

# LEARNING BY LOOKING

ART HISTORY AND VISUAL STUDIES EXHIBIT  
ONLINE STORY AT [bit.ly/ahvs-exhibit](http://bit.ly/ahvs-exhibit)



# THE RING

MARCH 2017

The University of Victoria's  
community newspaper

[ring.uvic.ca](http://ring.uvic.ca)



University  
of Victoria

## SPEED READING

### TOWN HALL EVENT

#### Next Campus Update is March 31

On March 31 from 12:15–1:15 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Room (SUB), join university leaders in a presentation on the university planning and budget framework approved by the Board of Governors. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and share ideas. [uvic.ca/campusupdates](http://uvic.ca/campusupdates)

### US TRAVEL

#### Interim report on US travel restrictions

The institutional working group established by UVic President Jamie Cassels to assess the impacts and needs of students, faculty and staff at UVic stemming from restrictions on travel to the US has developed a series of interim recommendations, which the president has accepted. The recommendations include access to funding for public events that promote discussion of these events, flexible deadlines and the ability to waive application fees for graduate students affected by any US travel ban, and continued support for English-language programming for refugees. More info: [bit.ly/uvic-wgt](http://bit.ly/uvic-wgt)

# EARLY BC TREATIES NOW IN INDIGENOUS LANGUAGES



Conference participant Diane Sam (Songhees) compares a facsimile of the Douglas Treaties with new Indigenous translations. UVIC PHOTO SERVICES

300+

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS FROM FIRST NATIONS, UVIC AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE

### BY TARA SHARPE

The first-ever Indigenous translation of the original Douglas Treaties, also known as the Vancouver Island or Fort Victoria treaties, was a key element in a historic three-day gathering in Victoria last month.

Hosted by the Songhees First Nation and the University of Victoria's Department of History and Faculty of Law, the Feb. 24-26 symposium is also the first of four signature series events by UVic to mark Canada's 150th anniversary.

At the Songhees Wellness Centre, more than 300 people came together from local First Nations, as well as the campus and wider communities, to explore the significance, misunderstandings, impacts and repercussions of the Douglas Treaties.

The gathering was an opportunity

for enhanced understanding about Indigenous views of colonial history and specifically the treaties, as well as insights into the historical significance and meaning of the treaty texts. The treaties were produced by British colonists in the years 1850 to 1854 and were the only ones signed in southern BC.

Months ago, the conference organizers commissioned the Indigenous translations by Elder John Elliott of the Tsartlip First Nation into SENĆOTEN, the language of the WSÁNEĆ people whose ancestral territory includes the Saanich Peninsula and Gulf Islands, and by Elder Elmer George of the Songhees First Nation into the Lekwungen language of the Songhees and Esquimalt peoples.

Elliott is an esteemed teacher and fluent SENĆOTEN speaker who teaches at

the Saanich Tribal School. He spoke with Canadian Press and other outlets including the *Times Colonist* and CBC ahead of the symposium. The national news service carried Elliott's comments about it being "easy to see now how First Nations interpreted the treaties as peace agreements. Tensions were growing as settlers cut down forests to build their forts and settlements and a young First Nations man was killed without reason."

John Lutz, chair of the UVic history department, a member of the organizing committee and an historian who focuses his research on the study of Indigenous-settler relations in the Pacific Northwest, says the translations "are a great legacy from this gathering and will be available

SEE TREATIES P. 3



## Let your curiosity be your guide

### BY BRAD BUIE

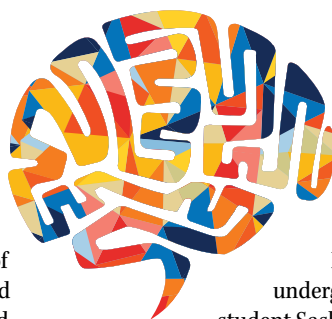
"The important thing is not to stop questioning," Albert Einstein once said. "Curiosity has its own reason for existing."

UVic's Ideafest provides a perfect platform for such curiosity. Six years running, the festival promises plenty of opportunities with over 40 events, both new and well established, from March 6–11.

Questions to be explored range from the topical to the timeless. "Migrating people" will reflect on the causes and cases of people moving across borders. "Sound and the sea" will go

below the waves to listen to the ancient song of marine mammals and the present-day sonar and shipping traffic. "The contemplative mind: Mindfulness in higher education" at UVic's Interfaith Chapel will present evidence that contemplative practice increases creativity, empathy and focus.

Student research continues as a major element of the festival, alongside faculty research and at big annual draws such as The Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Finals for graduate students and the Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards (JCURA) fair. For students, these events are the culmination of hard yet gratifying work.



For psychology undergraduate honours student Sasha Goatley, one of more than 100 JCURA recipients, the JCURA has given her a foretaste of graduate school: "We often see the research end product but not what it takes to get there. Our supervisors are generous with their time in walking us through all the steps." Goatley will present her research on how smartphone use among new mothers relates to their stress levels.

Another theme of this year's festival is reconciliation. UVic Chancellor and Honorary Witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Com-

mission Shelagh Rogers will host a conversation with Indigenous artists Rande Cook and Carey Newman and UVic anthropologist Andrea Walsh. As the event title—"Reconciliation and resurgence: How Indigenous artists are re-imagining the story of Canada"—implies, the conversation will centre on how Indigenous artists use images to understand our past and determine our future. Another event, "On being here to stay, together," will ask what we can do as individuals and communities to support the goals of reconciliation and inclusiveness. Other

SEE IDEAFEST P. 5



## ringers

**Neil Burford** is the 2017 winner of the Chemical Institute of Canada Montréal Medal for outstanding contributions to the profession of chemistry in Canada. Burford's research into chemical bonds is changing the way chemists understand the pnictogen elements (phosphorus, arsenic, antimony and bismuth) and the non-metal elements in general.

**Fraser Hof** is the 2017 winner of the IntelliSyn Pharma Research Excellence Award, presented by the Canadian Society for Chemistry, for his distinguished contribution to medicinally relevant chemistry. Hof joined UVic in 2005, and is the Canada Research Chair in Supramolecular and Medicinal Chemistry. His research focus is on "methyl"—the smallest possible change that can happen to a protein—which is responsible for powerful changes in cell behaviour. The award recognizes Fraser's research into new chemical agents that bind to and block key portions of protein surfaces essential to their function.

## Parks Canada and Victoria solar company top co-op list

More than 1,000 employer organizations hire UVic co-op students each year, giving them the opportunity to apply their academic studies and make a difference in the community. In 2016, two organizations were recognized for their outstanding student mentorship: Victoria-based solar energy specialist HES PV was named the 2016 UVic Co-op Employer of the Year (fewer than 50 employees), while Parks Canada was awarded the 2016 Co-op Employer of the Year (more than 50 employees).

A prolific employer in British Columbia and at sites across Canada, Parks Canada has mentored more than 230 UVic co-op students. The BC Coastal Field Unit in Victoria hired 24 students in 2016 alone—these students worked in a wide range of positions including Species at Risk Garry Oak recovery technicians, National Historic Site social media researchers, and visitor service attendant assistants.

Parks Canada hires students from across all of UVic co-op program areas and is recognized for its strong commitment to mentorship—staff encourage students to learn about the higher-level policy and research that guides their projects and to spend time with several different teams. This approach helps students gain a bigger-picture understanding of Parks Canada and poises them for future work within the agency. Beyond co-op, Parks Canada staff contribute to UVic classes in the Faculties of Fine Arts and Social Sciences, regularly take part in mock interview clinics and are active participants at several UVic events.

"We're grateful for the fresh perspective and enthusiasm co-op students bring to Parks Canada," says Helen Davies, field unit superintendent for Parks Canada's Coastal BC

Field Unit. "Whether monitoring rare sand dune ecosystems or helping the public discover our special places, Parks Canada benefits each year from the unique contributions of co-op students who, in turn, make the most of the hands-on experiences we offer."

With less than a dozen regular staff, HES's hiring record is impressive. The solar electricity specialist has hired 34 co-op students since the summer of 2009, including 18 students on their first work term. Co-op students are often hired from the Faculty of Engineering and have contributed to projects that have made a real impact in communities across Canada. A local example is the T'Souke Solar Project, which involved the installation of solar panels on various buildings throughout the T'Souke First Nation community.

"As a former UVic co-op student, I understand the value to both employers and students that comes from the co-op program. At HES PV we continue to recognize the important role co-op students can play in our organization," says Daniel Partridge from HES PV. "Our co-op students work on projects ranging from designing new photovoltaic systems to helping on installations. The determination and dedication they bring each day allows HES PV to undertake bigger and more complex projects, which ultimately provides our students with a more fulfilling educational experience."

HES PV has also supported experiential learning at UVic by participating in engineering classes on the topic of sustainable energy systems, and by taking part in the Co-op Student for a Day shadowing initiative, which invites students who are interested in co-op to spend a day with co-op employer organizations.

"We're so thankful to HES PV and to Parks Canada for the mentorship and



Helen Davies, supervisor for Parks Canada's Coastal BC Field Unit, on site with Kelly Forbes, outreach and interpretation officer for the Clam Garden Project and former UVic co-op student.



Electrical engineering co-op student Brian Vincer during an installation of solar panels in the Cook Street area.

incredible learning that they provide to our co-op students," says Norah McRae, executive director of UVic Co-op and Career. "Their commitment to supporting our students' personal growth and their focus on fostering community across our region and beyond are just a few of the reasons

that we're proud to partner with these organizations."

HES PV and Parks Canada were formally recognized at Co-op and Career's Employer Appreciation Reception on Feb. 22.

2016 Employers of the Year video: [bit.ly/2016-coop1](http://bit.ly/2016-coop1)

## UVic celebrates Canada's 150th

To mark the 150th anniversary of Canada's confederation, the university will hold a series of events under the theme "The Edge of what's next" during 2017.

These special initiatives will include a series of signature events, arts and cultural exhibitions, and faculty and department events that explore the key opportunities and challenges facing Canadians over the next 50 years leading up to the country's 2067 bicentennial.

The first signature event—"First Nations, Land and James Douglas: Indigenous and Treaty Rights in the Colonies of Vancouver Island and BC"—took place Feb. 24-26.

Upcoming signature events:

"EnVision 2017: Decarbonizing Energy and the Environment," April 27-28. Marking the fourth annual alumni conference hosted by UVic's Institute for Integrated Energy Systems.

"Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights and the Roles of Ethnoecology and Ethnobotany," May 2-5. This symposium is hosted by the School of Environmental Studies.

"Forgotten Corridors: Global Displacement and the Politics of Engagement," May 15-18. UVic's Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives hosts this 10th annual Canadian Association for Refugee and Forced Migration Studies conference.

"Canada 150: Promoting Diversity and Engagement," Nov. 17-19. The conference is a collaboration between UVic's Peter B. Gustavson School of Business and Global Affairs Canada.

Visit UVic's Canada 150 website for more information and event details: [uvic.ca/canada150/](http://uvic.ca/canada150/)

If you're looking to organize an initiative to coincide with Canada 150, contact Executive Director of the Community and Government Relations office, Jennifer Vornbrock at [jvornbrock@uvic.ca](mailto:jvornbrock@uvic.ca).

If your department or faculty would like to brand an event with the Canada 150 logo, it can be used at no charge with advance permission

from Heritage Canada. Instructions on how to apply for the use of the logo are available on the Government of Canada website: [bit.ly/can-150](http://bit.ly/can-150)



CANADA 150

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**Executive Director** Bruce Kilpatrick, 250-721-7638,  
[abk@uvic.ca](mailto:abk@uvic.ca)

**Managing editor** Marc Christensen,  
250-721-6022, [marcdc@uvic.ca](mailto:marcdc@uvic.ca)

**Production** Beth Doman

**Display ads** Bonnie Light, 250-388-5321,  
[adsring@uvic.ca](mailto:adsring@uvic.ca)

**Calendar** Mandy Crocker, 250-721-8587,  
[ucam@uvic.ca](mailto:ucam@uvic.ca)

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The Ring, PO Box 1700, University of Victoria,  
Victoria, BC V8W 2Y2

Tel: 250-721-7636 Fax: 250-721-8955  
E-mail: [ring@uvic.ca](mailto:ring@uvic.ca)

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# Winning co-ops contribute to vital research

Innovative, aspiring and motivated to make a positive impact—these are the qualities shared by three extraordinary students who were recognized for their outstanding work ethic, initiative and engagement by being named as the 2016 Co-op Students of the Year.

Each year, UVic's Co-operative Education Program and Career Services recognize co-op students who have made outstanding achievements in their academic achievement, workplace performance and community involvement. One student is selected from each of three major co-op program groups.

The 2016 Co-op Students of the Year are:



Pineau

## PAUL KIM (biochemistry)

Co-op Student of the Year – Optional and Professional Programs

Paul Junhyuck Kim has always been motivated to better the world around him. Inspired to contribute to the field of public health by a family member's battle with cancer, the fourth-year biochemistry student secured his first co-op work term performing research at the Centre for Microbial Diseases and Immunity Research (funded by the Centre for Blood Research). After receiving a Science Undergraduate Research Award from UVic, he was offered the chance to work alongside Dr. Julian Lum at the BC Cancer Agency Deeley Research Centre, where he conducted research involving lymphocyte infiltration in tumour microenvironments—research that could contribute to streamlining cancer treatments in the future. Paul's work not only added a great deal of understanding on basic lymphocyte biology, but also provided Lum's lab with a

strong backbone for future research grants. A believer in hands-on learning and a vocal proponent of co-op on and off campus, Kim looks forward to building strong relationships in his future co-ops to ultimately generate large-scale impact in the medical field.

## NICHOLAS PINEAU (business)

Co-op Student of the Year – Business Co-op Program

Driven by an appetite for knowledge, business entrepreneurship student Nick Pineau has proven himself an outstanding example of a Gustavson student both in and outside the classroom. Motivated to study at UVic because of the co-op program, Pineau spent his first work term performing treasury and risk management with Elbow River Marketing in Calgary, where he completed credit reviews and daily financial statement analyses. Last summer, he secured a position with Nexen working in accounting

and finance, where he focused on variance analysis, budgeting and cost allocation in the oil and gas industry. His colleagues were impressed with his analytical skills as well as his high level of professionalism and eagerness to engage with staff across the whole organization. Outside the workplace, Pineau has dedicated himself to student engagement by helping fellow classmates with their job searches, organizing workshops to contribute to students' professional development, coordinating speaker series and assisting in business co-op events.

## ANIKA BELL (mechanical engineering)

Co-op Student of the Year – Engineering and Computer Science/Math Co-op Programs

A passion for environmental sustainability and renewable energy has led fourth-year student Anika Bell to new heights while studying mechanical



Kim

engineering at UVic.

From completing a work term with the UVic ECOSat team—where she helped design a first-place satellite for the Canadian Satellite Design Challenge—to working on renewable energy projects with the Environment Department of the Vancouver Airport Authority, Bell's co-op placements have offered diverse and enriching opportunities for hands-on learning. At her most recent work term with the BC Ministry of Environment Climate Action Secretariat, Bell stepped into the role of Climate-Resilient Buildings Intern. Tasked to complete a climate risk and resilience assessment of a public sector building in BC, Bell far exceeded the expectations set out for her. Developing a novel assessment method, she completed assessments for not one but three buildings and building sites over the course of her four-month term. Bell's accomplishments led to her being sought out for a fourth work term with BC Housing, where she's creating a tool to



Bell

assess buildings for climate change resilience.

Video and full story: [bit.ly/2016-co-op2](http://bit.ly/2016-co-op2)

## TREATIES CONTINUED FROM P.1

for generations to come."

UVic's Department of History and Faculty of Law collaborated with the Songhees First Nation to host the symposium.

Hamar Foster, a UVic professor emeritus and former associate dean of law, specializes in the legal history of the fur trade and Indigenous law from historical perspectives. He and UVic PhD candidate Neil Vallance (law), who gave two presentations at the symposium, played key roles alongside other conference organizers.

"The original idea for the symposium was to hold a small get-together for those with a scholarly interest in this timely and important topic," says Foster. "But, thankfully, the project just grew and grew into something much better. For so many people this

is a forgotten aspect of BC's history. It's hugely satisfying to be able to do something about that."

Lutz adds: "What the translations do provide now is a much better understanding about what the Douglas Treaties really meant to the Coast Salish and Straits Salish ancestors who lived on these territories all those years ago."

The Indigenous versions of the treaties—which have never before been available in the local languages—were ceremonially handed over by the two translators to the Royal BC Museum on Feb. 25 to be kept in perpetuity alongside the original treaties.

"We gratefully accept these translations into the BC Archives, where they will provide welcome context and act as a companion for the original Van-

couver Island (Douglas) Treaties, especially for Lekwungen and SENĆOTEN speakers," says Royal BC Museum COO and Deputy CEO Angela Williams. "The Royal BC Museum is honoured to be a trusted partner with Indigenous peoples of British Columbia, and making these translations available in our collection will assist researchers in understanding the treaties through the voice of First Nations themselves."

The symposium, "First Nations, Land, and James Douglas: Indigenous and Treaty Rights in the Colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia, 1849–1864," was funded, along with local sponsorship, by a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

Complete story online: [ow.ly/4YHg309kCUF](http://ow.ly/4YHg309kCUF)

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# ideafest

## MARCH 6-11

**110 IDEAS THAT CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING.**

**Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards Fair | March 8, 2017**

**11:30 – 3:00 P.M. | Student Union Building (Upper Lounge and Michele Pujol Room)**

Join us in celebrating the outstanding research produced by 110 Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards scholars.

[ltc.uvic.ca](http://ltc.uvic.ca)



# around the ring

## New community engagement info portal

The Office of Community-University Engagement (OCUE) has launched a new website—[uvic.ca/ocue](http://uvic.ca/ocue). The site is a portal that links community, students, faculty and staff to resources available across UVic to help support community-university engagement. It features an engagement map, a searchable inventory of UVic's community-university engagement projects around the world.

## UVic Staff Sustainability Champion Award

Do you work with someone who enthusiastically promotes sustainability in your workplace and/or across campus? Nominate him or her for the annual UVic Staff Sustainability Champion Award. Nominations are open until March 31, and the award presentation will take place at the Connect U conference on May 3. Full info and nomination package at [bit.ly/green-awd](http://bit.ly/green-awd)

## Faculty & staff evening at *The Inspector*

In celebration of the Department of Theatre's 50th anniversary, UVic faculty and staff are encouraged to attend a special dessert reception and behind-the-scenes tour of the Phoenix Theatre facilities, Mar. 8 at 6:30 p.m. Afterwards, staff can enjoy discounted tickets to the 8:00 p.m. performance of *The Inspector*, a West Coast political satire inspired by Nikolay Gogol's play *The Government Inspector*, adapted by theatre professor Linda Hardy based on local news stories.

## Winners of the diversity writing contests

The student winners of the annual Diversity Writing Contest and Spoken Word Contest were announced at the opening reception of the Diversity Research Forum on Jan. 26. The winners engaged the audience with their poetry, fiction, non-fiction and spoken word pieces, capturing a remarkable and diverse range of voices and experiences. To read (and hear) the winning student entries online, visit [bit.ly/diversity-awds](http://bit.ly/diversity-awds)

## Partnership opportunity with Swans Brewpub

UVic Properties, which manages non-academic properties on behalf of the university, has announced a plan to reinvigorate Swans Hotel and Brewpub as a thriving hospitality enterprise. They have issued a request for expressions of interest in order to qualify interested parties for a partnership opportunity to operate the popular downtown pub, hotel, brewery and liquor store. UVic will continue to own the heritage-designated building and property. Full Ring story: [bit.ly/swanns-partner](http://bit.ly/swanns-partner)



# ONE MILLION VIEWS FOR STUDENT BLOG PROJECT

## 500 posts in, MyUVic Life provides a first-person perspective on the UVic student experience

BY LINDSAY GAGEL

What's it like to be a UVic student? Will I fit in? Is university for me? For the past two years, there's been a resource that provides first-hand answers to these questions and many more.

MyUVic Life is a blog for students, by students. A diverse team of undergraduate student bloggers create first-person stories—articles, listicles, videos and/or photo essays—that are posted to the UVic-hosted website as an accessible and widely read collection.

Since the project launched in January 2015, there have been over 500 blog posts uploaded, 63 student voices featured and one million pages viewed by visitors.

Among the most popular posts are Rachel François' "My First Memorable Moments of Residence: A Flashback," Leat Ahrony's "Seven things I wish I knew before coming to Canada" and Jess Neilson's "The Value of Varsity Athletics: A Rebuttal"—a varsity athlete's perspective on balancing academics and sport that was shared widely by Rugby Canada.

### The elements of success

The project is an ongoing partnership coordinated by Crystal Bergeron, a communications officer in Student Recruitment and Global Engagement and Cathie Walker, a web content strategist in University Communications + Marketing.

Walker, who uploads the students' stories to the website and makes minor copyedits when needed, emphasizes that she and Bergeron don't censor the students as long as they follow the general guidelines. "We tell them, 'what you write goes up, so make sure it's something you'd be proud to have a potential employer read.'"

*"Everyone has a unique pathway to future careers. Mine just happens to involve a love for a sport paired alongside academic pursuits. . . . I can do both—successfully. Many do. You don't need to choose. They augment each other. Still not convinced? Just watch me."*

— Jess Neilson (political science) from "The Value of Varsity Athletics: A Rebuttal" [bit.ly/uvic-varsity](http://bit.ly/uvic-varsity)

From Bergeron's perspective, this is why the blog is so successful. "People read the blog because it's authentic, it's real," she says. "And that's the beauty of it. It shows how it is to really be a student here."

Bergeron's role in the project is to



Levi Hildebrand (geography) in the Philippines. PHOTO: LEVI HILDEBRAND

manage the bloggers and organize monthly meetings. She explains that prospective students are looking to see that they're going to fit in here. Can, for example, an international high school student interested in athletics see himself here? Can a domestic transfer student interested in traveling abroad see herself here?

"As part of the student recruitment team at UVic," says Bergeron, "I try to think about everyone who may want to come here, and I do my best to make sure they're represented."

And the UVic blog certainly delivers. The 63 students—including writers who submit blog posts throughout the year and guest writers who submit only one—represent all faculties on campus. And that's just the beginning. International students, transfer students, co-op students, exchange students, athletes, artists, foodies and so much more have all offered their unique perspectives on life as a UVic student.

Emily Beaudoin (recreation and health education) is a nature enthusiast whose artistic designs have been printed on ski and snowboard topsheets. Talen Rimmer (marine biology) is a spoken word enthusiast and cross-country athlete who wants to taste a food from every country. Kyle Moodley (chemistry) has his sights set on med school and has a passion for art. And then there was the time he played Thunder the Mascot.

"Being a UVic blogger offers the opportunity to share your own unique perspective on topics that you're passionate about," says Ricky Watts, a former MyUVic Life blogger and UVic alumnus.

"Through this team," explains Watts, "students from diverse backgrounds can come together and share stories, experiences, perspectives and form new relationships that might not otherwise have been formed."



Kate Hiscock (chemistry) and Kevin Ram (microbiology). UVIC VIKES

### Writing from the heart

The posts offer a lot of positive messages and encouragement to future and fellow students, but sometimes it's tough being a student. The bloggers are encouraged to write about anything they want, including the hardships and struggles.

"Prospective students, the ones looking to see if UVic is a good fit for them, appreciate that honesty," says Bergeron.

*"We're never going to get our 'grown up' badges and suddenly have that perfect life we wanted. I think growing up is having to ask yourself what makes you happy, what makes you enjoy waking up in the morning, what can't you live without and what you can."*

— Rachel Smith (English) from "On Growing Up"

[bit.ly/uvic-grow-up](http://bit.ly/uvic-grow-up)

Kate Hiscock is a MyUVic Life blogger who has written several posts sharing her personal experiences, from why she chose UVic to her contributions in the community to traveling abroad.

She explains why she loves being a blogger: "It's kind of exhilarating to be able to share your experiences with students. It's a reflection of me, but I also want what I write to be applicable, relevant. If it keeps me up at night, it's probably worth blogging about."

She gestures to a print-out of her blog post, "Everything is not okay, and that's okay," in which she shares the loneliness and isolation she felt while on an exchange semester in France. "That's a part of me."

In addition to being a valuable recruitment tool, the blog is a way for current students to communicate with one another, to share ideas and thoughts and to show fellow students that they're not alone in what they're feeling or experiencing. Hiscock says that her fellow bloggers' posts are validating. "Reading their blogs make me feel better about where I'm at in my own life," she says.

Before joining MyUVic Life last year, Hiscock had never shared anything personal she'd written. The project seemed like a good fit for her, especially she was already involved in the UVic community in other ways.

"I love this place so much," she says about UVic. "I can grow and contribute without disappearing in the masses."





### Shaping our future

There's a kind of contagious energy shared among the bloggers. When so many young, talented and creative minds get in a room—which they do on a monthly basis to brainstorm ideas, learn, socialize and share a meal together—it's evident that these may well be the future leaders of our communities and beyond.

*"In order for something to be 'life changing' you have to go through some really uncomfortable emotions, emotions that don't go away overnight."*

— Kate Hiscock (chemistry) from "Everything is not okay, and that's okay." [bit.ly/not-okay](http://bit.ly/not-okay)

Both Walker and Bergeron don't hesitate to say that working on the MyUVic Life project is the best part of their jobs.

"I typically get to work with staff," says Walker. "The bloggers remind me why I'm here. They're all so awesome. I don't think I was that awesome when I was that age!" she says with a laugh. She's read every one of the 500-plus posts but couldn't possibly choose a favourite. "It changes every day! It would be like picking a favourite child. We have some really beautiful writers."

Despite their different backgrounds, hobbies, interests and areas of study, there's one thing that seems to unite the student bloggers: the desire to make the world a better place.

"I keep learning from them," says Bergeron. "They're passionate about this place and the world and what they can do. It's inspiring reading their blogs and watching their videos. Just read what they're saying, read what they're doing. These students are going to make a difference in the world."

[uvic.ca/myuviclife](http://uvic.ca/myuviclife)

*"The key is to be kind to yourself, which means cutting out the judgement. Toss away the labels. Instead of telling yourself you are 'bad at tests' after a few bad tests, remove that thought and just enjoy the process of learning."*

— Rachel François (history) from "Cut the Self-judgement"

[bit.ly/uvic-process](http://bit.ly/uvic-process)



Art by Em Beaudoin (recreation and health education)



Yamila Franco (biology) in CARSA



UVic was well represented at Converge 2017.

### STUDENT VOICES

## Facing Canada's future: reflections from Converge 2017

BY MAXWELL NICHOLSON

This February, I had the incredible opportunity to represent UVic at Converge 2017—a conference where leaders, students, politicians and university executives came together to develop a vision for what we wanted Canada to become. Looking forward to 2067, we talked about innovation, reconciliation, pluralism and inclusivity in a rapidly changing global landscape.

Discussing the future of Canadian innovation was intriguing. Dominic Barton of McKinsey & Co. outlined that as Canadians, we are amazing researchers. Many great ideas originate in Canada, but as a country we are poor at keeping Canadian businesses Canadian. Often, Canadian ideas are bought out by other countries. Governor General David Johnston suggested that the solution includes each one of us encouraging and promoting a culture of innovation in our friends and children.

Reconciliation was another important focus. Roberta Jamieson discussed how as Canadians we need to continue to open the door to new immigrants, but respect the long-standing history of the First Nations. We explored a history of Canadian discrimination against First Nations and were energized to pursue decolonization through

expanding our education to include this very important perspective, and teaching how First Nations culture has lessons for architecture, science, innovation and more.

The highlight of the event was hearing from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on what defines Canada. He clearly explained how openness to immigrants was a competitive advantage for Canada. He stated that we are a society that has understood that defining ourselves based on ethnicity, language, religion, and so on simply doesn't work. He emphasized that there is no "typical" Canadian and that we have figured out how to make difference a source of strength.

There were many amazing speakers at the conference, but one of the best parts of the whole experience was the conversations that were had and the relationships that were built. Whether it was staying up until 1:00 a.m. eating poutine and discussing reconciliation, or exploring Ottawa with some new friends, connections between future leaders were built, and we left optimistic to work together to shape Canada as a world leader in the next 50 years.

*Maxwell Nicholson is the UVSS director of campaigns and community relations and a second-year economics student.*

### IDEAFEST CONTINUED FROM P.1

Indigenous-led research is featured throughout the week.

"Ideafest has become a highly anticipated week for the on-campus and broader community," says Vice-President Research David Castle. "It's gained importance for providing real forums for people to come together for thoughtful, critical conversations.

I encourage everyone to visit the website and check out the full schedule of events."

Browse the full program of 40+ events at [uvic.ca/ideafest/](http://uvic.ca/ideafest/). All events are free and open to the public, though some require registration. See website for details.



(L-R) Kyle Moodley (chemistry), Talen Rimmer (marine biology) and Ben Wonnacott (English, professional writing). UVIC PHOTO SERVICES.

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# “Our women have always carved”

Exhibit seeks to correct gendered colonial myths with works by Ellen Neel, a woman carver of the Northwest Coast



BY TARA SHARPE

Ellen Newman Neel (Kwagiulth, Kwickwasutaineuk and 'Namgis) is often described as the first Northwest Coast woman carver. A prolific artist, she was only 49 years old when she passed away in the 1960s. But her defiance of gender barriers and federal law carries deep resonance for all Canadians to this day—and her artistic legacy lives on in the work of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The first exhibition of Neel's work in more than 50 years is now showing at UVic's Legacy Art Gallery Downtown. Curated by Carolyn Butler-Palmer, UVic's Williams Legacy Chair in Modern and Contemporary Arts of the Pacific Northwest, the exhibit commemorates the 100th anniversary of Neel's birth and 50th anniversary of her death.

Butler-Palmer was assisted

throughout the process by two advising curators, Neel's grandchildren David A. Neel and Lou-ann Ika'wega Neel, and the exhibit includes artwork from six generations of the family.

Lou-ann recently told *The Globe and Mail* that it's “really a colonial idea that our women didn't carve. Our women have always carved.”

Born in Alert Bay in 1916, Neel learned during the 1920s to carve from her grandfather—the eminent master carver Yakuglas/Charlie James—at a time when carving was banned in Canada. She then launched her artistic career in the 1940s during the potlatch prohibition when carving was rare and the idea of a woman carver was even rarer still.

Butler-Palmer (art history and visual studies) worked for 15 years on research in support of the exhibit. “Ellen Neel was a remarkable woman,” she says. “Seven decades before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission published its findings, Neel graciously and very publically supported the rights of Indigenous people, to fish, to fair wages, to an education and to make art.”

“It is hard to imagine the Northwest Coast art world today without the foundation laid by Neel in the 1940s, 50s, and 60s.”

Director of UVic Legacy Art Galleries Mary Jo Hughes adds, “We are honoured to be able to facilitate this exhibition and be able to mobilize the important research by Dr. Butler-Palmer and the Neel family. This project brings to public notice Ellen Neel



Upper left: Donzaqua Mask. Above: Neel in her studio

who played such a pivotal role in the art of the northwest.”

Neel opened a retail outlet in Stanley Park, The Totem Arts Shop, in 1951 where she taught her children to make art. They carved hundreds of items destined for the tourist market.

She also produced monumental and miniature memorial poles, including The Wonderbird Pole of 1953 for

White Spot Restaurants, as well as an extensive collection including masks, hand puppets, textiles, jewelry and totemware ceramics.

Neel designed the famous Totemland Pole too, which was a commission from a tourism organization with hundreds of miniature poles gifted to visiting dignitaries, as well as other people beyond BC including Bob Hope

and Katharine Hepburn.

As she told a UBC audience in 1948: “Only when there is an adequate response to efforts to retain the best of our art will it be possible to train the younger generation to appreciate their own cultural achievements.”

The exhibit runs through April 1.

Legacy Gallery: [uvac.uvic.ca](http://uvac.uvic.ca)



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Rosina M., Hleketani Community Garden, Jopi village, South Africa, 2014

## New film plants seeds of hope

BY TARA SHARPE

Hleketani translates as “thinking” in the local xiTsonga language of northern Limpopo Province in South Africa. A new documentary, *The Thinking Garden*, is giving Canadian audiences a chance to think about how women in a small South African village have faced the challenges of climate change and poverty through a unique farming collective.

For 25 years, three generations of women have sustained the Hleketani Community Garden—which in turn has fed their families and built a strong sense of community in the midst of repeated droughts, poverty and serious health issues.

Directed by Métis filmmaker and UVic professor emerita Christine Welsh (gender studies), and written and produced by Welsh and UVic historian and writer Elizabeth Vibert (history), the new film tells the inspiring story of South African women

sowing seeds of change.

Beautifully filmed by Vancouver cinematographer Moira Simpson, it showcases the remarkable story of 30 women farmers. Its official launch at UVic on March 1 coincided with the 25th anniversary of the community garden. The first screenings kicked off in Halifax and Toronto during Black History Month in February. Screenings will also follow at the Vancouver International Women in Film Festival (March 8–12) and the Vancouver South African Film Festival (March 31–April 2).

The farm and other grassroots projects in northern villages of South Africa were the focus of the rural portion of an innovative UVic field school two years ago founded by Vibert.

Basani Ngobeni, Vibert’s research collaborator, the translator for UVic’s field school and the film’s assistant director, was in Victoria for the launch.

A cookbook is also available. Twitter: @thinkinggarden

# calendar highlights

Events free unless otherwise indicated. For a complete list of events, visit the online calendar at [events.uvic.ca](http://events.uvic.ca).

## at the galleries

[uvac.uvic.ca](http://uvac.uvic.ca)  
250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit.** Until April 1. *Ellen Neel: The First Woman Totem Pole Carver.* See article, opposite page. Legacy Art Gallery, 630 Yates St. 250-721-6562

■ **Exhibit.** Until April 1. *The Mystery of Grafton Tyler Brown: Race, Art, and Landscape in 19th Century British Columbia.* How did this African American artist succeed at a time when racial prejudice prevented most Blacks from entering any skilled profession? Guest curated by John Lutz (UVic) with Emerald Johnstone Bedell and Caroline Riedel. Created in partnership with UVic Legacy Art Galleries and the history department, with conservation support from the Royal BC Museum. Legacy Art Gallery, 630 Yates St. 250-721-6562

## at the theatre

[www.phoenixtheatres.ca](http://www.phoenixtheatres.ca)  
250-721-8000

■ **Theatre.** 8:00 p.m. *The Inspector.* March 7–18. A west coast political satire inspired by Nikolay Gogol’s *The Government Inspector*, adapted by theatre professor Linda Hardy based on local news stories. Word arrives in Paradise (a fictional West Coast town) that a government inspector is coming incognito. Will the little improprieties of the town’s mayor and officials be exposed? Phoenix Theatre. Tickets \$15–26. 250-721-8000

## FRIDAY, MARCH 3

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *Fridaymusic.* And March 10, 17, 24 and 31. Featuring UVic School of Music students in a concert of varied repertoire. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

## SATURDAY, MARCH 4

■ **Conference.** 8:30 a.m. *Memory and Momentum: Culture and Change in Central and Eastern Europe.* Graduate conference organized by the students of Germanic and Slavic studies. Mearns / McPherson 025 and A003. 250-721-7508

## MONDAY, MARCH 6

■ **Lansdowne Lecture.** 11:30 a.m. *British Columbia’s Treatment as Prevention HIV/AIDS Program.* Robert Hogg (SFU). Cornett A225.

## TUESDAY, MARCH 7

■ **Music.** 12:30 p.m. *Tuesdaymusic.* And March 14, 21 and 28. Take an afternoon break to enjoy a concert of varied repertoire and instruments featuring UVic School of Music students. MacLaurin B125. Admission by donation. 250-721-8634

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 12:30 p.m. *Theatre Production & Event Management in Canada.* Paul Shaw spearheaded the production elements in major theatres in Canada and global events such as the 2010 Olympics and Paralympic Torch Relays and Expo 86. Phoenix.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 11:30 a.m. *UAV Imaging for Geomorphology and Vegetation Structure.* Wiebe Nijland. Turpin B247. 250-472-4496

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 5 p.m. *Why Art Matters in Dangerous Times.* Panel accompanies the exhibition “Learning Through Looking—Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Art History & Visual Studies.” Mearns / McPherson 025. 250-721-6305

■ **Lansdowne Lecture.** 6:30 p.m. *Emergence of HIV in Africa and Beyond.* Robert Hogg (SFU). Turpin A110.

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 7:30 p.m. *Visiting Artist Lecture.* Lisa Birke (U-Waterloo), experimental short filmmaker who situates between the traditions of painting, digital video and performance art. Visual Arts A150. 250-721-8011

## FRIDAY, MARCH 10

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 2:45 p.m. *Sea Otters and Kelp Forests: Questions, Approaches, and Perspectives.* James Estes (U-Cal. Santa Cruz). Turpin B215. 250-721-7327

## SUNDAY, MARCH 12

■ **Music.** 2:30 p.m. *Thank-you Concert.* A thank-you to our concertgoers, the community and supporters with a wonderful afternoon of music featuring UVic School of Music scholarship recipients. MacLaurin B125. 250-721-8634

## TUESDAY, MARCH 14

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 3 p.m. *Venus Missions: Past, Present, Planned and Pretend.* David Grinspoon (Planetary Science Institute). Elliott 167. 250-721-6120

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

■ **Lecture/Seminar.** 5 p.m. *Freedom Sings: Land/Bodies/Resurgence.* Leanne Betasamosake Simpson. First Peoples House Ceremonial Hall. 250-853-3567

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# Leadership expert examines the Canucks' "culture of civility"

UVic prof completes seven-year study tracing roots from Pat Quinn and Trevor Linden through Sedins to younger players.

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

Hockey culture is adopting a leadership style that nurtures skilled communicators, system thinkers and compassionate collaborators who build teams and community.

At least that's the aspirational view University of Victoria leadership studies researcher Carolyn Crippen puts forward in her new study of servant-leader philosophy in the NHL, as exemplified by Henrik and Daniel Sedin and key members of the Canucks organization.

"A Case Study of Servant Leadership in the NHL," published in *Interchange, a Quarterly Review of Education*, provides evidence of the influence of the Sedins, Trevor Linden, Pat Quinn and others on the changing culture of the Vancouver Canucks, and provides expert comment on how their example could influence the NHL, aspiring professional hockey players, and sport in general.



The Sedins and Crippen at Rogers Arena. PHOTO:JEFF VINNICK

"This study is about a side of hockey that's often overlooked," Crippen says. "Today, especially with our knowledge of concussions, it's critical to change hockey's image."

Servant-leadership, a term coined by management researcher Robert Greenleaf in 1970, is described as a more humane, value-based and creative management style whereby the leader focuses on the needs of the followers first.

"There's this evolution in the structure of management worldwide," Crippen says. "There's more awareness of leadership being lateralized, being spread out. The top-down style is dying."

"Daniel and Henrik lead by example with strong values and an unparalleled work ethic," said Trevor Linden, Van-

couver Canucks President of Hockey Operations. "They demonstrate the finest qualities of character both in the game and as community leaders to future generations of players and fans."

Crippen hadn't expected to find the leadership philosophy that she studies—mostly within corporate and organizational cultures—in hockey, at least not until the Sedins and their playing style caught her eye when she moved to BC from Manitoba in 2009. As she described in an earlier study in 2013, the Sedins stood out for their civil, respectful approach to their teammates, coaches, opponents and officials. She came to see them as the "culture carriers" of the team, a term used by Canucks GM Jim Benning in an interview with Vancouver sports writer Ed Willes.

A self-funded research project seven years in the making, Crippen's qualitative study includes: hundreds of hours of close observation and analysis of games broadcast between 2009 and 2016, as well as at a number of live games and practice sessions; a lengthy interview conducted with the Sedin twins and, more recently, with Trevor Linden—Canucks President of Hockey Operations—and two Vancouver sports writers; archival news research; and data analysis.

Daniel and Henrik Sedin, she found, demonstrate accountability, responsibility, proficiency, diligence, empathy, civic values, inclusivity and continual growth of self and others. "All of these traits contribute to building better serving communities, both on and off the ice," she says.

The original beliefs, values and norms established by Pat Quinn and then disseminated by Trevor Linden during his time as a player, team leader and now as an executive, continues through the Sedins. Because of their lengthy and stable history (18 years) with the team, she asserts that they've disseminated and reinforced a culture of civility and skill-based play that's now embodied within young players.

"Youth, aspiring professional hockey players and those involved in hockey and sport in general, may be influenced by their willingness to serve the team and their community through relentless hard work, integrity and accountability, and caring for children, special needs and outreach to the local and provincial community," Crippen says.

## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH

# Opioid substitution patients write guide to help others

BY SUZANNE AHEARNE

In BC alone, more than 16,700 people receive opioid substitution treatment (OST) as a way of reducing harms from illicit opioid dependence. Patients face stigma and multiple levels of bureaucracy in the medical system to access information and treatment.

To help navigate this, UVic's Centre for Addictions Research (CARBC) produced a users' guide to the world of prescription opioids (such as methadone and suboxone) treatment and recovery. The handbook, *Patients Helping Patients Understand Opioid Substitution Treatment*, was co-written by a group of OST patients, supported by funding from the Province of BC.

The handbook reflects patients' experiences as well as current science and the medical system. Through CARBC's work on health promotion related to substance use, they've learned that resilience—and thereby, health—is built through connections and relationships, as well as by having high self-expectations and by having opportunities to contribute to solutions in a meaningful way. CARBC Assistant Director Dan Reist calls the handbook "an important tool in the face of BC's overdose epidemic."

"Too often patients are expected to be passive consumers of health care services," says Reist. As a result, he explains, the services may be high quality from the perspective of the service providers, but they don't meet the needs of the patients because the patient experience has not informed the design of the services. The need for this kind of handbook was expressed in consultations on OST organized by CARBC at the request of the BC Ministry of Health. "It's about making patients partners in designing and delivering services," Reist adds.

Garth Mullins, harm reduction activist and one of the handbook co-authors, agrees. That's one reason he wanted to be part of the Vancouver writing team. "Patients suffer through a Byzantine bureaucracy of medical jargon and advice from well-meaning experts who haven't experienced this life," he says. "The handbook tells people looking to get treatment for addiction the often ugly truth about their options as well as the potentially life-changing possibilities."

"I've gone to so many memorials and funerals for those dead of overdose, who couldn't get help and couldn't get support. The medical system made them feel like outsiders. It alienated them. Too much is



Al Fowler, handbook co-author, and Reist (centre) deliver handbooks to the Connections clinic in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. PHOTO:JEFF VINNICK

done in the name of helping drug users without giving any room to the actual voices of that experience. The handbook is just a start. One day those most affected by government and drug

policy and legislation should have a hand in writing it," says Mullins.

The 43-page handbook is available for download at [uvic.ca/carbc](http://uvic.ca/carbc) and print copies are being distributed to

methadone and other opioid-substitution dispensing pharmacies, social service agencies and authorized prescribers in Victoria, Vancouver and across BC.