Hello everyone,

I hope you are all doing well. Thank you all for sending over your information. Please find below email updates in lieu of our summer meeting.

1. Community and Government Relations Update: Jennifer Vornbrock, Executive Director, Community and Government Relations

Spring 2020 Graduation: The university community, and everyone who has supported students through their academic journey, take tremendous pride in their accomplishments. UVic will honour graduating students by inviting them to an in-person convocation within the next three years. This year, graduating students may also choose to receive a Grad Box, which will contain their parchment (diploma/certificate), printed program, mortarboard and tassel, and alumni pin. Our students have shown great strength, creativity and resilience. We are deeply grateful for their patience and understanding.

Undergraduate and Graduate Programs: We are committed to offering students options for staying on track, graduating on time, and meeting their learning goals. With these factors in mind, we will be offering programming predominantly online for the fall term. Where health and safety permits, we are also exploring opportunities for in-person instruction to support essential experiential learning, graduate education and work-integrated learning. Continuing Studies professional and community courses will be offered online, while looking at options for in-person delivery where viable.

Re-opening of Campus Operations and Facilities: Staff are working on plans to gradually re-open various campus services and facilities, following the provincial direction for the post-secondary sector.

- Research and remote working: We recognize the importance of resuming our on-campus research and we will be gradually resuming research activities for faculty and graduate students while complying with physical distancing and other health and safety requirements. A gradual return to campus for employees working in academic, administrative and support units who have been working remotely is also being planned.
- Legacy Art Galleries: Legacy will be re-opening on June 17 (with two new exhibits!) in accordance with health and safety guidelines.
- Finnerty Gardens: A re-opening date for Finnerty Gardens will be determined in the coming days. The Finnerty Gardens website will be updated with the date as soon as it is determined.
- Cedar Hill Property: As we work on plans to gradually re-open various campus services and facilities, our focus is on the gradual resumption of on-campus research, supporting our students and gradually welcoming back staff onto campus. As a result, the Cedar Hill Property remains closed. Any updates that become available in regards to the Cedar Hill Property, will be available on the website.

Anti-Racism Education Program: UVic has introduced an Anti-racism Education Program to address the intersectional societal and systemic attitudes and behaviours that perpetuate racism. The program will be available online for faculty, staff and students starting July 1. Diversity is fundamental to UVic’s
excellence and to the wellbeing and strength of our university. We are deeply committed to being an inclusive, supportive and welcoming community.

**Community Response Team**: A cross institutional team has been developed to help enable UVic to expand its engagement and response to community-based needs and requests related to the university’s response to COVID-19 (and beyond). Through the work of the team, UVic will support community efforts, including government, businesses, non-profit community groups, cultural groups and the health authority, in a more formal manner while simultaneously taking action on a few key ideas. We very much welcome your ideas on how UVic can support your association or others in your community during this time. Please send opportunities to Julie (jmpotter@uvic.ca).

**Drive-In Movie Pilot**: Last weekend (June 4, 5 and 6) UVic hosted the Legacy Drive-In Cinema, a pilot drive-in movie theatre on campus. The drive-in provided safe, family-friendly entertainment on campus, while also supporting UVic students, with part of each ticket sold going to fund UVic student bursaries. All three shows were sold out within hours or promotion, with positive reviews from visitors and neighbours. Based on further evaluation, UVic may support future showings throughout the summer.

**Rising Economy Taskforce**: Along with representatives of local government, businesses, institutions and non-profits, UVic has joined the South Island Prosperity Partnership’s Rising Economy Taskforce. The taskforce will work to develop a strong and coordinated region-wide response to the economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. **Facilities Management Update: Ron Proulx, Executive Director, Facilities Management**

**Student Housing**: Work on the student housing project continues to move ahead. Current civil and deconstruction work is moving ahead of schedule as there have been fewer constraints on campus (exams, conferences, convocation etc.) All 33 modules for the modular dining facility are on site, with interior work ongoing ahead of handover to UVic on July 31. Exterior improvements (skirting), entrances, signage and landscaping will also be complete by July 31.

All three utility crossings of Ring Road are complete. When the storm line in Lot C is complete Ring Road and sidewalks will be fully reinstated (end of June). All vehicles are exiting the site west along McKenzie Ave. Emily Carr Residence is fully deconstructed and Margaret Newton is underway and will be complete in early July (one month ahead of schedule).

All bullets below are now 1 - 2 months ahead of previous communications

- Excavations for Building One - June 2020
- Building One foundations and superstructure commence - July 2020
• Deconstruction of Cadboro Commons commences - August 2020 (Earlier if phased handover of COM continues.)
• Excavations for Building Two - December 2020
• Building Two foundations and superstructure commence - January 2021

3. Campus Planning Update: Mike Wilson, Director, Campus Planning & Sustainability

First, I’d like to e-introduce Juliet Van Vliet, the new Campus Planner who will be attending our meetings and will serve as a great point of contact. She can be reached at ocpsplan@uvic.ca and 250 853 3754. Juliet is a registered professional planner who joins us most recently from work with Parks Canada, and the Toquaht Nation near Ucluelet, but has experience working with a few BC municipalities as well.

**Engineering and Computer Science Expansion:** Thanks to everyone for your feedback in response to the Spring Community Engagement for the Engineering Expansion. The Community engagement summary is available [here](#). With your great feedback, we have moved along in the design process and we are please to share the schematic Design drawings below. Please feel free to reach out with questions in regards to these drawings.

The Engineering Expansion project includes an addition to the existing Engineering and Computer Science (ECS) building as well as a new laboratory building in the same area. Below you will find the Schematic Designs for the buildings as proposed by the consultant on the project. The total gross floor area of both new buildings is 7,690 m². The ECS addition offers the opportunity for an interdisciplinary environment for students and faculty centred around a new building atrium sited beyond the existing ECS Building’s south entrance. The new High Bay Research and Laboratory Building includes an over height high bay area to house a Civil Engineering laboratory space involving concrete and structural testing.

The landscape concept plan for the engineering expansion presents excellent opportunities to implement planning principles established in both the Campus Plan and Campus Cycling Plan. Consistent with the Campus Cycling Plan, the proposal includes the provision of new separated cycling facilities adjacent to Ring Road. The project team is also exploring infrastructure funding for the expansion of these improvements to University Drive to the west and the Bob Wright Building to the east. Please feel free to reach out to Juliet with any questions. As for next steps, we will share the final design drawings in the fall, before we submit an application for a Development Variance Permit from Oak Bay. Project updates will be posted to [www.uvic.ca/engineeringexpansion](http://www.uvic.ca/engineeringexpansion)

**Fraser Building Expansion:** The university is also proceeding with an expansion to the Fraser Building which will house a National Centre for Indigenous Law. The addition to the Fraser building will be located to the south of the existing building and will support interdisciplinary learning between students in both law programs. The building addition will implement multiple Campus Plan principles including
compact growth, campus vibrancy along Ring Road, Spirit of Place, and to further develop our extraordinary academic environment. We are entering the design and engagement phase of this project.

The university will welcome community input and engagement on the project this fall. Engagement will be shaped by physical distancing requirements, however, we will maintain the same great engagement principles, and we will be checking in with you as we go. Feel free to reach out to Juliet with your questions. For now, we are pleased to share the project website: https://www.uvic.ca/campusplanning/current-projects/indigenous-law/

Additionally, we will also be commencing the development of construction drawings for the west campus greenway. This project will initiate the implementation of the campus greenway as an important bike and pedestrian corridor. This is a very exciting project for us, especially at this time, where comfortable active transit will be even more important for our communities. Pending grants and funding approvals, we could see construction begin as early as summer 2021.

We are looking forward to working with you on these projects! We will keep you informed, and you can expect opportunities for consultation in the fall. I am looking forward to our next opportunity to connect.
Bird’s eye view looking North at the ECS addition (left), the HBRSL Building (right) and Ring Road

Looking Northeast at the High Bay Research and Structures Lab and Ring Road
Looking Northeast at the ECS addition and Ring Road

4. Communications + Marketing Update: Bruce Kilpatrick, Executive Director, University Communications + Marketing

uvic.ca project: Many thanks to CALC members for your earlier assistance with the development and testing of a new central uvic.ca website.

The site represents the collaborative work of hundreds of UVic community members and robust discovery, prototyping and audience testing, and site building phases, and huge amounts of consultation both on and off campus over the past three years.

Using an industry-leading web governance tool our new combined central site receives an A+ rating overall and A+s for quality and accessibility; and A for Search Engine Optimization, the three subcategories. The rating is based on more than 200 checkpoints that test a website’s performance.

The new site exceeds education sector benchmarks in these categories by anywhere from 10.3–22.9%. Our overall score places us in the top 5% of all websites in the education sector.

Resources that may be of interest: The seven-part “Scales of Change: A Field Guide to the Dragons of Climate Inaction” was launched as a joint production between the UVic alum-led Future Ecologies podcast series and UVic, based on the research of UVic psychology professor Robert Gifford, powered by the good work of communications officers Suzanne Ahearne and Anne MacLaurin (UC+M/Social Sciences), and supported by the VP Research, Dean of Social Sciences, Alumni Relations and UC+M. It’s a great tie-in to UVic’s sustainability leadership.
UC+M’s Beth Doman also produced a virtual visit to the locked-down Finnerty Gardens for those in need of a little serenity.

Since it launched in early April, “The Great Indoors” website (an External Relations cross-division initiative) has soared past the 10,000 click mark through social media alone, and the six-part Good Company series with our Chancellor is one of its popular features. New posts appear daily. The site is intended to showcase the vibrancy of UVic’s active academic community to educate, entertain, inspire and connect the community at a time when social distancing has cut off Greater Victoria residents from many of the other resources they rely on.

UVic’s 2019 Annual Review, The Edge of Achievement, produced entirely in-house by UC+M, won a bronze medal at the international 2020 CASE [Council for the Advancement and Support of Education] Circle of Excellence competition in the President’s/Annual Reports category. The competition attracts entries from universities and colleges from 28 countries. The 2019 and 2020 Annual Reviews are great sources of information about UVic strengths, resources, achievements and key facts and figures.

Recent black bear sightings on campus were a good reminder of the value of the alerts provided through the UVic SafetyApp for university employees, students and visitors alike. Visit the SafetyApp website to download the app. More information about a safety concern or critical incident on campus will always be available through the campus advisories posted at the top of the university homepage. More information about how university operations responded to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic can be found in this interview with UVic’s manager of emergency planning.

Watch for our two-page Community Report in the front section of the Sunday Times Colonist within the next month. This edition of the twice-yearly report will focus on the role of UVic researchers, students, staff and alumni and our community partners in the community response and recovery from COVID-19.

5. Update from Community Associations

**Mt. Tolmie Community Association (Gayla Baranieski):**
- Horner park upgrade: Saanich Parks has now posted a final Concept Plan on the project website with some accompanying information. More information [here](https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/island-churches-urge-to-merge-two-saanich-parishes-are-part-of-trend-1.24046355). They are now working on the design details and hope to start construction in early July. Please note that the park will be closed during construction. If you have questions about the plan please contact the Parks Division via mail or email to parks@saanich.ca.
- No parking signs on Kisber (previously many Uvic staff/students parking on Kisber).
- There are many developments proposed in the community.
- St Aidans merging with Cadboro Bay United Church which may involve possible development at St Aidans. I haven't heard the final decision of which church that they will move to but there is some thought that St Aidan's might be moving. [https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/island-churches-urge-to-merge-two-saanich-parishes-are-part-of-trend-1.24046355](https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/island-churches-urge-to-merge-two-saanich-parishes-are-part-of-trend-1.24046355)

**Camosun Community Association (Meralin Young):**
• CCA meetings are continuing by Zoom. The AGM has been postponed until Sept 24, 2020.
• Housing developments: Three developments are continuing to be considered by Saanich: two on Shelbourne and one on Cedar Hill Rd. A Zoom meeting was held with the Cedar Hill proponent. We are encouraging people with concerns to phone into public hearings which Saanich continues to hold.
• Shelbourne Kitchen: CCA has made a donation to the kitchen, which is having financial problems due to inability to have fund raising events.
• Newsletter: will be going out on-line to members and will be on our website.

Quadra/Cedar Hill Community Association (Chris Bartlett):
• New website 2020: We continue to improve and update our new website qchca.org
• AGM: Our AGM has been postponed due to Covid-19. We are planning to hold our AGM on September 22, perhaps via ZOOM, but will confirm closer to the date
• Saanich Music in the Park has been cancelled for the summer due to Covid-19
• We wish you all the best for a happy and healthy summer.

Gordon Head Residents’ Association (Bob Hart):
• Edgelow Bike Lanes: Following asphalt repairs to Edgelow and installation of a raised crosswalk at the Dawnview intersection, bike lane outlines were established the length of Edgelow. While Saanich staff have indicated that the final line painting (Vancouver contractor) will be completed this summer, the bike lanes are now operable. Street parking other than 1 hour parking in the 3 existing cut outs adjacent to Arbutus Middle School is no longer allowed. These new bike lanes will complement the existing lanes on Gordon Head, Feltham and Mackenzie and UVic’s bike/pedestrian plans.
• University Heights Development Proposal: Wesbild has submitted (May 2020) a revised proposal in response from inputs from the public and Saanich which includes an increase of rental units to 600+ and a reduction of commercial space. Wesbild anticipates a Fall 2020 public hearing and initiation of construction the spring of 2021 and completion by 2024.
• Saanich’s Housing Affordability Strategy: GHRA has requested that Saanich delay public engagement until after the completion of the Housing Needs Report to allow for the comprehensive analysis and incorporation of existing and projected housing needs.
• AGM: GHRA’s AGM planned for April 2020 has been postponed in light of Covid-19
• Music in the Park: Has been cancelled for 2020.
• Upcoming Public Hearing: On Saturday June 20, Saanich Council will be holding a public hearing regarding regulation to increase the number of unrelated occupants in a dwelling from 4 to 6. GHRA has hosted resident meetings regarding this change and heard overwhelming opposition to it. The main concern is related to increased incentive to convert family residents to student rentals with the resulting diminishment of its family orientated focus supporting the local primary, middle and high schools.

Community Association of Oak Bay (Rick Marshall):
• Public events (walks, talks, etc.) have been suspended since mid-March. Walks may resume in July or August, depending on public health guidance.

Cadboro Bay Residents’ Association (Eric Dahl):
• Our Association’s draft report concerning dogs on the beach in Cadboro-Gyro park will be available on our website the week of June 15th. Additional information will be provided via a survey on our website, paper surveys and a Pop up tent in Cadboro Gyro Park. The final report will be presented to Mayor and Council by July 31st.
• Derelict vessels. The number of derelict vessels increased by one to ten as a 21’ cabin cruiser came ashore on June 3rd. We are hopeful that these derelicts will be removed by late summer.
• Our Annual General meeting has been postponed until February 2021.
• We continue to work with Saanich on the renewal of our Local area plan. We expect to review comments on the first draft by the end of September.

Next Meeting: September 17, 2020

We hope everyone is staying well during this time. We look forward to being able to connect with everyone again. If you have any questions, thoughts, suggestions, please don’t hesitate to get in touch.

Best,
Julie

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We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.