. He was a member of the UNA Seniors Working Group planning programs for seniors, and his name is still known to many immigrants: he helped many newcomers to improve their English and make connections in the community. People remember him for his kindness and friendliness.
Artist Shize Li Presents New UBC Paintings

The paintings done in Chinese style express how the artist sees UBC campus

Our readers are familiar with—and have long admired the paintings of—artist Shize Li, a Hampton Place resident who paints pictures of UBC landmarks in Chinese style. The artist has painted the famous Clock Tower at UBC, the entrance to Hampton Place and other UBC landmarks—paintings that have been published in The Campus Resident.

Readers have also enjoyed painting demonstrations by Mr. Li at many community events. Everyone who sees a painting by Mr. Li says how well it captures the vision of two cultures uniting—the architectural style of the West with the artistic style of the East.

Mr. Li immigrated to Canada in 2013 at the age of 72. He is a retired associate professor of mathematics from Kunming University, China, and taught in the Department of Mathematics on projective geometry and differential geometry. He has found Canada a nice place to live, with good mountain views, clean water and fresh air, and friendly people. He has been very impressed by the level of respect people show to different cultures.

Daughter Claire Li says: “You can imagine how challenging it was to leave the home country and start living in a totally strange country at that age. However, he and my mom took the challenge as they would like to be closer to me and my family. Since then, he tried hard to adapt to living style here, even if he does not speak English (I am his interpreter and translator).”

Mr. Li learned Chinese style painting in 2001 after he had retired. “Flowers and birds are the things I painted at the beginning. It was for fun and making my life less boring. Then I found that it is a good way to get closer to nature, to know things, and to express my feelings.”

Mr. Li admires the great Western artist Renoir: “His paintings show a great passion for people and human kindness.” Another artist he likes is Li Zijian. “His paintings have such strong expressions of humanity and love that shock people’s minds.”

In the last few years, Mr. Li has added significantly to the number of paintings of UBC landmarks in his unique Chinese painting style. He recently produced paintings of the new Orchard student residence at UBC, Wesbrook Mall at the Pharmaceutical Sciences Building, the Koerner Library and other works.

Claire Li said of her father: “Now, he has a lot of friends at UBC campus, teaches painting classes in community center, is a member of the community choir, and he even initiated an informal ‘tennis club’! I would like to say I seldom see somebody at his age who has done such a great job in a new country! And he still has quite a few plans to work on!”
Millennium Line Extension to UBC: Project Timeline

• Early 2013 – TransLink completes UBC Line Rapid Transit Study – Extension of Millennium Line scores highest among all alternatives.

• Early 2014 – Mayors’ Council releases Regional Transportation Vision – Vision calls for rail-based rapid transit to UBC, with first phase to Arbutus in first 10 years.

• Early 2016 – Funding secured for Project Development of Extension to Arbutus – TransLink and City of Vancouver advance business case and get ready for procurement.

• Early 2018 – Funding secured for Project Delivery of Extension to Arbutus – Mayors Council and Province reach agreement on funding mix for TransLink’s next Investment Plan, including Broadway Extension.

• April 2018 – UBC Board of Governors Endorses Exploration of UBC Contribution to Accelerate Extension to UBC – Contribution towards regional share could take many forms, and will not affect funding for UBC’s academic mission.

• June 2018 (anticipated) – Launch Procurement for Extension to Arbutus – Relies on inclusion in TransLink’s 10-year Investment Plan.

• 2018-2019 (anticipated) – TransLink identifies next round of investments through Regional Transportation Strategy – Opportunity to confirm extension to UBC as regional priority.

• 2019 (targeted) – Secure Funding for Project Development for Extension to UBC – UBC to work with TransLink and City of Vancouver to advance business case and get ready for procurement.

• 2021 (targeted) – Secure funding for Project Delivery of Extension to UBC – Relies on commitments from senior levels of government and regional partners, including UBC.

• 2022 (targeted) – Launch Procurement for Extension to UBC – Relies on inclusion in TransLink 10-year Investment Plan.

• 2025 (anticipated) – Millennium Line Extension to Arbutus Opens – B-Line Bus service connects Arbutus to UBC.

• 2028 (targeted) – Millennium Line Extension to UBC Opens.

Source: UBC Transportation

UBC Launches Accessibility Shuttle Pilot Program

It’s available to campus riders who have temporary or permanent conditions that impact mobility

The UBC Accessibility Shuttle launches in May as a pilot service that promotes accessibility on UBC campus.

The shuttle is a free shared ride service available only by reservation. It is available to all students, staff, faculty, residents and visitors on the UBC Point Grey campus who have temporary or permanent conditions that impact mobility. It can hold up to four passengers at a time, including one wheelchair.

To book a trip on the Accessibility Shuttle, call 604-822-9929 by 6 pm at least one business day prior to the requested pick-up date.

The program is being piloted out of UBC Access and Diversity in collaboration with Campus and Community Planning. All of the drivers and dispatchers are UBC students who are working part time.

During the pilot period, staff will be monitoring demand for service, the effectiveness of the stop locations and overall structure of the service (operating hours, staffing and vehicle needs, booking procedures, etc.). All comments, reviews and inquiries can be sent to the Shuttle Coordinator at accessibility.shuttle@ubc.ca.

Recommendations for a permanent service will be made in the fall 2018.

New UBC Campus Bus Routes 68 and 70

The community shuttles C18 and C20 have new names: 68 UBC Exchange/Lower Mall and 70 UBC Exchange/Wesbrook Mall.

• 68 UBC Exchange/Lower Mall – replaces the northern part of the C18 and C20.
• 70 UBC Exchange/Wesbrook Mall – replaces the southern part of the C18 and C20.

Both routes:

• Run every 30 minutes
• Provide service through South Campus to UBC Farm and Wesbrook Village
• Are marked with bus stop signs.

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Above and Beyond Academic Excellence

Giving My Children the Keys to Success – Hard Work and Persistence

Lisa Yang
Norma Rose Point Math Challenge Club founder

Hello everyone. My name is Lisa Yang, and I am Andrew Lin’s mom. Andrew is the Head Coach at Norma Rose Point School Math Challenge Club, where I am mostly in charge of administration, like updating the blog, sending out emails, registration for contests, and crowd control. While Andrew — a Grade 12 student at UHill Secondary School — is in charge of teaching, I assist students who need explanation or some hints. I am very passionate about helping students develop a positive learning attitude and the habit of using their brains in critical thinking and strategy development through math problems solving.

I don’t have an education degree, but through studies in biology in university, one thing that has stuck with me is the idea of neuroplasticity, which refers to the ability of the brain to change throughout life. How “smart” someone is, is not determined solely by their genetic makeup. I have learned that when a child is young, their brain cells are not all connected yet. Through learning and experiences, new connections are being made to transmit messages to different parts of the brain. The more connections, the more effective the brain is to process information.

With this information in mind, I started helping my daughter (8 years old at the time) and Andrew (5 years old at the time) to exercise their “brain muscle”. Almost every day, even during summer holidays, I would sit down with them and gave them “homework”, which lasted for about 45 minutes each time. This homework was carefully selected by me, focusing mainly on critical thinking, logic reasoning, strategy development in problem-solving questions, and reading comprehension. I wanted my children to get used to using their brains, to think hard and think deep.

At the beginning, it wasn’t easy. My daughter would complain to me saying things like, “Mommy, all my friends don’t have homework, why do I have homework?” or “Mommy, I don’t get it. The work is too hard, I don’t need to learn it yet, what you are teaching me now is way harder than what the school is teaching us!” But they soon found out that Mom was persistent; the more focused they were during homework time, the faster they learned and the faster they were to do other things. After a year or so working at home like this, one day, my daughter told me at the start of a new term at school: “Mommy, you are right! The homework you gave me over the summer did help my brain to stay in shape! We had an unannounced test at school today to see everyone’s level; all my friends struggled so much, but I breezed through it.”

From then on, doing work at home was as natural as doing work at school. Now my daughter is a self-motivated learner who finished her Master’s degree in Neuroscience and Education at Columbia University in one year at the age of 19. (She was featured in The Campus Resident June issue last year) Andrew is also a self-motivated learner who explores all his interests, expands his horizon and challenges himself. He has been accepted to Stanford University and will be off to California in September to follow his passion of learning math, computer science, psychology and even linguistics. Now I have retired from my role of being their teacher. I listen to their dreams and aspirations, I am their No.1 fan and supporter and their most vocal advocate. I continue teaching my youngest son.

Editor’s Note: After successful presentations The Dynamic Parent: Above and Beyond Academic Excellence at the Old Barn Community Centre last year, Lisa started offering classes at Westbrook Community Centre to parents who wanted to learn how she teaches her children at home. New classes start in May.

Norma Rose Point and University Hill Schools
Bring Math Challengers Trophies Home

Norma Rose Point School (NRP) Grade 8 Team and University Hill Secondary School (UHill) Grade 9 Team won first place finishes in the annual Math Challengers competition held recently at UBC. The NRP Grade 9 Team was placed fourth in the province—an outstanding result given that the team had two Grade 6 students.

The winning teams at both levels had to beat both private and public schools from the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley, Victoria, and Okanagan in clinching victories.

The Math Challengers result was especially significant for Norma Rose Point School. For the third year in a row, its Grade 8 Team has placed first in the province under the coaching of Andrew Lin, a Grade 12 student at UHill, who has been a winner of numerous math contests since Grade 4 and represented Canada as one of the six of the country’s best mathematics students at the 57th International Mathematical Olympiad. The competition was organized by the Canadian Math Challengers Society. Math Challengers promotes mathematics achievement among students in Grades 8, 9 and 10 by challenging them with stimulating and thought-provoking questions. Its sponsors include UBC, Simon Fraser University, BC Hydro, IBM and other major organizations.

Norma Rose Point Math Challenge Club—where Andrew Lin is the Head Coach—celebrated its 3-year anniversary in March. This year, the Club took in a record breaking number of 48 students. Being a member of the Math Challenge Club is not only about learning math: it is about developing a positive learning attitude, challenging yourself and not giving up when things get hard. The beliefs guiding the Club are expressed in their motto:

Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration.

Editor’s Note: Norma Rose Point School is named in memory of Musqueam Elder Norma Rose Point (affectionately referred to as Rose Point) for her outstanding life-long contributions to First Nations education and establishing the first pre-school on a First Nations reservation. A tireless advocate for Aboriginal education, Rose Point worked for many years with the Vancouver Board of Education, Musqueam Band and the UBC Community.
UNA Children’s Garden Welcomes Mason Bees

The nests were made by the four families at a workshop delivered by UBC residents Dick and Jilian Scarth.

**Quinning Wang**
UNA Community Engagement and Volunteer Coordinator

UNA Children’s Garden is a matter of the heart for some campus residents, particularly those who meet and work every Saturday year-round to maintain its beauty and harvest it.

Recently, a new species was added to the Children’s Garden: mason bees. One hundred and twenty mason bees, gentle little indigenous pollinators, were brought into the garden: eighty by four families on campus and the rest by the UNA. After a sound sleep in the fridge for the whole winter, these bees—in their cocoons—have now been placed into a six-nest bee house at the Children’s Garden, to wake up, to fly, to mate, and to pollinate the adjacent apples trees and blueberry bushes.

The nests were made by the four families at a Mason Bee workshop delivered by Dick and Jilian Scarth on April 7th at The Old Barn Community Centre, behind which the Children’s Garden is located.

Chancellor Place residents and long-term advocates for raising mason bees, Dick and Jilian have used them for fruit tree pollination for many years and have taught community groups how to propagate and manage mason bees for the past 15 years.

Dick owns trademark ‘Uncle Dick’s 19-Tube HEX Nest’, and at the Mason Bee workshop, he introduced himself as ‘Uncle Dick’ and gave the young participants instructions that were precise, easy to follow, yet strict. The kids were attentive and enjoyed the fun of rolling tubes, while the adults were fascinated with the fact that Uncle Dick’s invention makes this seemingly complicated process so easy that everyone can become a bee keeper as long as they can roll paper tubes!

Here is our conversation with Dick Scarth.

**Q:** Dick, you are a retired nuclear engineer, when did you get interested in mason bees?

**A:** I am a retired engineer, graduating first as a geological engineer. I worked as a geologist, then after further studies, I became a nuclear engineer. I ended my career by working on alternative energies. I became interested in mason bees when Jilian and I visited the Van Dusen Garden’s annual plant sale and learned about the pollination abilities of these bees. The Garden staff were worried about their fruit trees which were flowering well but producing little fruit, obviously because of inadequate pollination.

**Q:** Why are bees important?

**A:** Bees are essential because one third of the plants we eat need pollination.

**Q:** What is special about mason bees?

**A:** Mason bees are extremely good pollinators, ten times better than honey bees. They do not produce honey and, because they are solitary (i.e., they live and work on their own), they are gentle and do not sting.

**Q:** The 19-Tube HEX nest is very easy to make. How many years did it take you to design the entire Mason Bee program?

**A:** The 19 nesting tubes in our mason bee nest make a hexagon which is the shape used by honey bees for their comb, and is also my trademark. When I see a mason bee nest with the hexagon shape, I know it is a nest I have taught someone to make. My students use scrap paper to roll their nesting tubes, and the shell of the nest is a recycled milk carton. After learning how to roll tubes, most people can roll one tube a minute easily. Students take great pride in a nest that they have made by themselves. It has taken my wife and I about 10 years to design the entire Mason Bee program including: nest-making in winter, recording the spring nesting activity, and fall cleanup when the cocoons are extracted from the nesting tubes, cleaned, candled and stored for winter.

**Q:** What is your biggest hope for the Mason Bee project in the UNA Children’s Garden?

**A:** I hope that there will be an excellent crop of apples and blueberries this year. More importantly, I hope that some of the children will become observant of nature and possibly choose careers that will help solve the world’s problem of diminishing pollination.

The first phase of the Mason Bee project has been successfully completed. With the positive response from the community, Dick and Jilian will lead the Mason Bee group into the next phase. In the fall or early winter, we will ask the participating families to report back about their experience.