Welcome to the Open House!

New Recreation Centre and Student Union Boulevard Upgrades
Public Consultation

Overview
We are seeking input on the early planning for a new recreation centre proposed for Student Union Boulevard, north of the UBC Life Building. Your feedback will inform the design of the future Centre. We are also seeking input on a number of future proposed public realm and street upgrades to complete the vision for Student Union Boulevard.

Planning for a new recreation centre emerged from the UBC GamePlan: 20-year Recreation and Athletics Facilities Strategy, which involved public consultation and was approved by the Board of Governors in April 2017. The strategy supports UBC’s commitment to wellbeing by meeting a growing need for recreational fitness and gymnasium space.

The new facility will provide much needed recreation space including a state of the art fitness centre, three gymnasiums, an indoor track, and many other amenities.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND AT THIS OPEN HOUSE
At this open house you will find information boards about two related projects. You can participate in this process in two different ways:
1. Use sticky notes to share your thoughts on the new recreation centre
2. Complete a paper or online survey at: planning.ubc.ca/recreation-centre by February 24, 2020

ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES
Campus + Community Planning’s consultation processes are guided by Engagement Principles, which ensure clarity and transparency in how we define, design, implement, and conclude public engagement in our community planning processes. The principles were created through consultation with a wide range of partners including campus stakeholders, student government, and Musqueam.
Planning Context: UBC GamePlan

UBC GamePlan is a 20-year recreation and athletics facilities strategy that was developed to support UBC’s commitment to the well-being of the university community and beyond. The GamePlan process began in 2015 and the strategy was approved by the UBC Board of Governors in 2017.

Overview
Through two phases of public engagement, targeted outreach, technical analysis, and financial evaluation, GamePlan identified five key areas where existing facilities do not meet the campus community’s current or future needs:

1. Fitness space
2. Gymnasium space
3. Aging facilities
4. Support facilities
5. Academic support for the School of Kinesiology

New Recreation Centre
GamePlan recommended key facility investments to address the five key areas where the community’s needs were not being met. One of these key facility investment recommendations was for a new recreation centre.

This new recreation centre was identified to fill the need for additional fitness and recreation space on campus.

Siting the New Student Rec Centre
In 2017, GamePlan identified the North Gateway site at University Boulevard and Wesbrook Mall as a proposed location for an integrated project called the Global Centre for Sport and Health. Since then, the “UBC Life North” site has been identified as a suitable alternate site due to the proximity to existing recreation amenities, prominence in a highly trafficked central area of campus dedicated to student services, potential to enliven the surrounding public realm, and alignment with the use and aspirations of University Boulevard Area vision.
New Recreation Centre

A new recreation centre will provide several benefits that align with those identified during the development of the GamePlan Strategy, including additional recreation space and supporting the health and wellbeing of the UBC community.

Recreation Centre Vision
This project aspires to create positive change through sport and physical activity in a fitness centre that offers students enough room to move, state-of-the-art exercise equipment, and a welcoming space to connect with each other.

The recreation centre will support the health and wellbeing of the UBC community, while addressing inadequate recreation space on campus. It will also be the new home for UBC’s Physical Activity Office, whose mandate is to advance physical activity opportunities, initiatives, and research by providing low-barrier, inclusive, and accessible physical activity to the UBC Community.

Recreation Centre Facilities
The centre will bring UBC Vancouver’s overall fitness space to 4160 square metres. The centre will provide:

• Three full-size gymnasium courts;
• State-of-the-art weight and cardio workout equipment;
• Functional training and multipurpose spaces;
• An indoor track;
• Physical Activity Office;
• Changing rooms; and more.

▲ The indicative massing of the new recreation centre is approximately 9,360 square metres and includes a combination of fitness space and other uses (for illustrative purposes only)
Student Union Boulevard Upgrades

As part of the early planning for a new recreation centre, upgrades to the adjacent Student Union Boulevard and the surrounding public realm are also being planned.

Vision for Student Union Boulevard
Student Union Boulevard is an important street that supports the movement of vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians in the heart of campus. The vision for this street, as reflected in the University Boulevard Design Guidelines, is an enjoyable arrival experience that reflects the importance of the street as both a gateway into the campus and a destination.

Proposed Street and Public Realm Improvements
To complete the vision for Student Union Boulevard, there are a number of future public realm and street upgrades proposed for the western portion of the street, Arrival Court and surrounding area. The proposed improvements aim to integrate the proposed recreation centre into the surrounding public realm and improve vehicular, servicing and pedestrian circulation to create a more usable, functionally efficient and welcoming “arrival” to this part of campus.

This site plan shows the proposed siting for the new recreation centre north of UBC Life Building, with the proposed improvements to Student Union Boulevard and surrounding public realm. (Drawing for illustrative purposes only)

This historical image of Student Union Boulevard shows the large amount of area given over to vehicle circulation.
The GamePlan strategy set the foundation for a new recreation centre. Over the past 6 months, early planning has been underway to explore options and refine the approach for bringing the facility to Student Union Boulevard along with how best to integrate the new facility with proposed upgrades to the adjacent street and public realm.

**Planning Timeline**

**The GamePlan strategy set the foundation for a new recreation centre. Over the past 6 months, early planning has been underway to explore options and refine the approach for bringing the facility to Student Union Boulevard along with how best to integrate the new facility with proposed upgrades to the adjacent street and public realm.**

- **2015 – 2017 | GAMEPLAN**
  GamePlan process identifies new recreation centre as a need

- **SEPTEMBER 2017 | BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
  Board of Governors approves GamePlan Strategy

- **SPRING 2018 | U-BLVD AREA DESIGN GUIDELINES**
  Updates to the U Boulevard Area Design Guidelines started, including planning for upgrades to Student Union Boulevard

- **FEBRUARY 2020 | OPEN HOUSE**
  New recreation centre and Student Union Boulevard Upgrades public consultation

- **FEBRUARY 2020 | SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE**
  Site Selection Committee considers proposed site for new recreation centre

- **JUNE 2020 | BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
  Board of Governors considers Board 1 approval of a new recreation centre

- **2022 | CONSTRUCTION BEGINS**
  Pending Board approval, construction of new recreation centre begins

- **FUTURE TBD | STREET AND PUBLIC REALM IMPROVEMENTS**
  Student Union Boulevard improvements implemented

- **2024 | CONSTRUCTION COMPLETE**
  New recreation centre completed

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**Key milestones**

- **Board of Governors**

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Campus + Community Planning
Tell Us What You Think

We are seeking feedback on early planning for a new recreation centre along Student Union Boulevard as well as the upgrades to street and public realm.

Tell Us What You Think

What do you think about the plans for a new recreation centre and upgrades to the street and public realm?

Next Steps

Your ideas and feedback on the proposed vision for a new recreation centre and improved Student Union Boulevard, in combination with further technical work, will be used to refine the project designs.

A summary of public feedback received during this consultation will be included in the Board 1 Report for UBC Board of Governors to consider. The Recreation Centre project will proceed through the standard capital approval process, pending Board 1 approval from the Board of Governors in June 2020. Funding for the New Recreation Centre will leverage a $22.5M contribution that will be collected through student fees, as a result of an AMS referendum in 2017.

The proposed improvements to Student Union Boulevard will be implemented as part of a future Public Realm improvement program. Funding for the proposed future public realm improvements beyond the Recreation Centre site will come from development charges from market housing development on campus.