Strategic Plan 2023-2025

UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

The University Neighbourhoods are a vibrant and growing community situated on the University of British Columbia's Point Grey campus. People of all ages and backgrounds call the Neighbourhoods home, attracted to the community by its high quality of life, celebration of diversity, commitment to sustainable living, and positive energy.

UNIVERSITY NEIGHBOURHOODS ASSOCIATION

The University Neighbourhoods are administered by the University Neighbourhoods Association (UNA), a unique, elected body that works in close partnership with the University of British Columbia to meet the service needs of the community.

UNA VALUES

In all that it does, the UNA is guided by a set of core values:

Service Oriented
The UNA anticipates and responds to the needs of the community.

Responsible
In its decision-making, service provision, use of resources and interactions with the community, the UNA recognizes its responsibility to honour and respect all cultures, accommodate a diversity of social groups and individuals, protect the natural environment, and work within financial limits.

Engaging
The UNA seeks ways to engage all groups in the community, working to eliminate language, access, technological and other barriers in order to promote and facilitate connection.

Open and Transparent
The UNA welcomes new ideas from residents, stakeholders and partners. The organization is committed to the principle of transparency in its decision-making, spending and operations.

Committed to Reconciliation
As an integral part of the UBC Point Grey Community, the UNA recognizes the importance of reconciliation with the Musqueam people on whose traditional territory the University Neighbourhoods are situated.

UNA PRIORITIES AND GOALS

GOVERNANCE

Strengthen the UNA's role as the administrative body of the University Neighbourhoods, with the authority, autonomy and scope of responsibilities required to meet the needs of the diverse and growing community, raise sufficient financial resources, regulate in public spaces, and effectively represent the interests of the Neighbourhoods.

GOALS

1 Continue to work with UBC on the revision of the Neighbours' Agreement to set out, in a clear and complete fashion, the rights and obligations of the UNA and UBC.

2 Develop the capacity and tools to regulate matters of public safety and public order, including matters related to animal control and protection for pedestrians and cyclists.

3 Work to strengthen local democracy by engaging residents on the importance of UNA membership, encouraging residents to become members, and helping residents to overcome challenges to voting and participating in civic affairs.

ADVOCACY

Enhance the capacity of the UNA to represent the University Neighbourhoods, and to advocate on behalf of the community in discussions with the University of British Columbia as well as with a range of other public bodies whose decisions and services affect the University Neighbourhoods.

GOALS

1 Develop well-researched and -articulated positions on matters of community development for presentation to UBC as part of the Campus Vision 2050 planning process.

2 Create a UNA Advocacy Strategy to identify the key public agencies whose decisions and initiatives impact the University Neighbourhoods, identify opportunities and methods for engagement, and develop UNA positions to advocate.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

In close collaboration with UBC, create opportunities for the organization and the community to reduce the University Neighbourhoods' ecological footprint, take action on climate change, protect the natural environment and position the Neighbourhoods as a leader in environmental sustainability.

GOALS

1 Participate with UBC in the development of a Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan for the community.

2 Work with UBC to ensure that the UNA's landscaping service is based on, incorporates, and makes optimum use of, sustainable landscaping practices.

3 Seek ways to reduce the environmental and climate impacts of UNA's own operations.

4 Develop accessible information resources and supports to help residents reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to irreversible climate changes, connect to nature, and protect the environment.

5 Ensure that natural disaster planning efforts undertaken by UBC and Metro Vancouver take into account the needs and expectations of the UNA and the University Neighbourhoods.

CREATING CONNECTION

Develop the opportunities, materials and tools to engage residents, irrespective of differences in language, culture and background, in UNA services, UNA decision-making, and efforts to build a strong sense of community.

GOALS

1 Review messaging and methods used to communicate information on the UNA and its role, local services, opportunities for engagement and community-building efforts to different groups in the community.

2 Work with UBC to define a role for the UNA in supporting the University's reconciliation efforts.

3 Activate and support, directly and through the actions of others, volunteers in the community who wish to undertake or participate in community-building efforts, local service delivery and other initiatives aimed at strengthening community.

4 Create technological and other platforms that can be used by the UNA to engage the community, and by different groups in the community to engage each other.

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

Ensure that the organization has the people and resources in place to support the Board in its work, take decisive action on the UNA's strategic priorities, and meet the local service needs of the community in innovative and cost-effective ways.

GOALS

1 Develop programs, incentives and other initiatives aimed at enhancing the UNA's ability to attract qualified staff in a tightening labour market.

2 Develop a long-term organizational resources strategy to ensure that the UNA has the operational capacity to meet the evolving needs of the organization and community.

3 Create and implement metrics to measure the organization's performance in delivering services and acting on the UNA's strategic priorities.