Forming habits
Sustainability coordinators at UVic’s Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability have set up a habit-forming program this month. For 21 days, they suggest, add one new green activity to your quotidian roster. Maybe skip the meat for one meal a day, or bring dish towels to the office kitchen to replace paper towels, or (gulp!) quit K-cups. Official registration has closed, but anyone can do it! If you’re looking for ideas, Gustavson’s Low-Carbon Culture list might help.
Good luck!
To stay on top of other UVic news and events, sign up for the newsletter at action@uvic.ca

Case study: social innovation
Beneficial State Bank (B): Evaluating Financial and Social Returns for Investors
In the fall of 2015, Beneficial State Bank was set to mark its third successive year of normalized profitability while continuing to fulfill its mission to promote social justice and environmental sustainability. At the same time, creators of the bank remained the only investors almost a decade since its founding. With assets of $420 million, the team envisioned scaling the business for both economic viability and impact to over ten times the current size in the coming years. In order to achieve this goal, however, the founders would have to consider the introduction of additional investors.

The impact of innovation
If all goes according to plan, next year construction will begin on a 30-storey residential tower in Austin, Texas. Nothing new in the daily life of a booming city, except for one thing: the apartment tower will offer no parking spaces to residents. Whether you gauge it by the growth of car-free homes, a steady drop in drivers’ licences for younger age-groups, or the rise in car-sharing, metropolitan areas across the US have lately made strides in getting residents out of – and rid of – their cars. Car-sharing and ride-hailing are having an impact on business from real estate development to auto marketing.

Gender equity
Hillary Clinton made history when she secured a spot at the top of the Democratic ticket for the US presidential election. Clinton jokingly promised not to smash the (partial) glass ceiling she and her supporters were standing under, then thanked them for helping her become the first female nominee of a major American political party.
More on the story in Rolling Stone, June 8, 2016.