



INDIGENOUS THEATRE FESTIVAL

PAGE 8

THE RING

SEPTEMBER 2022

The University of Victoria's
community newspaper

uvic.ca/news


University
of Victoria

SPEED READ

RESPECT & RECONCILIATION

Orange Shirt Day campus events Sept. 29

Faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members are invited to attend campus Orange Shirt Day events Sept. 29 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. in the Quad. The day will include the lighting of the Sacred Fire, followed by stories from residential school survivors, a discussion on Indigenous resurgence and witness reflections. The university will be closed on Sept. 30 to mark the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a federal statutory holiday to honour the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities.

uvic.ca/orangeshirtday

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP

Inaugural AVP Global Engagement

Gustavson School of Business professor A.R. (Elango) Elangovan has been appointed as the university's first associate vice-president global engagement, effective Sept. 1.

bit.ly/AVPGE



Landscapes of Injustice Project Manager Michael Abe and Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society President Tsugio Kurushima at the new pavilion. PHOTO: JONATHAN WOODS

Righting a historical wrong

UVic's Landscapes of Injustice project documented historical wrongdoings and supported community efforts to build Esquimalt's new pavilion.

BY JONATHAN WOODS

MORE THAN
22,000

JAPANESE
CANADIANS
LIVING IN
BRITISH
COLUMBIA
WERE FORCED
FROM THEIR
HOMES AND
LIVELIHOODS
DURING WORLD
WAR 2.

When the doors opened to the newly constructed Gorge Park Pavilion this past June, it offered landmark recognition of the local impacts of discrimination that shattered a community 80 years ago.

In 1942, the Japanese Canadian community on the West Coast was torn apart by the federal government. Over 22,000 Japanese Canadians—the majority Canadian citizens by birth—were deported from a federally defined “protected zone” along BC’s coast and sent to internment camps in the interior of the province and beyond

as a purported national security measure.

Among the uprooted were brothers Kensuke and Hayato Takata, owner-operators of a popular Japanese-style tea house and garden—Canada’s first—in what is now Esquimalt’s Gorge Park. The government seized the Takatas’ estate, as with all Japanese Canadians’ property aside from the one or two suitcases they were allowed to take with them on their person to the internment camps. However, under the government’s neglectful custodianship, the property quickly fell victim to looters and vandals, and was left to waste. It wasn’t until 1949, four years after the end of the

war, that Japanese Canadians were allowed back to the coast. The Takatas, their livelihood in Victoria ruined, relocated to Toronto to start over.

A legacy of disconnection

Speaking at the grand opening of the new pavilion, Dillon Takata, great-grandson of former tea-house owner Kensuke, related his personal experience as an example of the disruption and trauma that internment and dispossession had on the Japanese Canadian community.

“I grew up, like many Japanese Canadians of my generation, disconnected from the past, cut off from my roots,” Takata recalled. “I carried a Japanese name, but had

SEE GORGE PAVILION, P.8

FOSTERING RESPECT & RECONCILIATION

New banners in heart of campus carry messages of welcome



August, with a new banner on campus. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

BY TARA SHARPE

Two banner designs featuring new Indigenous art now float overhead on light posts in the heart of campus as a visual sign of greeting to this place. One features a figure with arms down, designed by the artist as a marker for welcoming visitors and guests to this land of the ləkʷəŋən peoples upon whose traditional territory the university stands, with splashes of grey blue evoking the sky and waves of the coast. The other is filled with earth tones of cedar and sand inviting reflections of land and connection, with the second figure’s arms up as a gratitude welcome gesture after feasting.

The banners are the artistic creations of Margaret August, a Two-Spirited, Coast Salish, multi-media artist from shíshálh Nation whose work is inspired by traditional teachings and encounters with nature.

Welcoming gestures of art

The banners, installed along the 1.2-kilometre campus greenway—including the main pathway near First Peoples House—will be accompanied at night by designs from two spindle whorls, also created by August.

“I really wanted a gesture of welcoming,” August says,

“of coming in—for anyone new to campus, Victoria or Canada, and for those who are visitors and guests here, to feel a welcoming that’s compassion for learning about the culture and to get to know the lands that you are on. And for Indigenous students, faculty and staff at UVic, it’s about seeing this art in the centre of the campus.”

On Sept. 7, in gratitude for their contributions to the campus greenway project, August was invited to the second annual Indigenous Welcome to Campus—where the UVic community came together to acknowledge the traditional territory of the ləkʷəŋən peoples, and to experience and learn from the knowledge, teachings and practices of local Indigenous communities.

Artist’s designs light up a path of encouragement

Spindle whorls are typically used by Coast Salish female and Two-Spirit weavers to spin animal hair into wool for textiles. August’s two whorls will be projected by light as stencils on the ground and will

SEE WELCOME BANNERS, P. 3

Leiden rankings

For eight of the last 12 years, UVic has been the top North American university for international research collaborations according to the CWTS Leiden University rankings. International collaborations open doors to coordinated action and impact on a grand scale, including “big science” projects such as UVic’s Ocean Networks Canada (see page 3)—a key part of UVic’s success in addressing the world’s problems. In mathematics and computer science, UVic is the top university in Canada, and number 50 globally, for its proportion of high-impact research findings. UVic also scores second nationally for research in physical sciences and engineering, closely tailing the University of Toronto.

bit.ly/22-leiden

New student housing and dining hall opens for fall term

The newest and largest student housing and dining project on the UVic campus is opening to its first influx of residents just before the start of fall classes.

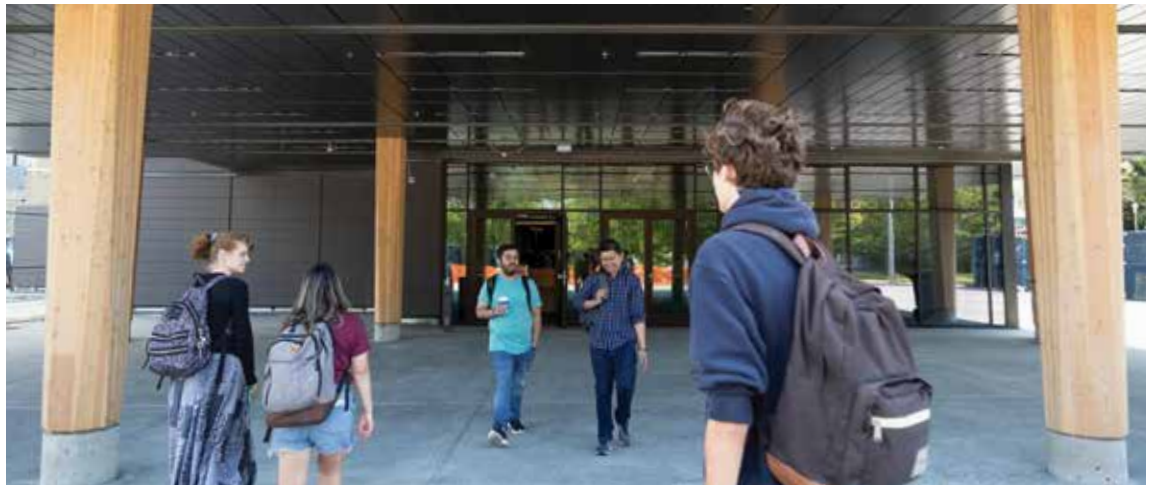
Nearly 400 students arrive on campus on Sept. 4 to make the residence their new home, fill the halls with activity and build a community of friends.

The project’s two buildings provide 783 total student spaces, with 398 beds opening for students in Building 1 this month. The eight-storey Building 1 and 11-storey Building 2 are located on Ring Road south of the Student Union Building, with ocean views to the east and mountain views in all directions. Building 2 is set to open in June 2023.

The new buildings are the largest capital project in UVic’s history, and the first since the Campus Plan was renewed in 2016. In addition to student housing, Building 1 features the Cove dining hall that is open to the entire campus community, and Building 2 will include two 225-seat classrooms, an Indigenous student lounge and meeting rooms.

“Each year, UVic receives a high demand for on-campus housing,” says Joel Lynn, executive director of Student Services. “We’re thrilled to be opening these new buildings with modern amenities and student supports that form an incredibly important part of the university experience.” “Through the extensive consultation that we did for this project, we heard that housing was a number one priority for students,” says Mike Wilson, director of Campus Planning and Sustainability. “We are really proud of the green building technology and leading-edge sustainability features used in Building 1, which means it will be UVic’s first Passive House-certified building with enhanced energy efficiency as well as comfort for occupants.”

In August, 240 people were work-



Building 1 entrance, leading to the new Cove servery. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

ing to complete the finishing touches on the building for student move-in. Up to 350 people were employed on site during the construction phase of the project.

From the ground up

Work on the site of the Student Housing and Dining project began in summer 2019, with an Indigenous land blessing ceremony—the first in the university’s history—taking place in January 2020. Deconstruction of the Cadboro Commons and two older residence buildings took place in summer 2020. The installation of the Modular Dining Facility (MOD) allowed the construction schedule to be expedited so that work progressed on both buildings simultaneously, saving 18 months on the original construction schedule.

An official ceremony and celebration will be held later this fall.

The \$229.2 million project is supported by funding from UVic, the Government of BC and the University of Victoria Foundation as an investment in sustainability.

Facts and figures

- Building 1: 16,589m³
- Building 2: 15,899m³
- Total number of beds: 783 (621 net new beds on campus)

Passive House design

- The buildings are designed and constructed to Passive House and LEED Gold standards. Passive House design principles aim to reduce energy consumption, green house gas (GHG) emissions, maintenance and replacement costs by investing in a higher-performing building envelope.
- Mass timber is a key component of the building construction and reduces the buildings’ carbon footprints.
- The electrified kitchen in Building 1 reduces overall GHG emissions by 83% compared to natural gas.
- Windows are triple glazed with strategic solar shading, and automatically open to keep the inside temperature comfortable.
- Heat recovery ventilation reduces the need for space heating.
- Electric air source heat pumps and other measures reduce GHGs for hot water heating by 88%.

New focal point for campus dining

- The new Cove dining hall seats 600+ inside and another 100 outdoors, with stunning views provided by floor-to-ceiling windows.

- Food kiosks will offer plant-based options, soups, salads, stir-fry, sushi and a convenience store.
- The dining hall staff will sort, compost and recycle all waste, without a garbage can in view.
- The upstairs multipurpose room can be locked off for use for special events and can be rented by community members.
- The state-of-the-art servery is built to serve 10,000 meals a day, with approximately 50 staff. Lockers, showers and storage are provided for staff.

Spirit of place

- Elders from the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations have guided the project team in incorporating Indigenous design elements and teachings.
- An Indigenous student lounge will be available in Building 2 when it opens.
- Indigenous artwork will be featured in both buildings.
- Paving on the campus greenway to the south of Building 1 features a weaving pattern, and lights along the greenway will also project a Coast Salish design.

Full story: bit.ly/22-housing

UVic plays key role in new West Shore campus in Langford

UVic is playing a key role in bringing new post-secondary learning opportunities to Southern Vancouver Island by partnering with Royal Roads University (RRU) and Camosun College to create a West Shore campus in downtown Langford.

“We are glad to be able to bring more education options to the Greater Victoria area, including sought-after UVic programming, such as computer science, engineering and humanities,” says UVic President Kevin Hall. “This collaborative campus is a new and promising model of delivering programming that meets community demand and serves the needs of West Shore students and the region.”

UVic plans to offer first- and second-year programming at the West Shore campus, starting with computer science and software engineering courses, as well as some core courses in humanities, fine arts and social sciences. Offerings will complement UVic’s existing programming at the

main campus, with students having the flexibility to take certain courses at either campus. The West Shore campus is expected to open in fall 2024 and will provide pathways to UVic’s main campus for upper-year students.

“We want to meet learners where they are, and the West Shore is one of the fastest growing regions in Canada,” says Vice-President Academic and Provost Elizabeth Croft. “This exciting partnership between UVic, Camosun College and Royal Roads represents an opportunity to expand our high-quality academic offerings while serving the needs of the growing and diverse community.”

UVic is contributing \$1 million towards the \$98-million project, which also includes significant contributions from the BC government and City of Langford, along with investments from RRU and Camosun. As well, the West Shore campus will provide space for the Justice Institute of British Columbia and the Sooke School



BoForm. COURTESY OF HCMA

District (SD 62).

The West Shore campus will be built to zero-carbon building design standard—the first public post-secondary institution in BC to target this—and will also seek LEED Gold certification. The campus also aligns

with United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including quality education, climate action and building sustainable cities and communities.

More info in the BC government news release: news.gov.bc.ca/27265



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uvic.ca/news

The University of Victoria acknowledges and respects the lakw'ənan peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

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UVic to deliver world's first custom MBA in Indigenous Reconciliation

UVic's Peter B. Gustavson School of Business is set to co-create and deliver the world's first custom MBA in Indigenous Reconciliation. This reflects the university's commitment to build strong partnerships with local community social service agencies that are working in harmony to support Indigenous Peoples, listen to the needs of communities and rectify past injustices.

The MBA, which will be developed in partnership with the BC Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres (BCAAFC), was unveiled this summer as part of an \$8.4-million funding announcement by the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction that will create an action framework to integrate reconciliation into community social services. The MBA program will also draw on funding from BCAAFC and Indspire, an Indigenous national charity that invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples.

"We are honoured by the invitation to collaborate on this unique program,"

says Saul Klein, dean of the business school. "This MBA will equip leaders in social services, government and nonprofits to meaningfully advance reconciliation in their organizations and across our broader society."

The MBA in Indigenous Reconciliation will support UVic's commitment and actions on truth, respect and reconciliation, and in developing new pathways for Indigenous students to higher education. It joins programs such as UVic's Indigenous language revitalization education and the world's first JD/JID, UVic's joint degree in Indigenous legal orders and Canadian common law, which graduated its inaugural class in June 2022.

"The University of Victoria reflects on the injustices created by colonial policies and practices and is committed to offering programs that meet the needs of the local Indigenous communities," says UVic Vice-President Indigenous Qwul'sih'yah'maht Robina Thomas. "The MBA in Indigenous Reconciliation is a powerful example of the critically important programming

that is achievable when we follow the Hulqumi'num' teaching *Ts'its'uwatul' tseep* (to help each other or working together). Congratulations to the partners and scholars who worked together to make this MBA possible."

Following a closed-enrolment model, students in the program will be selected by BCAAFC and the provincial government. Drawing from the non-profit, social-service and government sectors, cohorts will be intentionally designed to include Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants.

"Reconciliation is a lens for everyone to look through," says Gustavson professor Brent Mainprize. "This program brings together Indigenous and non-Indigenous professionals to learn from each other about their cultures and build a shared understanding of and commitment to reconciliation that can be designed in the classroom and immediately put into action in students' organizations and communities."

In 2019, Gustavson was invited by BCAAFC to develop a unique program



focused on social innovation. The 3C Challenge, a province-wide youth entrepreneurship initiative, engaged Indigenous youth in creating businesses uniting the three Cs: community, culture and cash. The challenge saw more than 700 entrepreneurs under the age of 30 participate in its community-based training workshops and mentorship program from 2019 to 2021.

"It is a true honour to have the opportunity to co-design another unique, forward-thinking innovation from BCAAFC Executive Director Leslie Varley," adds Mainprize.

Gustavson has previously co-created an internationally award-winning customization of its MBA in Sustainable Innovation, setting the framework for BCAAFC and the provincial government's vision to come to life in the MBA in Indigenous Reconciliation, which is expected to launch in Spring 2023. These programs reflect UVic's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, particularly ones that seek to end poverty and hunger and to promote healthy lives and well-being, as well as inclusive and high-quality education.

Ocean Networks Canada receives "big science" funding for ocean, climate and blue economy initiatives

UVic's Ocean Networks Canada (ONC) will benefit from new federal investment in its world-leading ocean observatories located on the Pacific, Atlantic and Arctic coasts of Canada. The support will help drive climate change solutions, safer coastal communities, Indigenous ocean data stewardship, a healthier ocean and a sustainable blue economy.

The funding has been awarded to UVic through the Canada Foundation for Innovation's (CFI) Major Science Initiatives Fund, which supports a portion of the operating and maintenance costs of selected national science facilities across Canada. ONC will receive an investment of almost \$115 million over six years to continue advancing ocean observing—extending the reach and application of its

open-access big data to benefit science, society and industry.

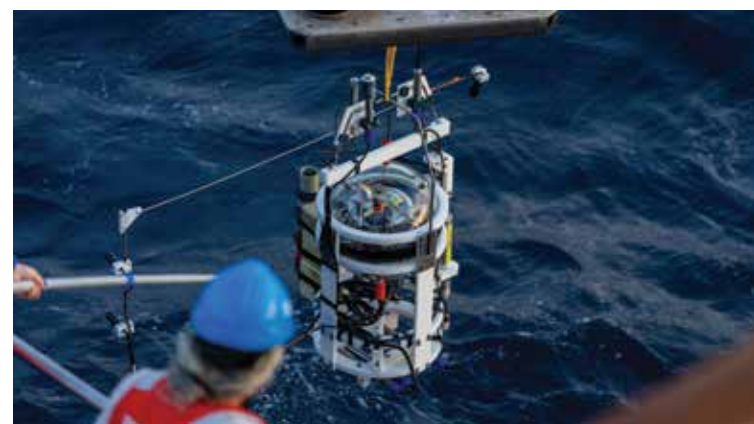
In the past 16 years, ONC has expanded beyond its early work observing the Salish Sea to becoming a true national ocean-observing facility, with installations and local and Indigenous partnerships on all three coasts of Canada, attracting more than 23,000 users of its scientific data around the world.

The ocean data that ONC collects from its cabled, mobile and community-based observing networks supports scientific discovery, climate impact monitoring, maritime safety, tsunami and earthquake early warning, innovation in climate change mitigation, and a sustainable ocean economy, says Kate Moran, president and chief executive officer of ONC.

"Canadians can be proud of their national observatory that not only yields valuable insights into this undersea world that covers two-thirds of our planet, but also contributes to Canada's climate leadership through innovation in ocean nature-based and technological climate mitigation solutions and coastal resilience."

Moran continues, "this investment also means that ONC, through its work with the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, can continue working with partners in Canada and internationally to advance projects in pursuit of healthier oceans, science that promotes ocean resilience and a citizenry engaged with the oceans' role in supporting life on this planet."

UVic President Kevin Hall says



An acoustic lander is deployed during a 2021 ONC expedition. PHOTO: OET NAUTILUS LIVE

"this funding recognizes ONC for its leadership and the profound difference it's making on all three Canadian coasts and internationally. As a research university, we take pride

in working in partnership to create a better world—by taking action on climate change and working with partners to make life better on land and below the water."

WELCOME BANNERS

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

be operational very soon. The artist's work will be lit up all along the greenway from Gordon Head Road to Ring Road, including main entry areas, crosswalks and in all five of the spaces around UVic's new student housing and dining buildings.

Whirling with the power of flight in a symmetrical eagle design, one of the spindle whorl designs symbolizes a message of encouragement for people to emerge from their comfort zones and rise above challenges, explains August, who has named it "Reaching Greater Heights."

The other design, called "Salish Medicine," is also contemporary but August hopes it additionally captures a sense of the "trance-like" experience that is part of the traditional use of these sacred heirlooms when the weaver is spinning the wool.

"I knew this was my life purpose"

In Coast Salish tradition, intricately carved house posts stand at the entrance to traditional longhouses to welcome people into the surroundings. A year before they began work on the UVic project, August was mentoring with a Coast Salish artist "who's inclined to fall into the history and reviving of Coast Salish house posts. Being his student guided me into that practice of looking back into the history, such as of the works of Master Carver and Tsartlip First Nation artist Charles Elliott in the 1980s. Moving forward from there to now, I want to continue that revival in practice."

August was born "in the traditional unceded lək'wəḡən and W̱SÁNEĆ territories now referred to as Victoria," and recalls their first art supplies

being their uncle's old paintbrushes: "I can picture myself painting at two years old."

"I knew this was my life purpose, to do art. I can't see myself doing anything different."

Campus greenway project

The entire greenway runs through the centre of the UVic campus and, when complete, will be a busy and beautiful route for pedestrians and cyclists. It will include ecological features, communal tables, tree canopies, benches and other viewing platforms, as well as interpretive art and signage to highlight Indigenous history, languages and connections to the land.

Paving stones along the greenway will also be arranged in cedar-weaving design patterns.

"A guiding principle of the greenway

project is to reflect Indigenous ways of knowing and being within the landscape," says Mike Wilson, UVic's director of campus planning and sustainability. "I know I speak for others involved in coordinating the project in saying how delighted I am to see Margaret's artwork now being raised across campus and their contributions toward creating a welcoming and inclusive campus environment."

Art on campus and beyond

Putting art at the heart of the UVic experience is nothing new here. Our university has more art on view in public spaces than any other Canadian university.

At any one time, approximately 2,000 pieces of art are in place from more than 19,000 in the university's overall art collection, all overseen by

UVic's Legacy Art Galleries.

Legacy staff continue to partner every season in artistic and community collaborations that reflect diversity and explore important ideas and today's most pressing issues, as well as enhancing engagement with communities through programming and a perpetual array of compelling and educational exhibitions.

Caroline Riedel, acting director of the galleries, says "Legacy is delighted to forge connections between campus and Indigenous artists with this project. This is an opportunity to move artwork outside the gallery walls to the land, to celebrate and foreground Coast Salish artists and communicate our commitment to reconciliation."

More about Margaret August and the new art: bit.ly/22-banners



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uvic.ca/daa-2023

THINKERS CHANGERS DIFFERENCE-MAKERS

Mass electronic surveillance in Canada

Whether it's state-level adoption of spyware or the mass collection of personal information by major companies such as Google, Facebook and Microsoft, spying on Canadians is becoming more commonplace—helped by new laws that support routine mass surveillance.

"Canadians are no longer protected by citizenship from being spied on by intelligence agencies," says UVic sociologist Midori Ogasawara, who has interviewed both Edward Snowden and AT&T whistleblower Mark Klein for her surveillance research.

Ogasawara is a former journalist and a global expert in security intelligence and surveillance research. "The Canadian security agencies, such as the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) and RCMP, have been spying on Canadians for a long time," she says.

Q: Are Canadians being spied on by their own security agencies?

A: Yes. In the 1970s, a parliamentary committee determined the RCMP was using illegal activities that threatened Canada's democracy. So, in 1984, CSIS was created to follow a strict mandate under ministerial control. However, the government's spying activities basically continued and over time, the intelligence agencies were equipped with new electronic tools.

What is new today is the massive amount of personal data the agencies gather without our consent through

digital communication networks. The Snowden revelations showed Canada's communication security establishment had secretly deployed an electronic data collection program about travellers through a free airport wi-fi, including locations and internet protocol addresses.

Q. What are your thoughts on the recent revelation that RCMP were likely using the now internationally blacklisted Pegasus software from the NSO group?

A: The secret use of spyware by RCMP clearly demonstrates the ongoing violation of privacy and human rights by security agencies. The RCMP admitted it used software with capabilities that are eerily similar to the now-internationally blacklisted Pegasus software developed by Israel's NSO Group. What the RCMP call On-Device Investigative Tool, if it is in fact the Pegasus software, is infamous for hunting activists and journalists who criticize authoritarian governments. It is shocking and deeply concerning that Canada is also one of those government customers for invasive spyware, whether it's NSO or not.

Q: How do our current laws actually support greater surveillance activities?

A: In the last decade, Canada has passed serial laws to support the expansion of surveillance activities by the security agencies, all under the name of anti-terrorism or protecting Canadians from cybercrime. This is a legislative trend that has been legalizing previously illegal surveillance activities; it doesn't actually try to stop the illegal surveillance, nor does it protect the rights in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

For example, Bill C-13 legalized telecom service providers voluntarily providing subscriber information to law enforcement without warrants and lowered the standard for judges to order disclosure of communication data. Bill C-44 removed territorial restrictions on CSIS activities and allowed the agency to conduct activities that could even breach the laws of other countries.

Bill C-51 is the most controversial bill. It created a new power for CSIS to take measures to "reduce threats to the security of Canada." The law gives CSIS a special power to stand above the Charter rights.

Q: How does mass surveillance work in Canada?

A: Mass surveillance activities by security agencies have been deeply hidden in many countries, but Snowden showed people that a significant part of today's mechanism of mass surveillance is inherently global and



Ogasawara. PHOTO: KEN MIZOKOSHI

collaborative.

Canada is part of the Five Eyes intelligence network—with the US, UK, Australia and New Zealand—that cooperates with the US National Security Agency (NSA) in collecting their citizens' personal information. For example, the NSA embedded surveillance devices within communication infrastructures such as the transoceanic cables and landing facilities built by the major telecoms. They also have access to the servers set up by the big tech companies, such as Google, Facebook and Apple.

Q: What privacy advice do you have for Canadians interested in protecting their personal information?

A: There are a lot of things that you can do personally to protect your privacy, such as rejecting unnecessary cookies when accessing websites and choosing apps that employ end-to-end encryption. But when we all face mass surveillance, we need collective protection by regulatory practices, such as the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation.

Some say the law may never be able to catch up to the fast pace of technological development, therefore we have no ability to regulate technology. But we still need laws to protect people's well-being.

This Q&A has been edited and condensed. Full interview: bit.ly/22-spy

ECONOMIC IMPACT REPORT

UVic adds billions to provincial and regional economies

The University of Victoria's activities, students and alumni help generate \$3.3 billion to BC's economy and overall prosperity.

An independent report by Emsi Burning Glass (now Lightcast), a leading international business services firm, indicates that UVic's total impact in BC supported 40,595 jobs. The economic impact for Greater Victoria is \$1.8 billion, or one of out of every nine jobs.

"UVic is a proud partner in the Greater Victoria and BC economy," says UVic President Kevin Hall. "The investment in our students, research and operations creates benefits for local businesses, community partners, taxpayers as well as society as a whole by creating a more prosperous economy. Without a doubt, our ability to make this impact relies on our partners and supporters."

The university adds value in many ways in addition to helping students increase their employability and achieve their individual potential. UVic facilitates new research, fosters innovation and entrepreneurship and enables arts and cultural activities. A direct contributor to economic growth through spending as an employer and buyer of goods and services,

the university also draws visitors generating new dollars and opportunities for the region.

The report, released at a Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce event this summer, provides a local and provincial economic impact analysis for the fiscal year 2019/20. Areas of focus include operations, research, construction, visitor and student spending as well as spin-off companies and alumni impact.

"From the networking sessions to customizable assignments, I was fully supported by the professors and the wider UVic community, which allowed me to not only graduate with an MBA degree but also set the foundation for the success of FreshWorks," says Sam Mod, CEO and co-founder of FreshWorks Studio, an award-winning firm that designs and develops custom apps.

"We have grown FreshWorks to 100+ diverse individuals representing 21 different countries and speaking 31 languages in beautiful Victoria. It helped us to put Victoria on the map."

The study also considers UVic as

an investment from the perspective of students, taxpayers and society concluding it provides a strong return on investment that includes social benefits throughout the province.

Data from the report also shows that despite COVID-19, UVic's impact continued to grow in fiscal year 2020/21.

Report highlights

Overall, UVic contributed \$3.3 billion to the BC economy and \$1.8 billion in added income to the Greater Victoria economy. The latter is just under nine per cent of the Greater Victoria area's gross regional product—a local-level equivalent to national GDP.

In terms of its research activities and innovation, UVic contributed \$281.3 million to the province and \$213.9 million in added income to the region.

In the 2019-20 fiscal year, UVic's operations spending added \$486.8 million in income to the regional economy, growing to \$548.5 the following year.

UVic activities and students supported one out of every 69 jobs in the province and one out of every nine in Greater Victoria.

The increased earnings of alumni contributed \$2.4 billion to the province and \$917.2 million in added income across Greater Victoria.

UVic also attracts students and visitors from outside the region and around the world who spend money on food, accommodation and entertainment. Their spending added \$182.2 million in income to the province and \$171.3 million to the region.

"UVic is an important economic engine for Greater Victoria, not only as a large employer but also for the vital role it plays in educating the future workforce and contributing expertise, thought leadership and innovation," says Emilie de Rosenroll, founding CEO of South Island Prosperity Partnership.

Elements of UVic's regional economic impact
GREATER VICTORIA, 2019-20 FISCAL YEAR



Operations spending impact
\$486.8 million



Research spending impact
\$106.4 million



Spin-off company impact
\$107.5 million



Visitor spending impact
\$20.5 million

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Tackling the water and sanitation crisis in Canada and abroad

If problems around water quality and wastewater in remote and poorly served communities are to be solved, they'll need funding, local involvement and technical know-how.

Caetano Dorea, a UVic professor in civil engineering, is leading a team that has been awarded a \$1.65-million Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) grant to train emerging engineers to work on water and sanitation projects in low-resource contexts in Canada and abroad.

The project brings together researchers and students from eight Canadian universities—UVic, University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, Western University, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, Carleton University and Laval University, where Dorea previously taught—and gives those students broader exposure to different training and institutions, as well as hands-on experiences.

"The goal is to produce engineers with practical experience who can work with communities and agencies to find solutions to their water and wastewater problems," says Dorea, who leads the Public Health and Environmental Engineering Lab, Canada's first research group dedicated to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). Another aim is to promote research that's needed to develop sustainable water and sanitation services to improve the lives of the most marginalized members of the global community.

The project reflects UVic's long history of research and training initiatives on sustainable water management. This year, UVic was ranked among the world's top 25 universities for its work to improve access to clean water and sanitation—one of the UN's



Caetano Dorea and UVic PhD candidate Camille Zimmer with a drinking water field test. PHOTO: ARMANDO TURA

17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Issues with safe drinking water and safe disposal of wastewater are not unique to low- and middle-income countries, he says, noting that he and his colleagues use the term "low-resource context" because "inequities are independent of the income level of a country." In Canada, for instance, there are rural and Indigenous communities that have lived under boil-water advisories for more than two decades and some six million people face water and wastewater management challenges.

"They need to achieve the same

water quality standards as everyone else," Dorea says, "and yet, they have fewer resources and lower capacity." He expects the project will continue the same type of collaborative research he has done in the past, ranging from Nunavik in northern Quebec to communities in Malawi, in southeast Africa.

Such communities often have a water source that's contaminated, meaning their water needs to be treated before it's consumed, he explains. In these situations, the solution can often involve providing systems to do treatment at the point of use.

However, such technology, which is designed in well-controlled lab conditions, doesn't always work as planned in the real world.

The NSERC CREATE grant will help universities train engineering students to collaborate with local authorities, implementing agencies and NGOs working with low-resource communities and the communities themselves to find "fit-for-purpose" solutions. Many communities already know what the solutions are but need help refining them.

Such immersive experiences are key to the educational benefit stu-

dents will receive.

"During this training experience, what we want to do is to make sure the students have the right heads, hands and hearts," he says. "Behind these solutions, there are humans. You think in a different way when you have an understanding of the inequities you're addressing."

The program, which involves approximately 40 grad students, is funded for six years. Dorea hopes it will jumpstart WASH as a more widely studied academic discipline in Canada and a critical mass of water- and sanitation-related expertise.

New BioInnovation Hub set to enhance collaboration in BC's life sciences sector

A new front-door to UVic opens this month to advance health and life sciences innovation, in partnership with Vancouver Island Life Sciences.

The UVic BioInnovation Hub is a collaborative workspace in Saanich where entrepreneurs and life sciences organizations can connect with UVic researchers, access equipment and tools, share resources, showcase new technologies, and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Located in the Saanich Plaza retail mall (across from Uptown, above Soccerworld and adjacent to Save-on-Foods) the Hub provides short-term incubator space for early-stage start-ups and hot-desk capacity during its operating hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. Other occupants and users of the 1,188-square-foot space include private firms and professional-services companies in the life sciences and biotech sector, including PharmaBioSource and the Victoria Hand Project. UVic's Centre for Advanced Materials and Related Technology will also have a presence onsite to help facilitate university-industry connections and access to on-campus resources such as Biomedical Core for equipment, facilities, research talent and technical expertise.

"We're thrilled to be partnering with the life sciences community to help accelerate growth in the region and provide a welcoming space for innovators and entrepreneurs to test new ideas," says Lisa Kalynchuk, UVic's vice-president of research and innovation. "The goal is to bring UVic expertise and resources into the communities we serve and open up new pathways for collaboration."



Victoria Hand Project CEO Michael Peirone and Kim Arklie show off prosthetic arms at the new BioInnovation Hub. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

The UVic BioInnovation Hub is part of a series of community-based innovation hubs connected to UVic's broader Innovation Network, which seeks to raise the university's profile as a catalyst for social and economic development and collaborative, interdisciplinary problem-solving in the region.

The hub expansion builds on the success of the Coast Capital Innovation Centre, a well-known pillar and campus resource for entrepreneurship training and support. Since its launch in 2016, the centre has helped more than 1,300 students from all faculties across campus and supported the launch of over 150 startup companies. UVic at KWENCH opened in downtown Victoria in February 2022 to support women entrepreneurs and planning for additional locations is underway, including a new hub at the West Shore campus in Langford.

Over the past decade, nearly 400 UVic researchers working in life sciences and medicine have published more than 3,000 papers and been cited over 75,000 times. Over half of these papers were co-authored with researchers in another country, demonstrating the impact of the work on a global scale.

Key donors, sponsors, funders and supporters include commercial property management firm Hansbraun Investments Ltd., Genome British Columbia, and Mayor Fred Haynes from the District of Saanich who helped bring interested parties together.

The BioInnovation Hub and its activities are part of UVic's commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals including those addressing healthy lives, inclusive, quality education and fostering innovation.

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Farquhar set to amplify Indigenous voices

The University of Victoria and the Farquhar at UVic have launched *Voices in Circle: Amplifying Indigenous Cultural Voices*, a presenting and engagement series featuring established and emerging Indigenous artists.

The series will feature Indigenous artists from all over Canada whose work spans everything from music, dance, theatre, burlesque, drag, comedy and mixed media to visual arts. The program is guided by an Indigenous and Métis Programming Circle, a change from traditional programme curation where an arts organization's leadership are cultural gatekeepers.

"Decolonization is more than just changing the line up of performers to represent diversity," says Lindsay Delaronde, programming circle member, UVic alum and PhD candidate, arts and craft professional, and former City of Victoria Indigenous artist in residence. "Decolonization is dismantling the colonial power structures at the center that keep dominant voices

perpetuating in the arts. Co-creating an artistic vision requires all voices to be heard, deep listening and deep reflections are constant."

"We're making space for a new way of doing things," says Farquhar Director Ian Case. "UVic is committed to walking the path towards truth and reconciliation, and Canada's arts and cultural sector is changing. We're committed to changing with it."

Voices in Circle stands among a small number of Canadian universities' presentation series that focus on Indigenous performance and community engagement. "Other universities have started speakers series and have increased representation in arts," says Case. "But *Voices in Circle* appears to be unique in its approach to planning and implementing how Indigenous artists engage with audiences."

"This initiative is taking the first steps in true decolonization of institutionalized artistic spaces," says programming circle member, carver

and musician Tejas Collison.

The series goes beyond performances. Programming circle members are working with the Farquhar to weave in meaningful community engagement activities to complement performances. Artists will engage with the general public, local artists, Elders and Indigenous communities to explore cultural resurgence, language revitalization, artistic collaborations and mentorship opportunities—in addition to more traditional audience engagements such as panel discussions.

"Indigenous voices are on the rise and we need to create civic engagement and creative atmospheres that support shifting the paradigm," adds Delaronde.

"*Voices in Circle* is doing the important work of talking the talk and more importantly walking the walk. By implementing a decolonized approach to meetings and discussions," says Collison, "these values are carried

throughout all aspects of the initiative ... shining a much-needed light on the often under-represented Indigenous artists from around BC."

"It has been so powerful to sit together with other Indigenous and Métis people, and to speak openly and honestly about what we see in our communities," says Rebecca Hass, programming circle member, Métis performance artist and director of engagement programs at Pacific Opera Victoria. "What is needed, and how to best offer that up. To speak for those who have not been in these spaces is a responsibility, but also so encouraging."

Hass adds, "working with the Farquhar, through Ian Case, has given us the time and space to co-create a circle of leadership, and a way of co-leading that honours all the voices in the room, creating more opportunity to be of benefit to our local Indigenous communities. We are building trust through relationships built on

respect and a true sharing of power." Among the first artists to be featured are:

- Juno award-winning performer, composer, activist and musicologist Jeremy Dutcher (Sept. 9)
- Inuit sisters PiqSiq, performing haunting traditional and original compositions (Oct. 12)
- Canadian Hip-Hop superstar duo of Haisla and Snotty Nose Rez Kids (Nov. 30)
- A variety show featuring local Indigenous artists (Feb. 2023)
- Winnipeg-based multi-instrumental singer-songwriter Sebastian Gaskin, last year's Western Canadian Music Award-winner for R&B Artist of the Year (March 11).

Voices in Circle is supported by funding from the Government of Canada and through the Province of BC through the BC Arts Council. Tickets are now on sale through the UVic Ticket Centre.

Royal Society of Canada recognizes seven UVic researchers

From palliative care and supramolecular chemistry to experimental poetry, seven University of Victoria researchers, each of whom is making a unique and lasting contribution to the world, are being celebrated this month with the country's highest academic honour by the Royal Society of Canada (RSC).

From the fields of humanities, science, social sciences, engineering, and human and social development, Trevor Lantz (environmental studies) joins the RSC as its newest member to the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists while Cornelia Bohne (chemistry), Cynthia Milton (history / research and innovation), Kelli Stajduhar (nursing), Marc Lapprand (French and Francophone studies), Michael Masson (psychology) and Ray Siemens (English, computer science) are elected to the RSC as new fellows.

The work done by all seven schol-

ars across disparate fields highlights the importance of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the world, with the scholars' achievements helping to echo a sense of purpose and innovative progress for all places on our planet.

Trevor Lantz, an ecologist and ethnobiologist, leads a research program rooted in Northern partnerships and examines environmental change in the western Arctic. Using a combination of field studies, remote sensing and collaboration with Gwich'in and Inuvialuit experts, Lantz's team identifies what makes Northern ecosystems sensitive to change, and explores how these transformations are impacting Northern communities.

Cornelia Bohne is a world leader in supramolecular chemistry—the study of large structures held together by forces other than chemical bonds. At UVic, she has developed special-

ized techniques to understand the dynamics of supramolecular systems, creating breakthrough, fundamental knowledge for future advances in drug research.

Cynthia Milton illuminates two fields: colonialism and racialized social compacts, and historical narratives after state violence. In short, she studies the legacies of political violence and who, in a society, has the power to tell stories about conflictual and contested pasts. Milton pays attention to alternative forms of recounting and listens to the voices that have often been excluded from national narratives. She also studies how dominant groups navigate our present era of post-truth and accountability.

Kelli Stajduhar's internationally renowned work in palliative care is based on a simple premise: everyone should die with dignity. Her research is

particularly important for people who have been marginalized in society, and whose experiences in health care have been marred by distrust and stigma.

Marc Lapprand specializes in the life and work of cult figure Boris Vian, a French polymath and inventor. In 2018, Lapprand was made a *chevalier* of the *Ordre des Palmes académiques*. He earned this title, one of France's highest honours for culture and education, after three decades of research on Vian. Lapprand's other scholarly passion, besides teaching, is the innovative group Oulipo, founded a year after Vian's death in 1959, whose followers blend mathematical algorithms and literature.

Michael Masson, a world leader in the understanding of human cognition, has shown us how to learn and read more effectively and how to wield a teapot—or a scalpel—more safely. Through his research, Masson

explored connections and associated risks between thought and action that underlie everyday skills (such as our ability to grasp a teapot and pour a cup at the same time) for planning which instrument to use next and what to do with it.

Ray Siemens is renowned for his insights on the history of communication, value of books and future of reading. A leading expert in his field, he says digital humanities "is where humanities meets computing." Formerly UVic's Canada Research Chair in Humanities Computing and as a Distinguished Professor in the Department of English with a cross appointment in computer science, Siemens continuously contributes to the digital aspect of the humanities, with its societal significance poignantly emphasized during the pandemic with our reliance on remote access.

Full story: bit.ly/22-RSC

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Theatre festival focuses on language reawakening

BY JOHN THRELFALL

As Indigenous elders pass, how can younger generations best learn and increase their fluency with traditional languages? Theatre professor Kirsten Sadeghi-Yekta believes applied theatre techniques can be an important part of the language-learning equation, and this month's Indigenous Theatre Festival Reawakening Language on Stage offers a glimpse into how performance can powerfully augment classroom education.

Running at the Phoenix Theatre from September 16-18 in collaboration with the Hul'q'umi'num' Language and Culture Society (HLCS), Hul'q'umi'num' Language Academy and other university partners, the festival offers a weekend of performances, workshops and discussions aimed at exchanging research-based knowledge on the best practices for using theatre as a tool for this essential project.

"It's about inspiring other communities who are struggling to maintain their languages," says Sadeghi-Yekta. "We're hoping to offer a spark for people to see that it's possible to learn traditional languages through alternative ways—it doesn't only have to be in classrooms."

Sadeghi-Yekta has been engaged with this project since 2015 and her work has been supported by a number of SSHRC grants, including a new three-year Partnership Development Grant with linguistics professor Sonya Bird as co-lead. She was originally invited to participate by HLCS language specialist Joan Brown (now executive director of the Snuneymuxw First Nations) and SFU linguist Donna Gerdts, who were looking to find new ways to revitalize the Hul'q'umi'num' language—which was traditionally spoken across a wide geographical



Sadeghi-Yekta (right) rehearses with community participants tsatassaya|Tracey White and suy'thlumaat|Kendra-Anne Page. PHOTO: ONE ISLAND MEDIA

area, ranging from now-Washington State and the Fraser Valley to the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island.

"Joan thought using theatre was a fantastic idea," recalls Sadeghi-Yekta, a multi-lingual applied theatre practitioner whose international experience working with different cultures was ideally suited to this project. Given that performance has always been an integral part of Indigenous communities, theatre seemed an ideal fit for this project. "There was a steep learning curve on both sides to understand each other—both cultural protocols and the language of applied theatre—but the beauty of live theatre is you always start with your body, so we began by finding ways for participants to move past the discomfort of performing."

Currently working with about 60 participants, Sadeghi-Yekta combines theatre-based techniques with community-inspired storytelling to help participants increase their

fluency, focusing on nourishing a sense of excitement in speaking and performing only in Hul'q'umi'num'... so festival audiences shouldn't expect any subtitles.

"The whole point of the festival is that we want to celebrate Indigenous languages without translation," she notes. "If we provide subtitles, the concentration towards Hul'q'umi'num' could easily be gone. It's a very complex language to learn."

Hul'q'umi'num' speaker and Cowichan Tribes member Tara I. Morris is a PhD candidate in theatre and linguistics who is working with Sadeghi-Yekta on the festival; now co-director of the featured play *Jealous Moon*, Morris has been involved since 2019 in a variety of roles. "It's been interesting being a student, learning the Hul'q'umi'num' vocabulary for the play, acting it out and now helping teach and direct it," she says.

Ironically, Morris' grandmother—the late Theresa Thorne—helped

create the Hul'q'umi'num' dictionary and actually worked with SFU's Gerdts years ago. "It's such an honour to now be involved at this level," she says. "Language revitalization is the most important thing: we're fighting for our language—we don't accept it to be extinct—so we're organizing and preserving and revitalizing with the younger generation."

Sadeghi-Yekta estimates there were over 50 fluent Hul'q'umi'num' speakers when she began this project—a number that has now sadly dwindled to less than 30 over the COVID years.

"Our elders are passing so quickly that we're trying to make sure we find ways to expedite the process and engage the younger generations," she says. "The great thing about this project is that it inspires specifically younger participants to commit to the learning of the language—and to feel confident in speaking it—which is where it all starts."

Given that the festival has been twice-delayed due to COVID, she is excited to finally bring Reawakening Language on Stage to campus. In addition to the performances and workshops, the festival will also include important life lessons about persisting, building confidence, overcoming adversity and helping others. Expect heartfelt messages of sorrow and reconciliation, loss and hope, and the realization that Indigenous languages are not just an object of study but a means of artistic expression—with the ultimate hope of galvanizing a new generation of Indigenous performers.

"Participants always tell me that they've learned to play again through applied theatre, that it's one of the few times they can laugh again without focusing on other worries," says Sadeghi-Yekta. "They say that it's brought the community more together as well—and that's a huge compliment for the art."

GORGE PAVILION

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

no knowledge of the culture, spoke not a word of the language. There was a constant internal dissonance. A sense of self that was lacking."

It took until 1988 for the Canadian government to apologize for the injustices brought upon Japanese Canadians during the war era. Locally, the Township of Esquimalt refurbished and re-opened the Gorge Park Japanese gardens in 2009.

Opportunity for concrete reparation

In 2017, when funds became available for public works in the jurisdiction, the local Japanese Canadian community, led by the Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society (vnCS), came together to field a proposal to build a Japanese tea-house-inspired venue in Gorge Park in honour of the Takatas' original establishment. The effort was

supported by UVic's Landscapes of Injustice project, a recently-completed, seven-year national project based at the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives that investigated the dispossession of Japanese Canadians during the internment era. The Landscapes team, led by UVic historian Jordan Stanger-Ross and Project Manager Michael Abe, provided the "historical imperative" behind the proposal, uncovering official documentation of the "wanton destruction" of the original tea gardens at the hands of local residents and letters written by the Takatas expressing their pain and frustration upon hearing of the destruction of their home and garden and the sale of their possessions while they were interned in the interior.

The group behind the tea house replacement proposal undertook a public campaign to raise awareness

about the importance of rebuilding this erased landmark, writing op-eds, drawing media attention and interviews, meeting with the mayor, attending council meetings, and presenting at local farmers' markets and other establishments. The Landscapes team organized a UVic Ideafest community-oriented event to support the proposal, going so far as to build a rudimentary replica tea house in the MacLaurin Building lobby outside the presentation space for the occasion.

A community facing its past and building its future

Ultimately, after much public consultation, design refinement, and two rounds of voting, township residents selected the adapted tea house proposal as their favoured project. In doing so, they signalled their desire to take a step towards righting a

historical wrong in their community. The final design comprises a 6,000 square-foot multi-purpose building and surrounding ponds, abutting the refurbished gardens, and incorporating Japanese architectural features. The main lobby features a historical interpretive wall that tells the story of the original tea house, designed by the Landscapes curatorial team in collaboration with the vnCS, the Takata family, and personnel from the Royal BC Museum and Township of Esquimalt archives.

At the pavilion's public grand opening on June 18, Dillon's 96-year-old grandfather, who spent his childhood on the property, came from Ontario to be in attendance. Dillon spoke of his own daughter now attending a Japanese immersion preschool just up the road at the Craigflower schoolhouse, and the

importance of places where Japanese Canadians "can come and feel a connection to the past, feel a pride in our heritage," and repair the cultural disconnect that plagued so many of his own generation. While acknowledging the ongoing work of anti-racism and the Indigenous people who lived in the area for millennia prior to overseas contact, he took the opportunity to celebrate what "feels like the makings of a new community" of Japanese Canadians on the West Coast.

Broken Promises, a museum exhibition created by the Landscapes of Injustice project in partnership with the Nikkei National Museum and the Royal BC Museum, will be on view at the Royal BC Museum until Nov. 13.

royalbcmuseum.bc.ca
centre.nikkeiplace.org
landscapesofinjustice.com
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