



WELCOME

CLIMATE ACTION AND SUSTAINABILITY HANDBOOK FOR STUDENTS



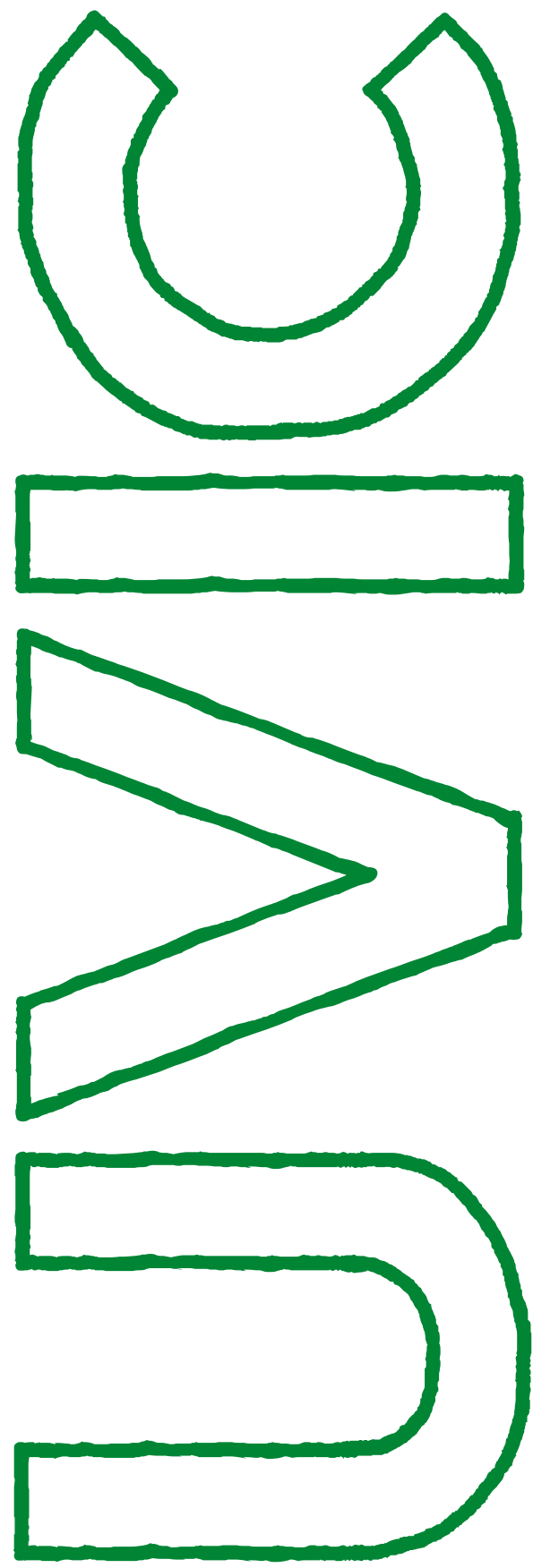
University
of Victoria



TERRITORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the lək̓ʷəŋən peoples on whose territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and ƳSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

HELPFUL THINGS



- **UVIC MAPS QR CODE (to be released Sept 2023)** - Interactive maps to locate water fountains and recycling stations, covered bike facilities, and all-gender washrooms on campus.
- **GET YOUR ECO CARD** - Residence students get a Free Eco Card; otherwise, it is \$5. When paying for your meal, hand over your card and leave with your meal in an ECO Box (a reusable/returnable food container).
- **BIKE RENTAL & STORAGE** - BIKEHUB is an on-campus bike service and storage centre. Also, a place to rent a bike if you need one! uvic.ca/bikehub
- **INDIGENOUS ACADEMIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** - Here to support all self-identifying Indigenous students - iaceservices@uvic.ca or 250-853-3730.
- **CENTRE FOR ACCESSIBLE LEARNING (CAL)** - Here to support students with disabilities and chronic health conditions. Email [CAL Front Desk](#) or call [250-472-4947](tel:250-472-4947)
- **LGBTQIA2S+ Resources | UVic LGBTQIAS+ Resources Page | The GENDER EMPOWERMENT CENTRE | UVic PRIDE**
- **GET INVOLVED** - Club and course union days occur in the Student Union Building (SUB) this Fall! Over 150 clubs on campus dedicated to environmental, cultural, political, religious, and recreational causes.
- **GET LOCAL DISCOUNTS** - Use your ONECard at local businesses for deals on everything from groceries to hotel stays.
- **FREE MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS** - are located in washrooms on the first floor of many academic buildings.
- **ALL GENDER WASHROOMS** - are available in many buildings at UVic.



1 In Canada for promoting **INDIGENOUS VISIBILITY** -Maclean's 2022

3 In the **WORLD** for **CLIMATE ACTION** - 2023 THE Impact Rankings

4 In the **WORLD** for contributions to **SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES** - 2023 THE Impact Rankings



CONTACT US

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University of Victoria, Michael Williams Building
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THRIVING OUTDOOR SPACES

UVIC CAMPUS

THIS LAND HAS A STORY

WE ARE GUESTS ON THIS LAND

UVic is located on the territories of the lək wəŋən people.

The lək wəŋən people (Songhees and Esquimalt Nations) and the WSÁNEĆ peoples worked closely with one another on the land currently known as Victoria, BC.



Historical view of UVic Campus, circa 1979.

A SECOND GROWTH FOREST

Before UVic purchased the land, the Hudson's Bay Company and the army base had almost entirely logged it, making UVic mostly a second-growth forest.



A "GARDEN" CAMPUS

The original campus designers devised a scheme for a "garden campus."

While deviations have been made from the original 1961 campus plan, key elements have remained true for 60 years:

- Ring Road
- A compact campus (centralized academic buildings)
- The quad as a central feature and green spaces

[CLICK FOR CAMPUS PLAN](#)

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

It is essential to understand how **colonization** has changed the land and how **post-secondary institutions** have **perpetuated colonial systems**, both historically and in contemporary times.

To learn more, please read UVic's Indigenous Plan.

[CLICK FOR INDIGENOUS PLAN](#)



INDIGENOUS BUILDING NAMES

There are two new student residence buildings on campus.

Čeqwəŋín ʔéʔlən (Cheko'nien House) is named after the territory that is now known as Oak Bay.

Sŋéqə ʔéʔlən (Sngequ House) is named after a village that is now known as Cadboro Bay. The name means "snow patches" in lək wəŋən.



In 2022, UVic published the **Climate and Sustainability Action Plan (2030)** as a new and unique approach to sustainability and climate action at UVic.

PROTECTED & NATURAL AREAS

Just outside of Ring Road, explore diverse and beautiful green spaces on campus.

- Bowker Creek
- Finnerty Gardens
- Garry Oak & Camas Meadow
- South Woods
- Mystic Vale



The banners found along the **Campus Greenway** are the artistic creations of **Margaret August**, a Two-Spirited, Coast Salish, multi-media artist from shíshálh Nation.

ᓃᓃᓃᓃ ᓃᓃᓃᓃ ᓃᓃᓃᓃ Sacred Earth is one of four themes within the Plan with goals to guide how the future work and actions of UVic will benefit the lands, waters, and communities of this area. These goals were created by an Indigenous-led task force and are expressed in their voice.

[CLICK FOR CLIMATE & SUSTAINABILITY ACTION PLAN](#)



JOGGING TRAILS

There are many walking/jogging trails close to campus including the **Alumni Trail** and the **Mystic Vale Trail**.

[CLICK FOR JOGGING ROUTE MAP](#)

If you are ever in need of assistance, **Campus Security Services** offers a number of programs - available 24/7 and free of charge.

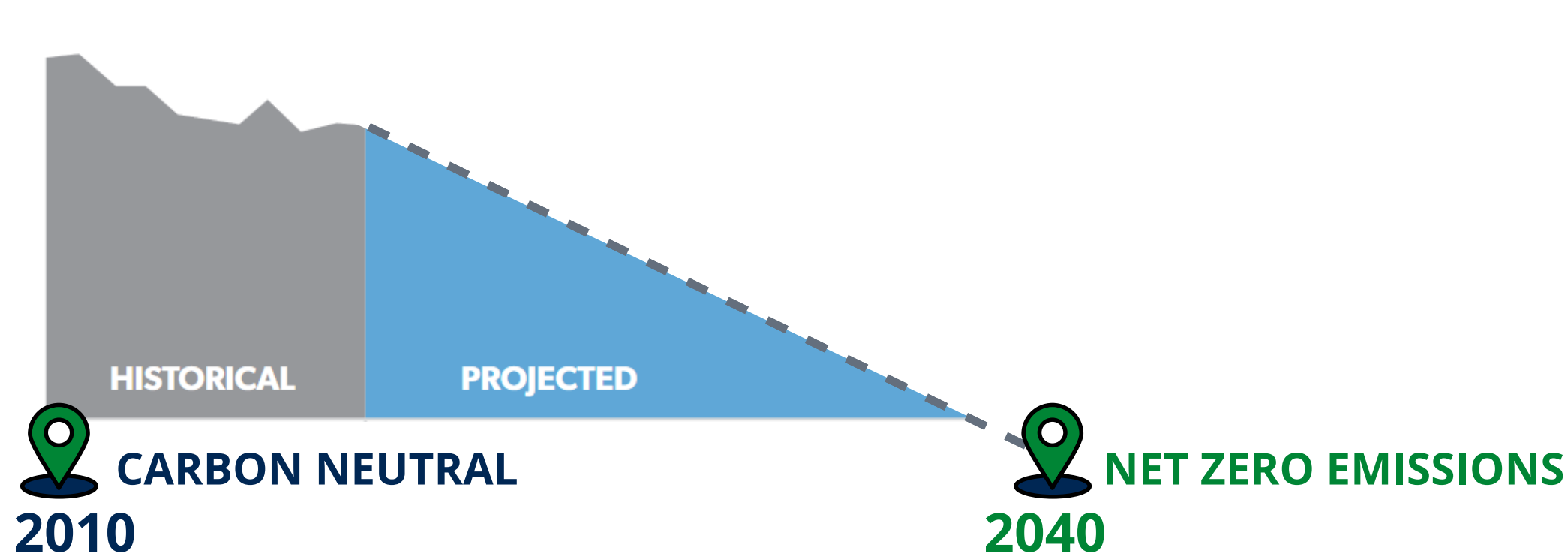
[SAFEWALK SERVICE](#)
250 721 7599

[CAMPUS ALONE SERVICE](#)
250 721 7599

CLIMATE ACTION ON CAMPUS

UVic has been measuring and offsetting its fossil fuel emissions to achieve carbon neutrality since 2010. In 2021, UVic signed the "Race to Zero (RtZ)", a global campaign hosted by the United Nations for organizations worldwide to commit to achieving Net Zero carbon emissions by 2050. The Climate and Sustainability Action Plan (2030) sets our path to climate action on campus.

UVic has reduced campus emissions by 30%, with the next target as a 50% reduction by 2030.



In 2010, UVic's carbon emissions were 13,753 tonnes of CO₂, the equivalent of **13,753 hot air balloons**.

Carbon-neutral means to balance out the total amount of carbon emissions with offsets. **Net Zero carbon** means no carbon was emitted, so no carbon needs to be offset.

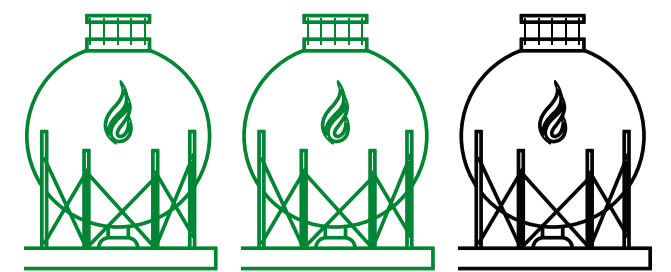
HOW UVIC WILL REACH NET ZERO EMISSIONS?

1 FUEL SWITCHING

The energy management team is preparing to replace two natural gas boilers with electric boilers in the District Energy Plant near Finnerty Gardens, reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 5000tCO₂e.

THAT IS THE EQUIVALENT TO THE VOLUME OF CARBON SEQUESTERED BY 5409 ACRES OF FOREST IN ONE YEAR.

77% EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS



2 GREEN BUILDINGS

UVic requires all new buildings and major additions to existing campus buildings to meet LEED V4 Gold or equivalent certification standards.

The three newest buildings increase the campus floor area by 7.5% but only increase GHG emissions by 1%.

9 LEED GOLD CERTIFIED BUILDINGS.



3 OPTIMIZATION

Your indoor experience from room temperature, lighting, and air quality is optimized and standardized to reduce greenhouse gas emissions yearly.

UVic can reduce GHG emissions by approximately 1000tCO₂e by metering and automating energy use.

THAT IS THE EQUIVALENT OF THE ELECTRICITY USE OF 177 HOMES FOR ONE YEAR.



REPORT ENERGY ISSUES

250-472-5168

If you notice something isn't operating as it should, PLEASE CALL ENERGY MANAGEMENT.



Mass Timber

EMBODIED CARBON

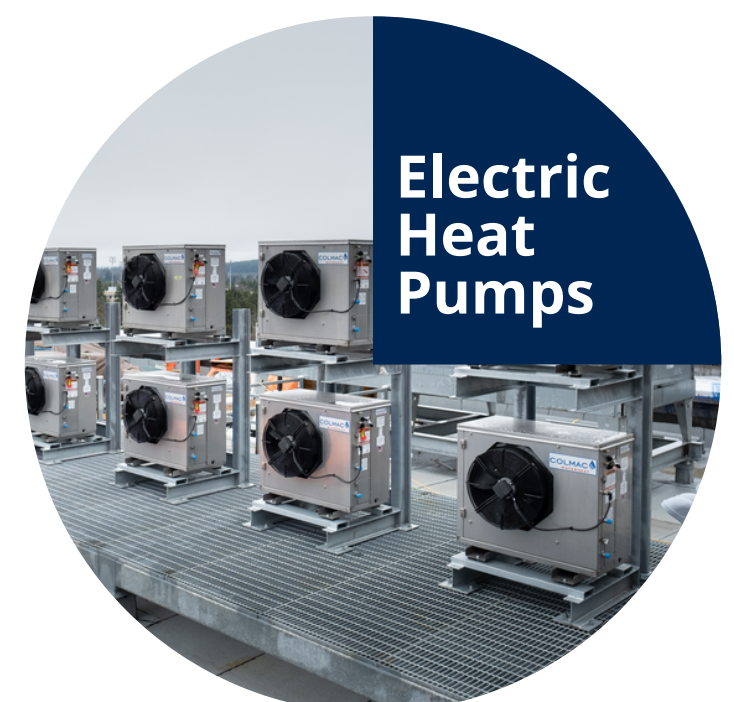
Mass timber construction has a smaller carbon footprint than steel or concrete due to the "embodied carbon" associated with extracting and disposing raw material.



Solar Shading

PASSIVE HOUSE

Solar shading reduces the heat gain from the sun, making the new Čeq'əŋín ʔéʔləŋ (Cheko'nien House) & Snéqə ʔéʔləŋ (Snequ House) **90% more energy efficient than regular buildings.**



Electric Heat Pumps

ELECTRIFICATION

Heat Pump installations around campus allow operations to switch from natural gas to electricity.

RING ROAD IS A PEOPLE'S PLACE FOR WALKING, CYCLING, LINGERING, & SOCIALIZING.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

GETTING TO CAMPUS

- **Download** the **NEXTRIDE** BC Transit **Bus App**
- Check out the Capital Regional District **Bike Map** [crd.bc.ca/service/commuting-cycling/bike-maps]
- Try **EVO** and **MODO Carsharing**. Download their apps to learn more. Cars are located by the bookstore.
- **Electric vehicle parking** is available. Visit www.plugshare.com to view EV parking across Canada.
- **Need to drive?** But only some of the time? **The Flex 25** permit bundle is **25 daily single-use** General Parking Permits with no expiry date for **\$150**.

RESOURCES ON CAMPUS

- **Bike Loan Program** through Bike Hub
- **Covered bike parking & shower facilities** [QR code map coming soon!]
- **Bike lock rental** at the Library
- **Register your bike** through Campus Security or project529.com/garage



NEED A BIKE?



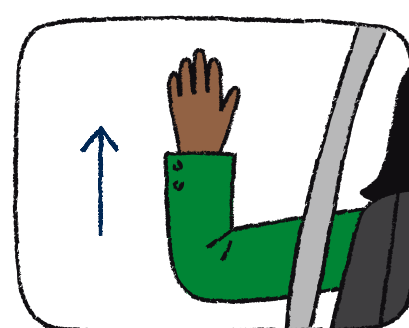
A bike-share program where volunteer mechanics give new life and use to old bikes.
Open Monday - Friday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
www.uvic.ca/bikehub

WHERE IS BIKE HUB?

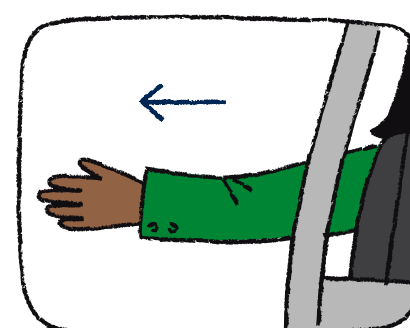
UVic Campus Bike Centre is located in the Jamie Cassels Centre (JCC), the same building as Mystic Market.

Here you can access secure covered bike parking, bike lockers, benches, and UVic's bike loan program through BikeHub.

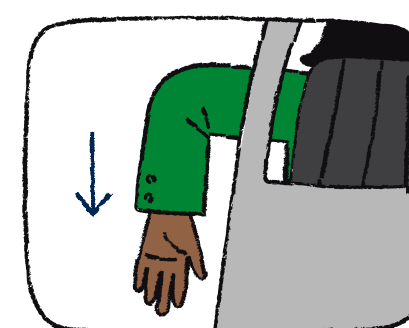
SAFETY FIRST



RIGHT TURN



LEFT TURN



STOP



PLANT-FORWARD FOOD BY DESIGN

UVic Food Services follows the Greener by Default food architecture model, where plant-based foods are the default, and diners can opt into meat/dairy options.

UVic recognizes that substantial reductions in demand for animal-based foods are vital for achieving climate targets and keeping food production within planetary limits. To act on this, Food Services reduced beef, pork, poultry, and dairy in menus by 50% in 2020.

DID YOU KNOW

THERE ARE NO SORT-IT-OUT BINS IN THE COVE DINING HALL!

Food Service employees take every tray back into the kitchen and sort out organics, recycling, and landfill to divert as much post-consumer food waste as possible!



LOCAL FOOD

UVic Food Services works with the FeedBC program to prioritize and source locally grown and produced foods.

Local suppliers provide more than 50% of UVic's food.



Ben Cram, Co-Owner of Fernwood Coffee Company sold on campus.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

TREAT YOURSELF

UVic is a **FAIRTRADE-CERTIFIED campus**, meaning you can enjoy most of the coffee, tea, and chocolate sold on campus, feeling good about the people and processes that made them.



GET AN ECO BOX

The **ECO BOX** is an opt-in returnable food container program on campus that seeks to reduce the need for single-use packaging.



BRING A REUSABLE MUG

UVic sends approximately 40 tonnes of coffee cups to the landfill each year, approximately 3,000 cups a day.

Bring your mug and receive a **\$0.25 discount** on coffee or tea at any UVic Food Services outlet.



RESPONSIBLE WASTE DIVERSION

The first step to becoming a zero-waste campus will be sorting 100% of the waste on campus and diverting it from the Hartland Landfill.



WHAT DOES WASTE DIVERSION MEAN AT UVIC?

The Hartland Sanitary Landfill manages waste for the entire Capital Regional District, which includes just over 440 000 people.

1. **Performing waste audits** to understand what products are going into our bins. From here, we can work with suppliers and **create policies** to minimize these materials (such as single-use food packaging) from entering campus in the first place.
2. **Developing education and opportunities** for staff and employees to **reduce, reuse, and recycle** items **without barriers**.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

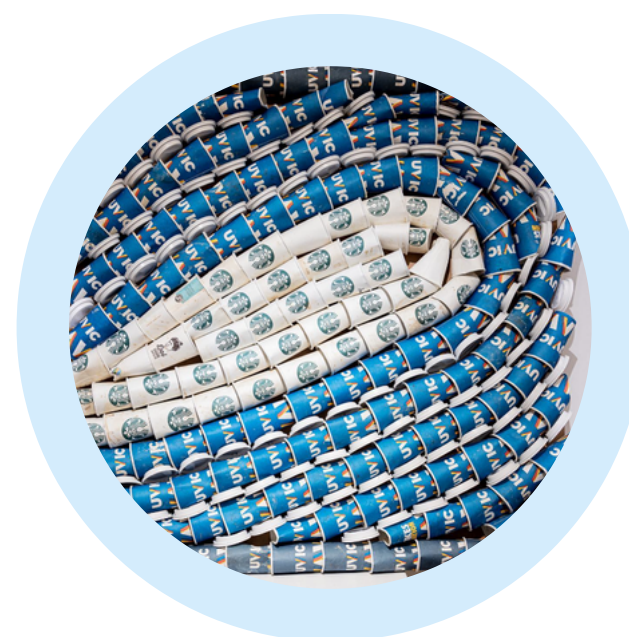
1. UTILIZE THE **SORT-IT-OUT** BINS
2. EAT IN OR ENJOY THE **ECO BOX** PROGRAM
3. BRING A **REUSABLE MUG**
4. BRING A **WATER BOTTLE**
5. REMEMBER...**THE BLUE BIN IS FOR PAPER!**
6. CHECK OUT THE **FREE STORE** IN THE STUDENT UNION BUILDING (SUB)



SORT-IT-OUT

You will see Sort-it-Out bins throughout campus. **These bins divert rigid plastic, metal, paper, and compost from the Hartland landfill.**

Correctly using the Sort-it-Out bins **reduces our contamination rate** and supports our goal of 82% waste diversion.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Surfrider UVic Club collected 175 disposable cups and lids from a Sort-it-Out station on campus in 45 minutes. They arranged the cups into their logo (a wave) and are using this art piece to advocate banning single-use packaging on campus.

ORANGE BIN IS FOR PLASTIC AND ALUMINUM!



YOU CAN RECYCLE SO MUCH ON CAMPUS

You can recycle almost anything on campus, including special items like **glass, soft plastic, electronics, batteries, etc.**

We are creating a **QR code** and sticker for you to locate these bins as simply as possible.



265 LBS WASTE/PERSON/ YEAR = HARBOUR SEAL



Based on our data, the average campus user produces 265 lbs of waste per year, which is the equivalent to a Harbor Seal.

IMAGINE CARRYING A HARBOR SEAL ON YOUR BACK ALL YEAR.

There are approximately **100 custodians managing 22 000 people's waste** on campus. **That is 22 000 harbor seals of weighted waste.** Waste Reduction Services manages all waste and recycling at UVic.

RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION ARE LED BY:

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING

UVic is invested in:



HIGH POSITIVE SOCIAL IMPACT

- Purchasing from local suppliers
- Being a certified Fairtrade Campus
- Supporting human rights and animal welfare



LOW NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- Conducting a **lifecycle assessment analysis (LCA)** on products purchased
- Choosing products and services that consider the complete life cycle of the product (from raw ingredient, to transportation, to end-of-life disposal)



UVIC IS THE 1ST UNIVERSITY IN CANADA TO ADOPT ECOVADIS

DID YOU KNOW

ECOVADIS is the world's largest third-party service provider that screens and rates millions of suppliers across 21 criteria grouped into **four themes**: environment, labour and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement.



FURNITURE

All furniture in Čeqwəŋín ʔéʔlən is **Green Guard Certified** meeting strict requirements for **low chemical emissions**.

CLEANING

The UVic janitorial team uses **Green Seal, Ecologo, & Forestry Stewardship Council** certified products whenever possible.

ČEQWƏŊÍN ʔÉʔLƏŊ (CHEKO'NIEN HOUSE) & THE COVE DINING HALL

GREEN COMPUTING

UVic purchases computer products that are **EPEAT Gold certified**.



EPEAT is a global ecolabel for the IT sector that identifies the best electronics to purchase based on a **Lifecycle analysis (LCA)**.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

LEARN WHAT A SUPPLY CHAIN IS

Asking the simple questions of: "Where and how are my products made" is the first step in sustainable purchasing.

GO PAPERLESS OR POST-CONSUMER

UVic measures greenhouse gas emissions related to paper supplies on campus. In 2022, they were **the equivalent of running 13 gas-powered vehicles for one year**.



@greenuvic



@green_uvic



www.uvic.ca/sustainability

WITH GREAT WATER, COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY

WATER CONSERVATION



GREEN LABS

The Green Labs program offers researchers the resources they need to minimize the hazardous and non-hazardous materials entering the waste and wastewater streams.



INDIGENOUS PLANTS

The UVic campus has a growing population of indigenous/native plants on their campus grounds. Plants that are local to this land such as the beautiful Camas flower (kwetlal in lək ʷəŋən) are drought tolerant by nature.



STORMWATER

Land development increases the volume of paved areas, sidewalks and roofs on campus. This results in much higher surface runoff (stormwater) when it rains in urban areas.

Rainwater can pick up chemicals, metals, dirt, and oils which can enter our waterways via our stormwater system.

UVic sits at the headwaters of 4 stream systems and is responsible to the greater Victoria community to protect these water systems from pollutants.



WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

GREATER VICTORIA'S DRINKING WATER COMES FROM SOOKE LAKE RESERVOIR.

IT IS ONE OF THE MOST STABLE DRINKING WATER SOURCES IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST.

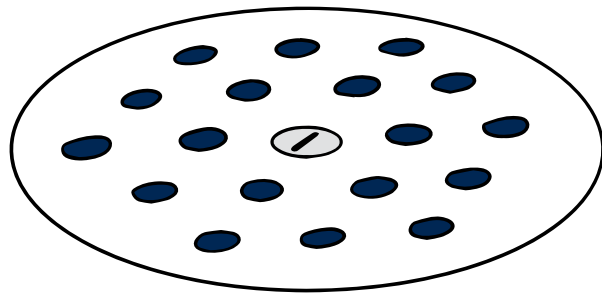


DID YOU KNOW

65% OF INDOOR WATER USE OCCURS IN THE BATHROOM.

- 24% TOILET
- 19% SHOWER
- 19% FAUCET

UVic is incrementally updating all its toilet fixtures and shower heads on campus to be more energy efficient.



WHAT IS SOURCE CONTROL?

Pollution prevention from what goes down the drain.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

SHORT SHOWERS

Some showerheads produce water at 4L minute.

Taking shorter showers could preserve one milk jug container of fresh drinking water per minute.

REPORT LEAKS

In 2019, UVic discovered an underground leak that accounted for around 30% of the water usage on campus, the equivalent of approximately 200 million litres of water.

 **To report a leak call 250-472-5168**

DON'T PUT IT DOWN THE DRAIN

- Floss
- Hair
- Menstrual products
- Medications, herbal supplements, eye drops, or creams
- Too much soap (due to our soft water, we can use 50% less)