



MEDIA BACKGROUNDER

The new climbing tower and bouldering area are marquee features of UVic's Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities, and will be centrally located in the 25-metre (80-foot) atrium.

Specifications:

Climbing tower

- 16-metre (55-foot) tower, with total climbable area of 216.54 square metres (2330.80 square feet)
- Plywood panel construction with brightly coloured and textured fiberglass resin finish
- Base of tower is finished with a simulated rock treatment
- Equipped with five anchor points for top roping and lead climbing throughout
- Designed primarily for beginner and intermediate users, while also serving advanced and competitive users as a conditioning facility (cardio and muscle endurance)
- Self-belay devices are not included in the wall's design.

Bouldering area

- Three-metre (12-foot) maximum climbing height on a four-metre (14-foot) wall with total climbable area of 162.93 metres (1753.80 square feet)
- Plywood panel construction with a brightly coloured and textured fiberglass resin finish and a variety of pitch angles (included inverted walls)
- Bouldering space floor will be covered with thick safety mats designed to protect low-level falls during the unroped low-level problem-solving bouldering.

Other highlights:

- It is the tallest university climbing wall in BC
- The climbing wall at CARSA will create new student employment opportunities, including a full time climbing co-ordinator, route setters, belay staff and coaches
- It will be open to the public and programming will include corporate team building, introductory and beginner lessons, intermediate technique and conditioning, learn-to-lead lessons, introduction to outdoor climbing techniques and youth programming, as well as birthday parties
- The UVic Outdoor Club and UVic Caving Club may also participate in programming and route setting in exchange for access to the facility
- There will be a separate fee structure for climbing at CARSA

- Bright finishing colours and smooth textures are designed to blend the climbing tower into the modern CARSA space rather than replicate an outdoor experience.
- Over 500 holds and volumes have been purchased, to ensure the wall has variety and challenge for all climbers.

Supplier:

- Walltopia Canada – a company based in North Vancouver (parent company in Bulgaria)
- <http://www.walltopia.com/>

CARSA opens in Spring 2015. It will provide access to athletics and recreation services, as well as research and learning programs, and will be used by campus members and the wider community. It will be the new home of Vikes Athletics and Recreation and for CanAssist, which is unique in North America with customized technologies, programs and services for people living with disabilities.

More info: www.uvic.ca/carsa

