



# THE GRAND PROMENADE

Design Charrette

Summary Report 11.2018

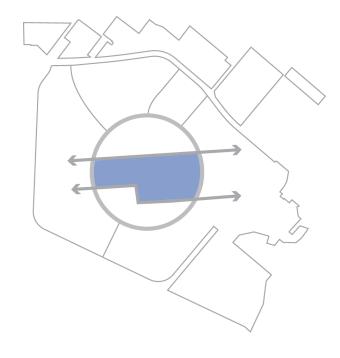






# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION	03
ROUND TABLE EXERCISE #1	04
ROUND TABLE EXERCISE #2	08
ROUND TABLE EXERCISE #3	14
SUMMARY	14
UPDATED DESIGN PRINCIPLES	18



# INTRODUCTION

### THE DESIGN CHARRETTE

The Grand Promenade Landscape Design Strategy represents a pivotal opportunity for the University of Victoria to establish a distinct and memorable public realm that celebrates the spirit of place and contributes to a vibrant, inclusive campus. While the Ideas Fair in October sought feedback and insight from the general campus population, this workshop used a group of key staff, student and faculty stakeholders from across the campus to provide feedback and design visions for the Promenade.

The goals of the workshop were:

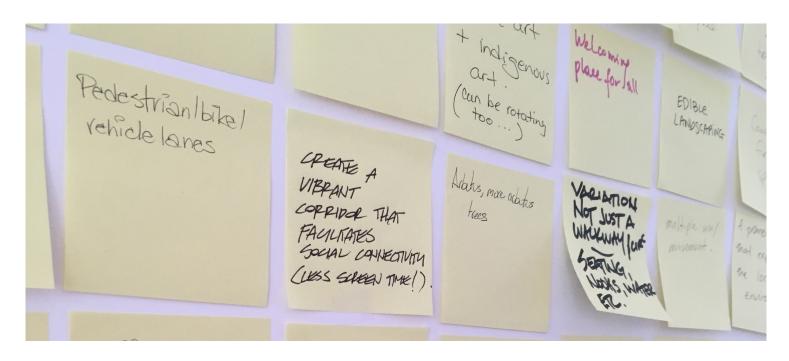
- To inform and update
- To gather aspirations/concerns
- To determine emerging themes
- To engage the stakeholder group in a deep-dive session
- To generate initial big ideas
- To confirm design principles/vision for the Grand Promenade.



COMMUNITY DESIGN FALL 2018 IDEAS FAIR PHASED **WINTER 2018** FALL 2019 **SPRING 2019** TO CAMPUS PLANNING CHARRETTE OPEN HOUSE **IMPLEMENTATION** •SITE ANALYSIS REPORT OUT ON PREPARE DRAFT •RESEARCH
•DEVELOP VISION OPEN HOUSE WITH KEY FINALIZE DESIGN BASED ON FEEDBACK AND DRAFT DIRECTION
• MEETINGS WITH GUIDING PRINCIPLES STAKEHOLDERS

# What are your top 3 aspirations?

In this first exercise, participants were asked to write down their top three aspirations and top three concerns related to the Grand Promenade. Each participant discussed their top priorities to their table.





A word cloud created from all "aspirations" stickie notes

# Some of the aspirations we heard:

"Mix of social and teaching space"

"A vibrant space"

"A welcoming place for all"

"A place of celebration"

"Integrated sustainability elements"

"Smooth, non-slip surfaces"

"More indigenous plants"

"Multiple uses/movement"

"A place to gather and sit"

# What are your top 3 concerns?

In this first exercise, participants were asked to write down their top three aspirations and top three concerns related to the Grand Promenade. Each participant discussed their top priorities to their table.





A word cloud created from all "concerns" stickie notes

# Some of the concerns we heard:

"Tree health and longevity"

"Conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists and vehicles"

"Safety at night"

"Quality of paving material"

"Lacks cohesive character"

"Growth means less natural environment"

"Ring Road crossings"

# What are your top 3 aspirations?

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inge carving oil tigHouse Side of FPH	Avibrant place.	Seating aming the length of the garmane	Public art + indigenous art. (can be rotating too)	Welcoming place for Juli	EDIBLE LANDSCAPING	Con- F1 Sp
ike free sectors.	Pedestrian/bike/ vohicle lanes	CREATE A VIEPANT COPPIDE THAT FAGLITATES SOCIAL CANECIVITY (LESS SCHEEN THE!).	Alahs, mae alahis tees	VACIATION NOT JUST A WHUKWAY JUST SEATING, NEOKS, WATER ETC.	multiple use/ movement.	A prom that e the lo enui
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icalthy happy traes + green spaces	EDØIBLE FEATURES	places to gather and sit in all types of weather.	CEREMONY	A place of Celebration	edible Canos Kto,EL	Outdoo futniti W/sola Panel: Charge
nd geress	All Native Species/	No VEHICLES	the premenade will preside some endywal	USCEVE SPACES NO MATTEL NOUT THE	INVEST IN LABORATION TO ENGINEE TO ENGINEE	Notice of

# What are your top 3 concerns?

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- Genth Means less historic Constronment	ENSTING CARRICTS ROTHERN PAYS, CARRIES !	Continuity of Character is not there	Indigenous plants specific to FPH. not recessarily in other areas	Access to buildings by source Volucles	the number of cervice vehicles and	Cov du hea Vi
The Die proteons Regards	No People PLACES; No SPACES TO STOP, SIT. PROST. STUDY	tall buildings creating wind tunnels + shade.	FORCEST FRE THE SOLET RE FEDERAL AND TREME VEHILLE DRIVENS	Retreations Section Ring Road Fallerian (10051-05	-EXPLORE GATHENAN ISSUES.	K to
LALL OF  URSUAL COHESION  PAUL P  INSPERIENTAL  PROVEDUMENT  CALL PAST +  FUTURE	Tree health.	POOR PAVEMENT QUALITY	ENSUPHRE THE LONG TERM HEALTH OF TREES.	Safe by at night	Tree Lonsevity	3% Pet 4
NASO CONSECUENTES READN 188 MS DESLEN	SAFETY -CONFLICTS WITH VEHICLES	Pedestrian + Cyclist Interactions/ satety	INADEQUATE UGHTING AT NIGHT	Trees will slowly die	TREE HEALTH.	
worry for loss of plants/ trees/folioge due to chimate	TRANSPORT RING BOAD WHORE WE INTERNET.	the green of the Gud's shrinkers	Too many future buildings	Ensuring premenado provido somo ecologuial connectorios	Cyclists Not Shart Shart Space	P
SEPARATION OF VEHICLOS/BICYCUS & BOSSIEINS	VIRALLY ATTRACTIVE  ATTRACKTORE  BUT UNUSED  SPACE	Free flow of peds, cyclists, ax vehicles	conflicts with motorized relicles	Encia gan	sustained Health of present trees thealth of future trees	
TREE HEMTH	Cohesianess West to Ent	Effective movement across confine	Congestion at key into sections with no clear bike/pedestrian/vehicle.	worry that cycling corridors won't be effective	Mixing Cyclists Edistrials	

# What are the emerging themes?

The next exercise involved reviewing the aspirations and concerns and classifying them into Emerging Themes. Each table listed 5-10 Emerging Themes and then reported back to the larger group. As a large group, these Emerging Themes were further summarized and discussed (see following pages).



A word cloud created from all "Emerging Themes" stickie notes

# What are the emerging themes?

materials spaces	VIBRANCY	INSPIRES STIPTUAL + CULTURAL AWARENESS.	besutiful place
Pedestrian Accessibility	THE PROVENTIONS IS NOTE THAN A LOUMNEST OF THE CONNET WY EACH OTHER	HAMANTE NAMEN MOCEST INTERNALS CHAMPE INTO PATURE DESIGN	VEGETATION
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AUTOUSS CARLES BERNIEN VARIAUS LIDOUS OF TRANSPORTITION.	Welcoming avrival points for all	INDIGENOUS CULTURE + HISTORY and KNOWLEDGE	TREE HEACTH present+ LongTerm
Conflict w/peds bilee + Service Service	IDENTITY	Indipenous larrage  and hayfinding  - Dual longuye  Signage  - "Grand fromeand"  is problematic.  - Governous.	Thinking Ontside the Box re: Character of planting
Flow is important! (troffic, people)	Social teaming Spaces	Opportunity to plant indignous plants & restore ecosystems.	Sustainable Funding Resources
		Indigenous History+ Territory	

# What are possible Design Responses to these themes?

Once a shortlist of Emerging Themes was determined, these themes were randomly assigned to the various tables for further, more focused, inquiry. The facilitator provided guiding questions to determine Strategies and Action/Design Responses for each of these specific themes.

# SAFETY & ACCESSIBILITY

"Address conflicts between various modes of transportation."

"Use material and signage as indicators"

"Vehicle-free zones"

"Use bollards and lighting"

"Weather protection - covered areas and surfacing that doesn't puddle"

# VIBRANCY

"Places to sit and interact, gathering space"

"Flexible spaces for ceremonies, performances, informal gathering"

"Activate building edges"

"Outdoor classrooms"

"Variety of spaces"

"A place that is the 'Heart'"

# VEGETATION

"Edible/Healing Plants"

"Use Indigenous plants along the Promenade"

"Trees as important aspect of resurgence, regeneration, healing, etc."

"Opportunity to plant Indigenous plants and restore ecologies"

"Think outside the box re: character and planting"

# IDENTITY.

"One consistent material palette with special zones - site specificity"

"Consistent signage and lighting"

"Art and installations"

'GP like a nurse-log - supports campus vitality"

# oning" vay features" and wayfinding" etive elements ng, lighting etc." y of the land" f the Promenade \* enade' is tic" \*

"Art Commissioning"

"Totems as gateway features"

"Multilingual signage and wayfinding"

"Indigenous interpretive elements integrated in furnishing, lighting etc."

"Honor the history of the land"

"Consider the name of the Promenade
itself"\*

"Grand Promenade' is problematic" \*

# SUSTAINABILITY

"Use soil vaults"

"More permeable space by trees"

"Water is important...make stormwater management visible"

"Sustainable funding and resources"

"Interpretive panels to explain renewable energy, stormwater"

"Integrated stormwater management"

# CONNECTIVITY

"Places along the promenade to slow down: nooks, gardens, rooms'"

"The Promenade is more than a movement corridor... it should be a place where people connect with each other"

"Long-term vision for a clear path alignment"

\*One discussion that kept surfacing was the name of the Promenade which was deemed "problematic" and at odds the Campus' longstanding commitment to and relationships with Indigenous communities.

# **Design Exercise - What's Possible?**

Each table spent about 45 minutes discussing how the emerging themes could be reflected on the Promenade plan. Prompts for sketching included: How do we apply the emerging themes to the site? What should the promenade look like? What should the character be?



The Promenade tells a story

West: more naturalized East: more modern

Reinforces connection to watershed

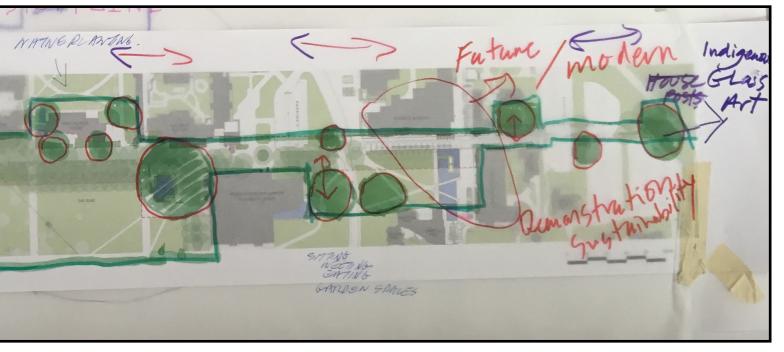
Demonstrates Sustainability



Supports *connectivity* and places for slowing down and *connecting* 

Eddies : places to slow down and gather

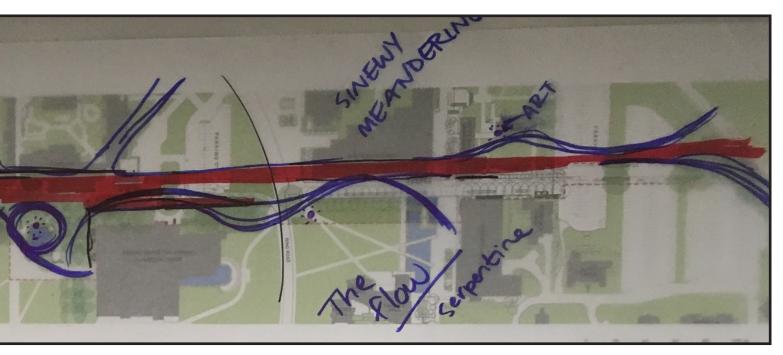
Strengthen connection between FPH and Promenade



Positions FPH at the physical and cultural centre of the Promenade / campus

Connect Promenade to green nodes along extents

Places to sit, eat, meet, garden

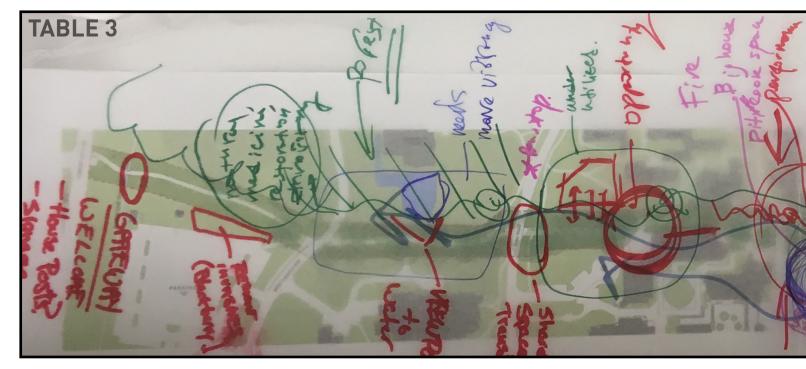


Encourage both meandering and direct connections

Allow promenade to expand into adjacent landscape where appropriate

Use art to provide a sense of cohesion and identity

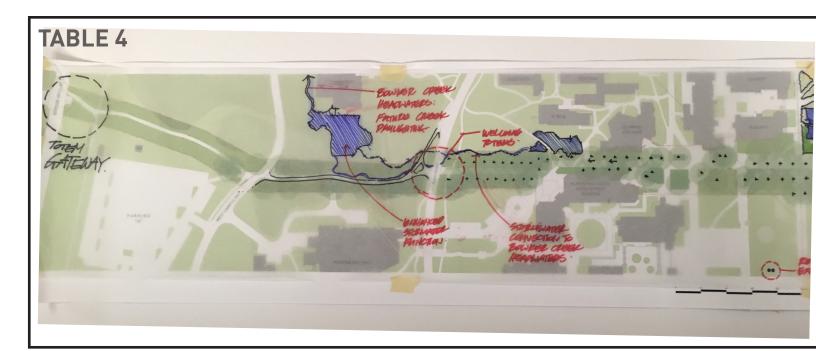
# **Design Exercise - What's Possible?**



Gateway -Welcome Remove invasives

Natural areasmedicinal, restoration etc. View to water at University Club

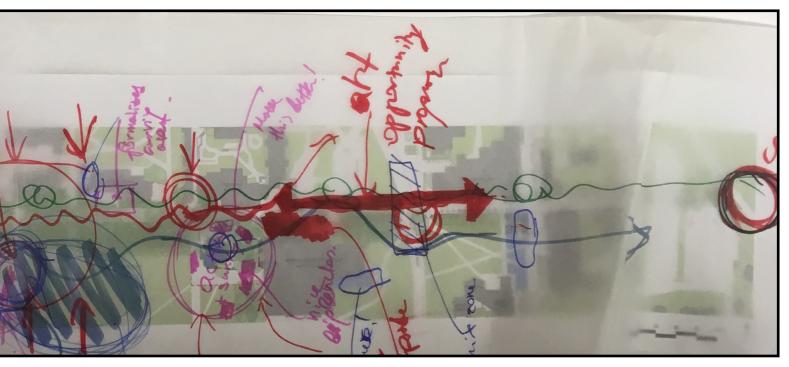
Shared space at Transit



Totem Gateways at East and South Extents

Future stream daylighting and connection with Bower Creek Headwaters

Welcome Totems at key gateways

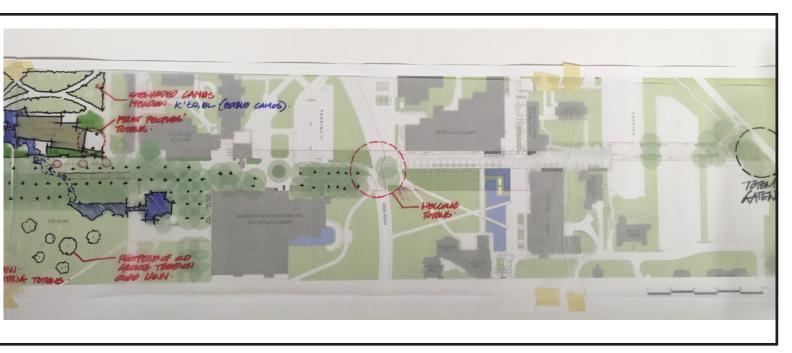


Fire Pit/cook space

Improve Petch Fountain

Opportunity at Ring Road Intersection

Gateway -



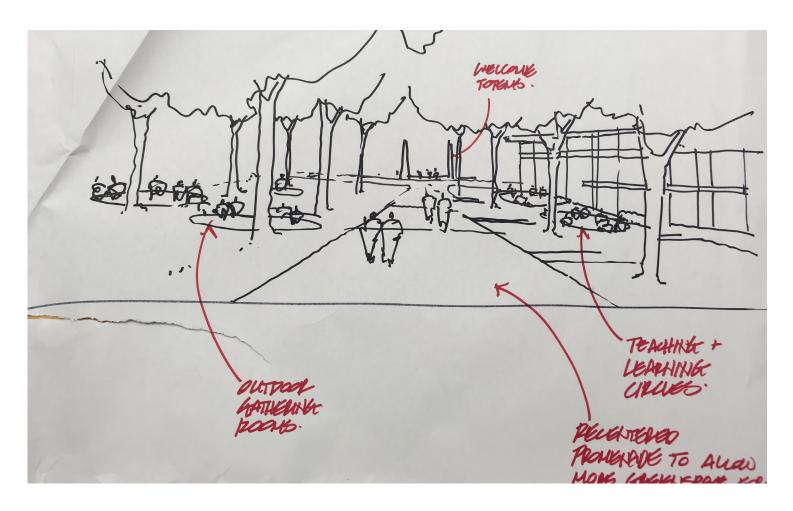
Connections between Petch Fountain and First Peoples' House

Footprints of old growth trees on Quad lawn

Stewarded Camas Meadow

# **SUMMARY**

# **Emerging Big Ideas**



## **WHAT WE HEARD**

The Design Charrette successfully brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to envision a vibrant future for the Grand Promenade. We heard many concerns that hadn't previously been acknowledged, such as the problematic connotations with the name of the Promenade itself and the enthusiasm for a central connection with the First Peoples' House.

It's clear there is strong desire for a cohesive vision that also responds appropriately to the shifting context and character. Through active discussions and sketching, the future Promenade was envisioned as a place, not just a corridor, that celebrated the culture, history and vibrancy of the UVic Campus.

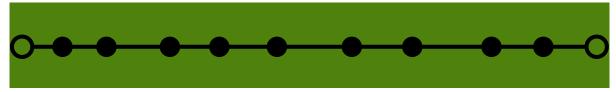
The big ideas that emerged from this process will be invaluable insight for the design team in the development of the Landscape Plan.

# **SUMMARY**

# **Emerging Big Ideas**

### The Promenade tells a story

It has an identity and sense of cohesion



# The Promenade expresses a gradient of character

From natural (west) to modern (east)



### The Promenade has a heart

The Quad-Petch Fountain-First People's House is the Centre of the Promenade



### The Promenade (and people) take precedence

Where the Promenade intersects with Ring Road, pedestrians take precedence



### The Promenade is green in character

Defined by its tree canopy and sense of walking through a landscape



### The Promenade is a place not just a corridor

It expands to connect with green nodes and social spaces along its extents



# **DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

# **Draft Principles Presented at Design Charrette**

- 1 Ensure design presents a cohesive vision of the entire Grand Promenade.
- 2 Integrate mature and any new trees as key and defining features of the Promenade.
- 3 Create a variety of outdoor spaces integrated with the Promenade that support social and academic interaction.
- 4 Ensure design reduces conflicts between pedestrian, cyclists and service vehicles.
- 5 Embed demonstrated sustainability practices into every design solution.
- 6 Ensure the design of the Grand Promenade responds to campus mobility and accessibility.
- 7 Ensure any design responds in a meaningful way to adjacent buildings and broader campus connectivity.
- 8 Ensure the entire extents of the Grand Promenade is a safe, secure and inclusive path during all times and weather conditions.
- Paragraph Ensure all material are durable, regionally appropriate and adaptable over time.
- 1 Embed indigenous culture, history and connections to land into the design process.

# **DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

# Updated Principles based on Feedback from Design Charrette

- Embed indigenous culture, language, history and connections to land into the design process.
- 2 Integrate mature and any new trees as key and defining features of the Promenade.
- 3 Create a variety of outdoor spaces integrated with the Promenade that support social and academic interaction.
- Ensure design reduces conflicts between pedestrian, cyclists and service vehicles.
- 5 Embed demonstrated sustainability practices into every design solution.
- 6 Ensure the design of the Grand Promenade responds to campus mobility and accessibility.
- T Ensure any design responds in a meaningful way to adjacent buildings and broader campus connectivity.
- 8 Ensure the entire extents of the Grand Promenade is a safe, secure and inclusive path during all times and weather conditions.
- 9 Ensure all material are durable, regionally appropriate and adaptable over time.
- 10 Ensure design presents a cohesive vision and narrative of the entire Grand Promenade.
- 1 1 Ensure design supports learning opportunities.
- 12 Ensure proposed design is economically sustainable and will be maintained over time.