



UTown @ UBC

Live, Work and Learn on Campus



Creating a Community

UBC's community development initiatives are transforming UBC Vancouver from a commuter campus into a vibrant, sustainable, live-work-learn community. When complete, the University's campus neighbourhoods will provide a mix of housing, university-related shops and services, parks, community centres and amenities, in a pedestrian-friendly setting. A wide range of family housing options such as rental, seniors, and co-development exist. Access to the university's cultural, academic, and recreational facilities complete the community vision. Today, 50% of family homes at UBC have someone who works or studies at UBC. This does not include students living in the university's many student residences.

- Two neighbourhoods are now completed – Hampton Place and Hawthorn Place.
- Construction is nearly complete on Chancellor Place and East Campus and is beginning on Wesbrook Place.

Facts and Figures

- 50% of new family housing will have one or more occupants who study, teach or work on campus.
- Since 1992, UBC Vancouver has added nearly 3,800 new student beds.
- UBC now has more than 8,500 spaces or 'beds' for students to live on campus – Canada's largest student residence housing supply on a single campus – and more students will be able to live on campus as UBC's neighbourhoods continue to develop.
- Since 1991, UBC Vancouver has added 2,200 new apartments and townhouses for families.
- Close to 1,000 UBC faculty and staff now live on campus, equivalent to nearly 10% of UBC's full-time faculty and staff complement.

- *20% of the 2,200 apartments and townhouses on the UBC campus are rental, and half of these units are subsidized for lower income individuals and families*
- *29% of full-time undergraduate students and 24% of full-time graduate students are housed on campus in residences*
- *Since 1997, transit ridership to UBC has increased by 185% overall and single-occupancy vehicle trips have decreased by 14% overall despite a 32% increase in daytime population on campus, reducing GHG emissions by 16,000 tonnes per year*

Benefits of UTown @ UBC

The goal is to create a vital, lively, healthy – and sustainable – community where people can work and learn and shop and play, where they can walk or take transit easily, and where most of what they need is readily at hand.

Stephen Toope, UBC President and Vice-Chancellor
September 29, 2008, Board of Trade Speech

Supporting the University's Academic Mission

- The 1,000 acres upon which UBC Vancouver is located were given to UBC by the Provincial Government as a land endowment to finance generations of research, teaching and learning.
- Family housing is sold on a 99-year lease basis and UBC retains title to the land.
- Currently, community development has contributed nearly \$300 million to UBC's Endowment which funds student scholarships and bursaries as well as research and professorships, and an additional \$85 million (estimated) to the theological colleges for their academic programs.
- New family housing on campus helps the university with recruitment and retention of students, faculty and staff.

Leaders in Sustainability

- UBC earned the top grade in Canada and ranked third overall in North America in the 2009 College Sustainability Report Card after an independent evaluation of 300 public and private institutions by the Sustainable Endowments Institute.
- Planning for UBC's campus neighbourhoods is founded on the three pillars of sustainability – ecology, community and economy.
- UBC's Residential Environmental Assessment Program (REAP) is a new green building standard for 3-5 story residential buildings developed and required as part of all new housing projects on campus.
- UBC Vancouver students introduced the U-Pass in 2003, which has increased bus ridership by 185%.
- New cycling routes, interconnected greenways, pedestrian walkways and a campus shuttle service will continue to discourage car usage throughout UTown @ UBC.

World Class Cultural Facilities

- The UBC community is rich in cultural facilities, including the internationally renowned Chan Centre for the Performing Arts and the Museum of Anthropology. UBC's campus neighbourhoods makes these cultural resources, plus UBC's outstanding recreational facilities, available to and part of the broader community.

Regional Economic Benefits

- UBC has a regional economic impact of \$6.3 billion and over 39,700 jobs. UTown @ UBC will help maintain UBC's position as an engine of economic growth for B.C. by creating more jobs and continuing to attract investment and talent to the region.



Feedback

Your comments, suggestions, and questions are important to us. For related inquiries:

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