

Campus and Community Planning Engagement Charter

2020 Annual Review

March 2021



Executive Summary

The 2020 Annual Report of Campus and Community Planning's (C+CP) Engagement Charter summarizes consultation, engagement, and community programming activities undertaken by the department in 2020. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, C+CP adapted its practices to be able to deliver most consultation, engagement, and programming through virtual platforms. During 2020, there were public consultations on seven building and landscape planning processes and four area planning projects, along with collaborative partnership programs to help build and shape community and ongoing work with key organizations.

The UBC Vancouver and Okanagan campuses are located, respectively, on the traditional territories of the Musqueam and Syilx Okanagan nations. UBC's [2018 Strategic Plan](#) and [2020 Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) commit the University to reconciliation and initiatives to implement both TRC and UNDRIP. As part of this commitment, a separate process is underway with UBC and Musqueam who are working together to replace the 2006 Memorandum of Affiliation with a Relationship Agreement that will deepen UBC's relationship with the Musqueam people.

In addition, as part of our ongoing commitment to our Engagement Principles, C+CP is examining ways to strengthen our engagement to make it more equitable and inclusive. C+CP's guiding frameworks for expanding inclusive engagement are the [Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) and [Inclusion Action Plan](#) – both launched in 2020 – as well as the President's Task Force on Anti-Racism and Inclusive Excellence.

Purpose

C+CP conducts an annual review of its engagement activities to reinforce transparency and accountability on its Board of Governors adopted [Engagement Charter](#), which identifies core principles and guiding practices for consultation and engagement on C+CP-led plans, development projects, and joint community programming.

Engagement is central to the University's academic mission, administration, planning and community relationships. The UBC Board of Governors adopted C+CP's [Engagement Charter](#) in September 2014, after consultation with stakeholders and partners. The Charter sets out C+CP's engagement commitments by identifying core principles and guiding practices for consultation on planning and development projects as well as community engagement.

The 2020 Review provides a summary of engagement activities undertaken by the department. The activities that took place this past year include primarily online public

consultation on development projects and planning initiatives in both academic and neighbourhood areas of the Vancouver campus, in addition to collaborative partnership programs.

2020 Engagement Activities

The UBC Vancouver and Okanagan campuses are located, respectively, on the traditional territories of the Musqueam and Syilx Okanagan nations. UBC's [2018 Strategic Plan](#) and [2020 Indigenous Strategic Plan](#) commit the University to reconciliation and initiatives to implement both TRC and UNDRIP. As part of this commitment, a separate process is underway with UBC and Musqueam who are working together to replace the 2006 Memorandum of Affiliation with a Relationship Agreement that will deepen UBC's relationship with the Musqueam people. As this deeper engagement continues with Musqueam, C+CP meets regularly with Musqueam to share information and discuss needs and interests with regard to different types of planning projects, and continues the implementation and refinement of C+CP's Engagement Charter across all engagement initiatives.

During 2020, C+CP designed and delivered the following engagement initiatives, based on the Charter principles and practices, stakeholder/partner suggestions from previous annual Charter reviews, and nimble and creative adaptations to an online context due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

a) Area, Building and Landscape Planning Processes

Enhanced Engagement Practices

In 2020 C+CP continued its enhanced engagement practices for development permitting (implemented in 2019 based on 2018 Review commitments) according to the three phases of engagement defined in the Charter: 1. Defining, 2. Designing and Implementing, and 3. Concluding the Process.

As part of the development permit open house process, information was included on-site (in addition to being available online) for larger and complex projects:

- the project purpose, engagement objectives, type/level of involvement, and how input will be used.
- the context for the development proposal, such as the project rationale and benefits; policy and planning context; and siting and design principles used.

Additionally, in response to COVID-19, C+CP staff tested new ways to engage online, using Zoom as a tool for virtual public open houses, enabling participants to learn more about projects and ask questions. C+CP also began adding short video presentations about projects to project webpages, creating another mechanism for people to learn about the

project. Projects listed below with an * applied all or some of these enhanced engagement practices.

Development Permit Open Houses

A public meeting may be held at the discretion of the Director of Planning for major Institutional/Public Realm/Neighbourhood development permit applications or minor projects that generate significant public interest. In 2020, seven Public Open Houses were held, including five Institutional and two Neighbourhood projects.

Institutional/Public Realm Open Houses

1. DP20029 A Walk Through Time Art Feature*
2. DP20004 Mayhew Sculptures Public Art*
3. DP20009 Macleod Building Renewal
4. DP19025 Museum of Anthropology Great Hall Renewal*
5. DP19020-1 Brock Commons Phase 2 Public Realm

Neighbourhood Open Houses

6. DP20022 BCR9 Faculty-Staff Housing*
7. DP07010-3 Nobel Park Softball Field*

Wesbrook Place Neighbourhood Plan Amendment

In February 2020, C+CP engaged in a community consultation process on a proposed amendment to the Wesbrook Place Neighbourhood Plan to help address housing needs for faculty and staff at UBC. The university proposed to reconfigure some of the remaining undeveloped sites in Wesbrook Place Neighbourhood to enable up to 500 below-market rate faculty-staff rental housing units to be built in 6-storey wood frame buildings within the next 10 years.

The process for consulting on the proposed amendment included meetings with advisory bodies and public consultation including an online survey and public open house. The comments received indicated a positive response to the proposed amendment, with strong support for the proposed 6-storey buildings in Wesbrook Place and the need for additional faculty and staff housing. As a result of consultation, the amendment was approved as proposed.

Wesbrook Mall Upgrades Phase 2

In April 2020, communications and targeted stakeholder engagement around the second phase of work on Wesbrook Mall took place. This included:

- Updated web content and maps on the C+CP website,
- Targeted email communication with stakeholders in areas adjacent to Wesbrook Mall construction, and
- Two physical signs installed along Wesbrook Mall to increase awareness about the phases of construction.

C+CP reported back on the outcomes of this engagement in Fall 2020 with a final website update after Phase 2 of construction was complete.

New Recreation Centre and Student Union Boulevard Upgrades

Public consultation was conducted in February 2020 to collect input on the early planning for a new recreation centre proposed for Student Union Boulevard as well as feedback on a number of future proposed public realm and street upgrades to complete the vision for Student Union Boulevard.

Community participants submitted their input online through a survey and in person at a public open house. A summary of public feedback received during this consultation was included in the Board 1 Report for UBC Board of Governors in June 2020, and the recreation centre received Board 1 approval. The public feedback on the proposed vision for the new recreation centre and improved Student Union Boulevard, in combination with further technical work, is informing the design of the project.

Vancouver Campus Plan Amendment*

Public consultation was conducted in September and October 2020 on a proposed site amendment to the Vancouver Campus Plan (VCP) that will allow for a future academic building located at the corner of Agronomy Road and Wesbrook Mall. The VCP currently identifies this site as a future mixed-use hub which would include student housing and academic uses.

Information about the amendment was posted on C+CP's website and people were invited to submit their input online through a survey as well as participate in a virtual public open house. The ideas and feedback collected through public consultation on the proposed site use change, in combination with further technical work, will inform the future plans for this site.

A summary of public feedback received during this consultation was included in the Vancouver Campus Plan Amendment Report for the UBC Board of Governors to consider in December 2020. Planning for a future academic building on this site will proceed through the standard capital approval process, subject to the approval of this site use change in the VCP.

b) Community Programs

C+CP's community programming initiatives are developed with partners across the campus to deliver programs and events that help build and shape community. In response to COVID-19, community programs and events continued to be delivered within the context of physical distancing requirements and other provincial health order considerations, and in many instances, transitioned to an online platform.

Ongoing

- UTown@UBC Community Grants includes stewardship of a volunteer grant selection committee with UBC community members and Musqueam partnership
- UTown@UBC Youth Leadership Program
- Utown@UBC Kids Fit
- UTown@UBC monthly Nature Club with Beaty Biodiversity Museum
- Music on the Point: Concerts with Personality
- Walk n' Roll and Walking School/Bike Bus
- Project 529 anti-bike theft registration
- Funding for Mothers Coming Together: New mothers group
- Initial planning for Coast Salish Two-Spirit Pride Mosaic Installation

One-time / Special

- UTown@UBC review and rebranding community consultation
- "What Lights You Up?" Design Competition
- International Women's Day Womb Room Reflection Space Installation
- "Before I Graduate" Chalkboard Art Installation
- "What are you doing at home?" Social media contest
- Harvest @ Home with UBC Food Services
- Kids Take Over UBC! (youth engagement)

c) Ongoing Public and Stakeholder Engagement

Throughout the year we met with a variety of stakeholders and partners on a range of planning initiatives. The following provides some examples of this ongoing work:

With the UBC Community

University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA)

C+CP and the UNA work together on a variety of initiatives to respond to the needs to residents and enhance engagement and communication. Examples of this include: the Neighbourhood Liaison Committee (a joint committee of the UBC Board of Governors and the UNA Board of Directors); a resident member on UBC's Development Permit Board; quarterly meetings between UBC Executive and senior leadership and the UNA Board of Directors; daily engagement between UNA and UBC administration; and monthly updates to the UNA Board on campus planning initiatives.

University Endowment Lands (UEL)

C+CP meets regularly with the neighbouring University Endowment Lands (UEL) administration, and the UEL's Community Advisory Council. In 2019, C+CP engaged the UEL on the Pacific Residences.

Alma Mater Society

Campus and Community Planning holds regular meetings with AMS leadership to discuss issues of shared interest, including but not limited to engagement and advocacy on a rapid transit extension to UBC, the U-Pass BC program, climate action planning, and campus development and land use including related opportunities to support affordable student housing.

With key external organizations

Rapid transit to UBC

The Mayors' Council on Regional Transportation has a vision and a plan for an integrated transportation system to ensure Metro Vancouver continues to be a great place to live, work, learn, play and visit. The vision calls for a rail rapid transit connection to UBC's Vancouver Campus.

UBC staff, including C+CP, are implementing three streams of work to accelerate completion of a SkyTrain extension from Arbutus to the Vancouver Point Grey Campus. This includes working closely with the City of Vancouver, TransLink officials and representatives from the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations to complete the pre-business case for the rapid transit extension to the campus. The work has also resulted in the university signing an MOU with the City of Vancouver and the Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh Development Corporation (MST-DC), committing to jointly advocate for completion of the UBC SkyTrain extension. Further to the MOU partnership, the university has engaged labour groups including the BC Federation of Labour and CUPEBC and business associations such as the BC Business Council and the Greater Vancouver Board of Trade to demonstrate broad support for SkyTrain to UBC.