BY STEPHANIE HARRINGTON

UVic historian Penny Bryden knows what rules Canadian voters. While sex scandals enrage Americans and Brits, Bryden's research shows mismanaged cash angers Canadian voters, proving that pocketbooks are most sacrosanct in the true North.

But what constitutes a scandal in the first place? In an editorial published in the national edition of The Globe and Mail, Bryden outlined her three criteria for a true scandal: first, there must be a transgression; second, a cover-up; and finally, sustained public outrage.

"There has been no shortage of ‘breaking news’ on the scandal front in the last decade," explains Bryden. "In Canada, we get outraged about misspent money more than anything else, whereas in other countries like the UK and US, sex scandals are more common."

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"I'm trying to find less well-known scandals," Bryden says. "It's not always what you think will upset people."

Bryden outlines her three criteria for a true scandal after Confederation involved the Canadian Pacific Railway when then-prime minister Sir John A. Macdonald and his Conservative government were accused of the heartbreaking scandal that left little trace in the public record.

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The university community has been in mourning since a tragic accident on the evening of Sept. 13 in which two students died and several others were injured while on a field trip to the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, a research and teaching facility on the west coast of Vancouver Island. While some students were treated for injuries and returned to UVic on Sept. 14, one student remains in hospital. A total of 47 UVic passengers were on board.

Support ongoing

University support and outreach staff met the students on their return to campus and provided a space for them and their family, University of Victoria, UVic.ca/alerts.

SPEED READ

EMERGENCY ALERTS

Stay safe with the new SafetyApp

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NUMBER OF POLITICAL SCANDALS IN CANADA CATALOGUED IN BRYDEN'S RESEARCH

1,200+

Distinctly Canadian: new research on political scandals

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Canadian political scandals involve everything from the purchase of a $16 glass of orange juice by former Conservative cabinet minister Bev Oda and the sale of an amusement park owned by former BC Premier Bill Vander Zalm, to the first major political scandal in 1873.

Bryden explains that this first political scandal after Confederation involved the Canadian Pacific Railway when then-prime minister Sir John A. Macdonald and his Conservative government were accused of receiving financial support from a shipping company.

SEE SCANDALS P.3

SEE COMMUNITY GATHERING P.2

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SEE SCANDALS P.3

SEE COMMUNITY GATHERING P.2
Support grows for Orange Shirt Day

A large crowd of university faculty, staff and students honour residential school survivors on Orange Shirt Day on Sept. 30, gathering for a Welcome to the Territory, drumming and a group photo before attending a film screening and discussion at First Peoples House. More than 2,000 orange shirts were sold on campus this year, featuring a design contributed by Aulani Professor of Contemporary Art Practice Carey Newman. Proceeds support the Elders’ engagement fund and Witness Blanket project.

The university is committed to fostering respect, reconciliation and mutual understanding with all Indigenous peoples and communities. uvic.ca/orangeshirtday

COMMUNITY GATHERING CONTINUED FROM P 1

Members of Elders and other community members and the language they speak. Finally, members of Elders voiced us to ask the title "Elders" rather than "Old Ones" when introducing or referring to Elders.

In its continuing commitment to promote a sustainable future, the university is updating two policies related to its investments, and is inviting feedback from interested faculty, staff and students.

Over the spring and summer, UVic’s finance office worked with student group representatives to discuss and review its responsible investment policies, specifically the Short Term Investment Policy and the policy that guides it, the Policy on Social Responsibility and UVic Investments.

Short-term investments—distinct from endowment funds, donations and other long-term financial assets—are intended to provide returns on the university’s short-term cash that is used over the school year for funds, operations, research projects and other requirements.

The university invests these funds over a much shorter period to ensure cash is available when required. The return on these investments form part of UVic’s annual operating budget, which is approved in March by the Board of Governors.

Examples of investment strategies include those that consider environmental, social and governance issues (ESG); integration; engagement; negative/exclusionary screening; positive screening/best in class; generating positive environmental, social and finance return; and sustainability-themed investments.

Goals of the review include continuing to achieve UVic’s Strategic Framework. UVic aims to be a global leader in environmental, social and institutional sustainability through research, academic programs, campus operations and the impact and influence of our students, faculty and alumni.

Students can access counselling support through Counselling Services, while faculty and staff can seek support through the Employee and Family Assistance Program. Other resources include UVic’s Health Services and Indigenous support services.

The university has begun a review of the circumstances around the bus accident. The RCMP and Transport Canada are conducting investigations and once completed will also provide valuable information.

“Very soon after the university was informed about the accident, we knew that we wanted to fully understand what happened,” said Gayle Gorill, vice-president of finance and operations.

“The safety of our students is extremely important to us at UVic. Whenever there are situations such as this tragedy, we need to learn from them.”

The full field trip to the research centre is an optional two-day offering that provides research and learning activities at the world-class teaching and research facility that is an oceanside campus owned by UVic, the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and the University of Calgary and Alberta. The full field trip has been held for at least 18 years.

The only other UVic trip this term to the research centre is in late October when a mode of transportation other than a bus will be used. Gorill said the outcomes of the review will inform decisions around transportation for other future trips.

COMMUNITY GATHERING

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Royal Society of Canada elects four UVic researchers

Four University of Victoria researchers in the fields of social sciences and humanities have been elected to the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), a 137-year-old council of distinguished scholars and leaders recognized with the country’s highest academic honour.

Professors Robert Gifford (psychology and environmental studies) and James Tanaka (psychology) are elected new fellows, while Rachel Cleves (history) and Chris Darimont (geography) join as new members to the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists—with Cleves the first UVic humanities researcher to join this group. The society’s peer-elected recipients are chosen for their academic excellence and making “remarkable contributions” in the arts, humanities, and sciences, and Canadian public life.

Robert Gifford

Gifford, an expert in environmental psychology, developed what he calls “the dragons of inaction” or the reasons why people don’t do more to improve climate-related policies.

“Without question, my students think about this crucial problem is what inspires me,” says Gifford. “Helping to discover how people think about this problem is what inspires me.”

James Tanaka

Tanaka, an internationally recognized expert on facial recognition, has devoted much of his career to understanding the processes of face recognition in people on the autism spectrum.

“A lot of my work is dedicated to promoting diversity and equity,” Cleves notes. Violence, sexuality, illicit sex—no subject is off limits for Cleves. Her forthcoming biography of Scottish writer Norman Douglas, a literary star in the early 20th century and also known for abusing children, examines sex tourism and child prostitution at a time when these practices were less taboo than today.

“Chris Darimont’s group conducts long-term community-engaged research on wildlife and fisheries, commonly working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples and coastal British Columbians. This applied work focuses on providing habitat, foods and security for culturally, economically and ecologically important animals like bears, wolves and mountain goats.”

Rachel Cleves

Cleves calls herself an archival rat. The description is apt—reflecting countless hours of meticulous research she devotes to her projects—but only tells part of the story. Cleves, UVic’s first humanities scholar admitted as a new RSC college member, is expert at finding little-known historical stories that illuminate contemporary times.

“Tanaka and a team of UVic faculty, students, community professionals and families, are dedicated to research and development of facial recognition tools for children and adults with autism. The work, conducted through the UVic Centre for Autism Research, Technology and Education, which was founded by Tanaka, involves a range of hands-on outreach activities to bridge research, education and community engagement.”

“Without question, our students are my inspiration—their boundless curiosity, fresh approach to scientific questions and unwavering dedication to research—has propelled my work in new, unexpected directions,” Tanaka says. Together, we share a common belief that cognitive and brain sciences can unlock the mysteries of the human mind and this knowledge can be used to help others.”

By creating “new tools for different minds,” Tanaka and his team have improved the lives of thousands of individuals with autism and their families across the globe.

Chris Darimont

Darimont is an interdisciplinary conservation scientist and the Raincoast Chair of Applied Conservation Science. At a global level, his work focuses on the unique ecology of “human predators,” or hunters and fishers, with novel insight into the causes and consequences of humanity’s distinct predatory behavior. Closer to home, Darimont’s group conducts long-term community-engaged research on wildlife and fisheries, commonly working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples and coastal British Columbians. This applied work focuses on providing habitat, foods and security for culturally, economically and ecologically important animals like bears, wolves and mountain goats.

“I’m infinitely curious about the natural world, passionate about applied research to protect it, and have the privilege to work with extraordinary people who make a difference,” says Darimont.

Research output from Darimont’s lab has real-world impact with Indigenous governments applying findings to wildlife, fisheries and forest management. Darimont has served as an expert witness before the National Energy Board and Auditor General of BC. He was also an expert panel member on the design of BC’s proposed endangered species legislation and is a frequent contributor to media outlets.

SCANDALS CONTINUED FROM P 1

magnate in exchange for the contract to build the transcontinental railway.

Macdonald’s Conservatives were removed and the Liberals won the next federal election.

In another scandal, former Alberta premier John Brownlee was forced to resign in 1934 for his involvement with a young stenographer and family friend, Vivian MacMillan, who says she was pressured into having a sexual relationship with him over nearly three years. “It wasn’t the sex that people were worried about,” Bryden says. “It was the power imbalance.”

“If you look at scandals over the longer term, you learn something about the political climate and what’s important to Canadians—and what’s not,” Bryden adds.

Fire drills on campus

UVic runs almost 100 fire drills in campus buildings every year. Fire drills are required by legislation, and allow UVic building emergency teams to practice their roles. When you hear the fire bell, immediately evacuate the building and go to the Building Emergency Assembly Point. Encourage others around you to do the same. If you see a fire, or smoke, pull the nearest fire alarm. Call 911 and provide any details you have. Follow up with a call to Campus Security at 250-721-7599. Fire drills typically take 15 minutes or less—thank you for your cooperation. bit.ly/79-drill

Vikes Championship Breakfast tops $5.6m for student athletes

On Sept. 24, Vikes Athletics and Recreation hosted more than 600 alumni, supporters and community members in the CASCAS Performance Gym for the 12th Annual Vikes Championship Breakfast. Over $550,000 was raised in support of student-athlete scholarships to push the event’s running total above $5.6 million raised since 2008. bit.ly/79-breafest

Great BC ShakeOut

The annual Great BC ShakeOut earthquake drill takes place Oct. 17 at 10:17 a.m. Whether you’re in the classroom, at home or in the office, take a few minutes to become prepared. Download the How to hold an earthquake drill document from uvic.ca/shakeout and practice the Drop, Cover and Hold On procedure with your students or colleagues. Drop by the information booth in University Centre, 10 a.m.—2 p.m. More: uvic.ca/shakeout or epmanager@uvic.ca.

Daily media highlights

You’re invited to subscribe to the university’s daily digest of media stories about UVic. The curated clippings package is overseen by University Communications + Marketing and distributed each weekday by Agility PR Solutions. Subscriptions are limited to uvic.ca email addresses. It may take up to 48 hours to begin distribution to new subscribers. bit.ly/79-digest

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EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

**GILIAN SHERWIN ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING**

Georgia Sitara, Gender Studies/History

A former student praises Georgia Sitara for showing her an “intersectional, anti-racist, and decolonial feminist understanding of the world.” Sitara encourages her history and gender studies students to cultivate the courage to use their voices and intellectual acumen to be agents of positive social change. She utilizes the principles of loving kindness and deep rigour to foster dynamic student-centred learning. Her commitment to ensuring Indigenous, queer and other marginalized students are well-supported to succeed within the academy and beyond contributes to a more inclusive and equitable future. She imbues her students with love and compassion through meticulous intellectual training.

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

Patrick Boyle, School of Music

Patrick Boyle forges musical partnerships with students that embody direct, active experiential learning and scholarship. Through faculty recitals, jam sessions, public performances and impromptu in-office practice sessions, Boyle creates avenues for students of jazz to explore their growing talents, embrace their musical and artistic values, and learn about the business of music. His pedagogical focus on the craft of improvisation, culture and composition emphasizes deepening students’ listening experience while creating something new. The vibrancy of his approach is visible in the jazz ensemble, with students sharing their music in community in formal and informal settings.

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH-ENRICHED TEACHING**

Megan Swift, Germanic and Slavic Studies

A student describes Megan Swift’s teaching as a “beautiful example of show, don’t tell.” In her Russian studies courses, Swift integrates research and teaching, using multimedia, lecture and discussion to build connections between Russian culture, the revolution and the contrasts between the Lenin and Stalin eras with Putin’s Russia today. Swift’s vision of a research-based online encyclopedia and mapping project, “Dostoevsky’s St. Petersburg,” is exemplary. Using digital technologies and period materials, students trace aspects of the author’s literary works onto a map of St. Petersburg, publishing the findings in the form of short encyclopedia entries.

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION AND MENTORSHIP**

E. Paul Zehr, Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education

When you build teams of graduate and undergraduate students to collaborate on projects, share findings and support each other, you’re onto something special. E. Paul Zehr exemplifies the best traits of mentorship in the School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Education. He inspires students toward independent exploration, to participate in international labs and teaches his methodologies to other scientists around the world. Zehr utilizes his lab for meetings to help graduate students navigate the many nuances of scholarly success from publications to presentations, methods to theories. As one student says: “These meetings are filled with no less than an academic goldmine of valuable information.”

**HARRY HICKMAN ALUMNI AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Scott McIndoe, Chemistry

Innovation and creativity are hallmarks of Scott McIndoe’s teaching and leadership. As an extraordinary teacher of large first-year classes, McIndoe has introduced new ways of teaching chemistry, authoring highly successful lecture books, developing a revolutionary graduate course framework, blogging with students and utilizing 3D technologies to create molecular “hands-on” models to enhance student learning. His responsiveness to students is epitomized by his creation of an anonymous “real-time” solution for students to ask in-class questions. McIndoe is also a recognized leader in the scholarship of learning and teaching— influencing colleagues nationally and internationally. McIndoe’s students thrive, bringing molecular theory into reality attending to real-world problems like environmental sustainability, food security and medical advances.

On Oct. 10, the third annual REACH Awards will celebrate UVic scholars for their extraordinary contributions in research and teaching. Award recipients lead the way in dynamic learning and make a vital impact at UVic, in the classroom and beyond.

“Our REACH Awards celebrate teaching and research excellence at the University of Victoria,” says UVic President Jamie Cassels. “This year’s distinguished honourees are inspiring teachers and researchers, who are contributing to a better future for people and the planet.”
DAVID H. TURPIN GOLD MEDAL FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH
Tim Stockwell, Psychology/Canadian Institute for Substance Use Research

Tim Stockwell has debunked myths about alcohol-related disease, created strategies that cut alcohol-related traffic deaths, studied the neurophysiology of addiction and shaped policy at all levels around the world. His applied theatre projects raise the curtain on social issues that impact people’s lives. He customized his approach to work with children in Downtown Eastside Vancouver and disabled young women in Cambodia, with youth in Brazilian favelas torn by drug wars and special-needs students in the Netherlands, developing safe space for them to create artistically, build skills and confidence, and find beauty. Most recently he has been invited to bring that experience unto local focus. With the Hul’q’umi’num community on Vancouver Island, she is turning the spotlight to help them revitalize a crucial part of their culture: their language.

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CREATIVITY AND ARTISTIC EXPRESSION
Kirsten Sadeghi-Yekta, Theatre

"Act well your part," poet Alexander Pope once urged, because "there all the honour lies." Through honour—scholarly, artistic and personal integrity—Kirsten Sadeghi-Yekta has earned the respect of communities around the world. Her applied theatre projects raise the curtain on social issues that impact people’s lives. She customized her approach to work with children in Downtown Eastside Vancouver and disabled young women in Cambodia, with youth in Brazilian favelas torn by drug wars and special-needs students in the Netherlands, developing safe space for them to create artistically, build skills and confidence, and find beauty. Most recently she has been invited to bring that experience unto local focus. With the Hul’q’umi’num community on Vancouver Island, she is turning the spotlight to help them revitalize a crucial part of their culture: their language.

DAVID H. TURPIN GOLD MEDAL FOR CAREER ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH
Budd Hall, Public Administration

For more than 40 years, Budd Hall has envisioned and worked to build a world that functions as a “knowledge democracy”: through teaching, creating diverse and resilient networks, and helping communities drive research as a globally recognized innovator of participatory research. By taking this vision mainstream and global, his work has impacted university students, peers and the public—from injection drug users to homeless individuals, urban slum dwellers and rural poor to sex workers. Hall’s leadership on community-based research has transformed academia and, perhaps more importantly, the knowledge democracy that he champions has transformed lives.

SILVER MEDAL FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH
Alisdair Boraston, Biochemistry and Microbiology

Alisdair Boraston is passionate in applying his research on carbohydrate-protein interactions. For one thing, he wants to identify new molecules that can be used to fight infections so we’re no longer at the mercy of drug-resistant bacteria. He is also working towards figuring out how marine and land-based plant material might be converted into biofuels or other useful bioproducts to potentially reduce our carbon footprint. But his impact goes beyond lab work and stellar publications. By generously sharing his equipment and his knowledge, he helps advance all students and other trainees in his department. As both a role model and as a scientist, Boraston is boosting the well-being of people at Uvic and further afield, and indeed of our planet itself.
Too little, too late: Their 2018 report, with life-limiting illnesses who are housed while struggling with life-threatening medical conditions. and Lifelong Health and the School of Nursing. And it is, according to Stajduhar, the best possible outcome: “As a researcher and as a nurse, the most we can hope for is to have a palliative care clinic or be comfortable going to a hospital.” They determined that the best model for this community was to get services to them where they are at, literally. And so, PORT was formed. This mobile palliative care program is a collaboration of UVic, Island Health, Victoria Cool Aid and Victoria Hospice. And it is, in Mirroring similar models in Toronto and Calgary, people can self-refer or be referred by their caregivers to a palliative care nurse and a physician who manage the pain and symptoms related to life-limiting illness, support chosen family and caregivers, and provide grief and bereavement support. Chosen family and caregivers in this population include “street family” and shelter, housing, harm reduction, and peer and support workers from inner-city community organizations who are doing the bulk of end-of-life care for people living in poverty.

Dr. Fraser Black, assistant dean at UVic’s Island Medical Program, is a palliative care physician and PORT team member who works alongside nurse Katie Leahy. He emphasizes that one of the goals of PORT is to make visible the city’s need for palliative care. “There are people who are dying in places that we just don’t see—in their cars, in shelters, and they’re dying in pain and they’re dying alone. And the need is great.”

In its first year, the program will be funded by Saint Elizabeth Health and Island Health. The Vancouver Foundation is funding the UVic-led evaluation of the program, as well as the development of initiatives to increase access to and quality of palliative care in the inner city.

Stajduhar and Mollison are continuing research to help inner-city workers integrate palliative care into their approaches. “When we begin our work with people, often they’re very angry at the system. They feel a sense of frustration, they feel hopeless,” Stajduhar told CBC in a recent interview. “The wonderful thing is, through our work together, people start to feel hope and meaning in the everyday work that they do. And when people feel good about the work that they’re doing, they do a better job with the people that they care about and love.”
Leah Gajecki, Chemistry

Leah Gajecki’s ease in using a multitude of teaching techniques sets her teaching apart. When introducing new concepts, Gajecki explains, draws, illustrates through stories, links to real life examples, and connects to her research so that students are well supported in their learning. “My method,” she explains, “is to break down concepts in ways that anyone can understand.” Gajecki’s students recognize her ability to do this and are very grateful for her care and support.

Natalie Boldt, English

“Natalie is one of the most kind and compassionate teachers that I have encountered,” writes one of Natalie Boldt’s colleagues. This statement is confirmed by many of Boldt’s students. They describe her ability to create a positive learning environment that allows all students to comfortably participate. Most importantly, students feel respected due to Boldt’s careful attention to their contributions in class—allowing her to sustain student engagement throughout the whole course.

Mehdi Hashemi, Political Science

Genuine, outstanding, caring and inspiring are just a few of the words that students use to describe Mehdi Hashemi. Students talk about the small gestures that Hashemi does that have a big impact on their academic well-being. For example, after meeting with a student about an upcoming assignment, Hashemi follows up with further support, inspiring the student to put in the extra effort. Through these small gestures, Hashemi truly inspires students to strive for high-quality work.

Other major UVic awards

The REACH Awards celebrate teaching and research excellence at UVic, but they’re not the only awards on campus. Other university-wide awards that recognize the outstanding work of UVic faculty, staff and students include:

- The President’s Extraordinary Service Awards (PESA) celebrate the outstanding contributions of our people, whether teams or individuals, from all across campus.
- The Provost’s Advocacy and Activism Awards recognize the impact of dedicated advocates and activists within our community in addressing systemic or institutionalized barriers as champions for others.
- The Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA) program encourages and supports undergraduates to pursue innovative and original research to enhance their learning while at UVic, and to provide a valuable preparatory experience towards graduate studies or a research-related career.

Shannon Daub, Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives BC

Together with more than 100 collaborators and 11 partner organizations, they are “Mapping the Power of the Carbon Extractive Corporate Resource Sector.” Carroll, a sociology professor at UVic, and Daub, the executive director of the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives BC, link five research streams with journalism and multifaceted knowledge mobilization. They’re integrating economics, political science, geography, earth science, sociology, law, political ecology, Indigenous studies, journalism and communication studies to investigate the organization and power of the fossil-fuel industry in Western Canada. Their project empowers Canadians as well as a democratic society.
New publication highlights local artists

UVic Libraries recently launched its latest publication, [untitled]: The Artists’ Archives at the University of Victoria Libraries, exploring the archives of four celebrated local artists in Special Collections and University Archives. The publication is presented as a series of four interrelated booklets—each told through the voice of a writer closely associated with them, and packaged in a limited-edition portfolio. UVic has engaged in the preservation of documentary heritage relating to art, artists, the campus and the Victoria community since the establishment of Special Collections, and then the University Archives, in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Prepare for 5 Days of Action this November

BY ASHLEY MCKAY

Courageous conversations are never easy. That’s why they’re called courageous. The university’s 5 Days of Action is an annual event aimed at creating spaces for courageous conversations, dialogue, allyship and commitment to change. This year 5 Days of Action is taking place on campus Nov. 4 to 8 and is organized around calls to action to address discrimination, harassment and sexualized violence on campus.

This year’s project manager, Ashley McKay, talks with Mary McCue, 2018 project manager (full article online at bit.ly/5-action).

What can attendees at the 5 Days of Action expect?

You can expect that all of the facilitators will be generous, warm and open. They are there to assist you, and help you navigate your own feelings and learning. They will not challenge you in a way that will make you unsafe, but in ways that will help you grow. I think the idea of these five days is to bring you to the table, and hopefully you will stay long enough to learn something and be able to take something positive and useful away to help make this campus a more welcoming and inclusive place.

What are the ‘actions’ in the 5 Days of Action?

I think there are three ways everyone on campus can participate in actions during the 5 Days. First there are the Calls to Action, found on the EQHR website. These are actions to read, watch, do and commit to address discrimination, harassment and sexualized violence here at UVic. Second, anyone in the campus community can act by registering for workshops, lectures, art exhibits and performances that are free to attend. And third, taking time to reflect on your actions, thoughts and commitments to make this place a more welcoming and inclusive space. I think this is the most important action you can take.

What are you most excited about this year during the 5 Days of Action?

There are so many exciting opportunities, and more events are still to be confirmed. There is so much this year—including a lecture and tour of the Transgender Archives, as well as sessions on anti-racism, fairness, building inclusive spaces and a performance presented by the Immigrant Employee Support Network. I encourage everyone to check out what is going on and attend, participate and commit to making positive change.

You can register for the 5 Days of Action events. Learn more about the Calls to Action and get more information at uvic.ca/5days.