



University  
of Victoria

Victoria BC Canada  
2014

# Investing in achievement.



*Bob Peart hiking | Photo courtesy of Bob Peart*

## A Planned Gift, but ahead of schedule

Bob Peart has been working to protect the environment as long as he can remember. It's no surprise then that he chose to create a legacy that would carry on the work to which he's dedicated his life. "For some years, I'd been thinking about creating a scholarship," Bob says, "My wife Mary and I were talking about putting that in our will, and then we thought 'Why would we do that after the fact? Why wouldn't we do it now and enjoy the opportunity to meet the students and see the research we're helping to create?'" Though his gift is an investment in the future, Bob decided to create it today so he could witness it 'putting down roots'.

Currently the Executive Director of the Sierra Club of BC, Bob has dedicated his life to protecting natural spaces and ensuring all of us, especially young people, have access to them. The founding chair of the Child and Nature Alliance of Canada, his outstanding contributions to conservation and environmental education have been recognised with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society's J.B. Harkin Medal. His recent gift to UVic to establish an endowed award in Parks and Protected Areas further attests to this dedication.

The idea for Bob's gift germinated over a supper chat with Dr. Phil Dearden, long time faculty member of the Department of Geography. They shared

personal stories of past field experiences and lamented that there are fewer opportunities these days for students to get out of the lab and into the field. Wanting to ensure the next generation of scientists and educators develop the same strong connections to wildlife and natural places that inspired him, Bob set up his scholarship to provide support and incentive to students conducting field research in Parks and Protected Areas, especially those who are engaging young people with nature.

"Although Canadians are proud of their country, love the out of doors and enjoy seeing wildlife, they usually fail to speak out and demonstrably support those values. Through this scholarship I am showing students that we value their work, their passion and their chosen career path."

Sitting down to dinner with friends recently, Bob's enthusiasm bubbled over as he shared the news about his gift. "My friends were shocked at first. 'You did what?' was their immediate reaction. But they soon understood why I had done it and why I wanted to do it now. Afterwards they shared my excitement and I realised I may have sown a seed for them too."



Jim and Doreen Rainer in the Reading Room | Photo Credit: UVic Photo Services

## An interest in books, now earning interest

Jim Rainer's interest in books began when he was a child on his mother's lap. He recalls being entranced by the illustrations and engravings in the beautiful books she would read to him. This enchantment with the beauty of books has stayed with Jim and has translated into a generous endowment for UVic's Special Collections. "It squares with my interest in books, libraries, and the university," Jim says matter-of-factly.

The Rainer Endowment provides funds for the purchase of out-of-print and rare materials to support learning and research at the university. UVic Libraries' collections provide students and faculty members with opportunities for experiential learning and original inquiry—and since UVic Libraries are open to the public, these collections are available to community members as well. "Donors such as the Rainers not only provide this essential, direct support for library collections," says University Librarian, Jonathan Bengtson, "they help the university nurture its connection to our community."

Jim is appreciative of this connection to community; he says it was his start at Victoria College that led him to a successful 37-year career in the forest products industry. "I have a very fond remembrance of my early years at Victoria College. They gave me a great start in life, and as a result I wanted to support UVic through my interest in books."

When asked about his own book collecting he tells of his first "big" purchase—a classic volume on native plants, "I bought the limited-edition signed leather-bound copy for the then huge sum of \$75," recalls Jim with a smile. The book, *Wildflowers of British Columbia* was authored by former UVic chemistry department chair Lewis Clark—another connection to UVic.

The items purchased through the generosity of the Rainers reflect Special Collections' diverse holdings, notably in the areas of British Columbia history, English, Canadian, and American literature, contemporary poetry, book arts, and historical bibliography. Noteworthy purchases in recent years include the rare *Finnegan's Wake* work in progress, *Storiella as she is syung*, by James Joyce, and the Victorian periodical *Woman's World*, edited by Oscar Wilde—an early example of a magazine designed for female readers.

"Jim's gift has allowed us to purchase over 200 items for our Special Collections," says Lara Wilson, Director of Special Collections and University Archivist. "His gift has really enhanced UVic's student experience by providing materials that strengthen instruction, add to class assignments, and provide primary materials for research projects."

"A library is an integral part of a student's life," says Jim. "Having gone to Vic College, I have a good strong feeling for the university and the people I've worked with there over the years, I'm proud to support it."





Olivia Delorme on her co-op term in Europe | Photo credit: Christina Widmann

## Dancer's poise and business savvy

A dancer by trade and an entrepreneur in training, BCom student and recipient of a Black Press Scholarship Olivia Delorme has a unique mix of skills. With a choreographer's eye and a businesswoman's tenacity, she's pursuing her dream of one day owning her own company.

Hailing from Canal Flats, a small town in BC's interior, Delorme studied dance from a young age. Her dance career included competitions, as well as teaching and choreographing routines for younger dancers. "The closest way that business and dance relate would be in creativity," she says. "Having the ability to think outside the box is especially important when it comes to entrepreneurship—being able to see where there's a niche in the market that needs to be filled, and can be filled, by a service you could provide."

Olivia is quick to acknowledge how the scholarship is helping her to achieve her goals: "I would like to thank Mr. Black, not only for myself, but for all the other recipients who've benefited from the Black Press Scholarships," she says. "Receiving support when you're working toward a degree is really invaluable,

especially for students who might not be able to do it without this additional financial aid."

Olivia did get a chance to meet Mr. Black as part of one of her classes. Students were asked to interview business people about leadership. Olivia's group chose David Black, "It was really interesting to talk to this very influential man in our community and get his perspective on what it takes to be a leader and how he runs his business and works with his team," she says. "To hear his thoughts about why he chose to run his business in a certain way and where he thought his business would be going was a great opportunity and put some of what we'd been learning in class into a more practical context."

Now completing her fourth year, Olivia is expecting to convocate in November. "My time at Gustavson has been a very eye opening experience," Olivia says, "My classes, co-op work terms, and my recent exchange to France have all given me a wide range of skills that I'm now eager to use in the real world." With her dancer's poise and hands-on business savvy, the transition shouldn't be much of a leap.

## Award Types

### Bursaries

The University of Victoria awards over 4 million dollars in Entrance, Transfer, and In-Course Bursaries each year. Bursaries are non-repayable awards based on financial need and reasonable academic standing. These awards are for students who are receiving the maximum student loans available for their period of study and are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

### Scholarships, Medals and Prizes

In recognition of outstanding students, UVic awards more than 6 million dollars in Entrance and In-Course Scholarships each year. Scholarships are non-repayable and are awarded to students on the basis of academic merit or excellence.

### Fellowships

Fellowships are merit-based awards granted to outstanding students enrolled in graduate studies. These awards enable students to concentrate on their speciality, pursue their research, and maintain a high academic standing.

### New Awards April 1, 2013 – March 31, 2014

Vera Allen Travel Award for Medical Sciences

Best Master's Project in Community  
Development Scholarship

Boehm Family Award for Excellence in Science

Ryszard Borzuchowski Scholarship

Bull Housser Entrance Scholarship

CAPP Public Engagement Scholarship

Child and Family Counseling Association  
of Greater Victoria Scholarship

Churchill Foundation Vancouver Island's  
Shirley Burstall Scholarship in History

Irene Cohen Scholarship

Crabtree Family Entrance Scholarship

Dean's Science Fair Scholarship

Jean Dey Scholarship

Jean Dey Bursary

Drive Systems Achievement Scholarship

Dr. Carol Gibson Scholarship

Donna Greschner Entrance Scholarship

Haig-Brown Award for Conservation Writing

Cameron M. Hay Scholarship

Martin and Diana Hocking Scholarship  
in Chemistry

Frank Hori Foundation Scholarship

Gary Hoskins Athletic Award

Dennis and Evelyn Kershaw Bursary in Greek  
and Roman Studies

Dennis and Evelyn Kershaw Bursary in Theatre  
Robert G. Lawrence Theatre in Canada  
Scholarship

Heather Macartney Memorial Bursary

David F. Mahoney Memorial Award

Karen McFadzean Bursary

Ross McLeod Legacy Award

Sean McMillen Memorial Bursary in Philosophy

Merck Scholarship for Aboriginal Science Students

Micqualyn Scholarship

Peninsula Co-op Exercise Science, Physical and  
Health Education Award

Peninsula Co-op Pat Fafard Entrance Award

Peninsula Co-op Jack Groves Entrance Award

Peninsula Co-op Budd Nunn Entrance Award

Peninsula Co-op Sus Tabata Entrance Award

Philomela Choir Scholarship

E. Harvey Richardson Bursary

Ken Smythe Cross Country Bursary

Paul R. N. Spencer Bursary

Eloise Spitzer Scholarship for Indigenous Women

Margaret Ann (McIntyre) Tront Scholarship

Victoria International Running Society Award

Victoria Joint Scottish Council Travel Award

Vikes Honour Roll Award

Vikes Honour Roll Provost Award for Excellence

Margareta H. Von Rudloff Scholarship

Michiko Warkentyne Scholarship in  
Japanese Studies

Joey Weisbrodt Memorial Basketball Award

Dr. Trevor John Williams Memorial Award

Dr. Chi Shing (CS) Wong Memorial Scholarship

### Contact us



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