

alumniUBC Trek

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SPECIAL FEATURE

UBC prof pioneers academic relations with North Korea

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quest for first editions

The hi-tech road
that repairs itself

Dan Mangan has
the last word





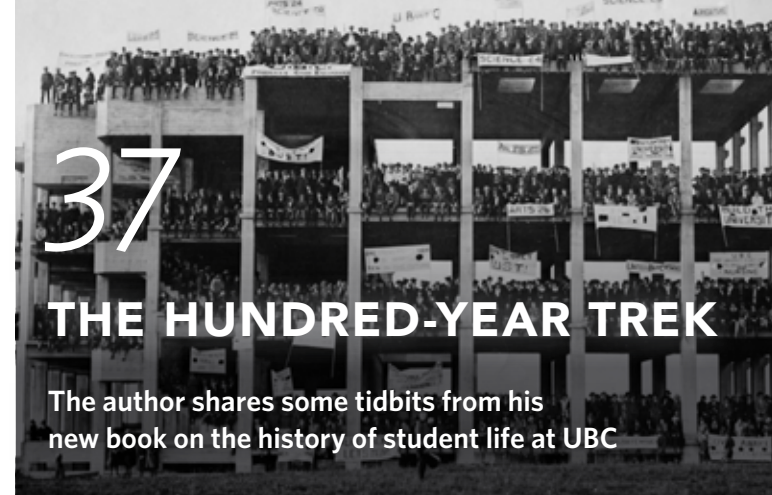
8
**NORTH
by
NORTHWEST**

A UBC prof pioneers academic relations with North Korea



12
TRAILBLAZER

An innovative concrete developed at UBC has been used to build the world's first self-repairing road



37
THE HUNDRED-YEAR TREK

The author shares some tidbits from his new book on the history of student life at UBC



16
Student Admissions 101

Who gets into UBC and why?



52
THE LAST WORD WITH Dan Mangan, BA'06

Q: Which famous person do you think (or have you been told) you most resemble?
A: No question. Seth Rogen. Got mistaken for him during the Olympics. Signed a guy's shirt "Seth Rogen".



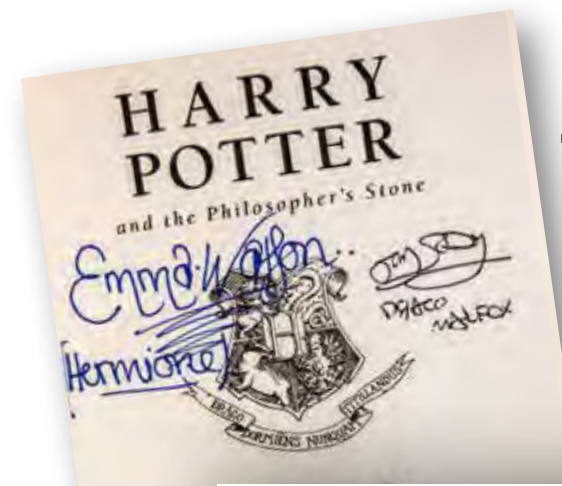
18
reconciliation, one story at a time reflections on canada c3

Canada C3 shipmates explore a key theme of Canada 150



22
expedition canada 150

Two UBC grads thumb their way across the country on a shoestring budget



30
HARRY POTTER and the Legacy of Arkley

The UBC Library's quest to acquire first editions of a wildly popular children's book series



High Achievers

- 29 The 2017 alumni UBC Achievement Awards recipients
- 45 The 2017 Alumni Builder Awards recipients



33
FLYING HIGH
Muggle quidditch takes off at UBC



COVER IMAGE
A hitchhiker's eye view. This picture is from a collection of photographs illustrating the summer adventure of two recent grads. See page 22.

Departments

- 2 Editor's Note
- 3 Take Note
- 26 The Big Picture
- 34 Prez Life
- 38 Class Acts
- 46 Quote, Unquote
- 46 n=
- 48 In Memoriam

Q&As

- 4 Could Metro Vancouver Withstand A Major Flood?
- 4 Big Brother In Your Car May Make You A Better Driver
- 7 How Computers Can Detect Emotion On Social Media

IMPEDIMENT-FREE Pondering

I always find it ironic when someone uses the expression “think outside the box.” Having long lost its original freshness, it’s now about as inside the box as you can get. I’ve rarely attended a brain-storming session, though, where it wasn’t slipped into the introduction – hardly a model for creative thinking processes.

Old habits die hard, but when you allow yourself to coast in your comfort zone (another hackneyed expression – instead let’s say “sleep in your smug smog”), it’s easy to miss opportunities for new and improved ways of doing things.

Just this week, I dined in a restaurant so dimly-lit I could barely read the menu. The waiter there accused me of being old-school, because instead of using the flashlight on my smartphone to read the menu, I held up one of the table candles to it. It’s not as if I grew up in an age of beeswax, it just didn’t occur to me to use my phone (less a case of old habits dying hard, and more of new habits being a difficult birth).

The same stuck thinking doesn’t apply, thank goodness, to UBC scholars, who – through their impediment-free pondering and masterful mulling – frequently come up with novel ideas and new approaches. Take Nemy Banthia, *PhD’87*, the engineering scholar who is finding a way to bring infrastructure to rural, remote, and resource-poor communities. He and his team have developed the world’s first self-repairing concrete for building cheaper and more durable roads (page 12). Or Dr. Keekyoung Kim and colleagues, who have created a new bio-ink that may lead to improvements in the fabrication of human tissues and organs (page 7). Or Dr. Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, who has co-developed a computer program that uses Twitter data to detect human emotions (page 7).

Albert Einstein once wrote: “Imagination is more important than knowledge, for knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution. It is, strictly speaking, a real factor in scientific research.”

There are few limits here. UBC recycled all its boxes a long time ago.

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HOW 'BOUT THEM APPLES?

An apple a day may keep the doctor away, but the mould on it could make you sick.

Rhiannon Wallace, a PhD candidate at UBC’s Okanagan campus, has developed a way to stop, or at least control, blue mould – a pathogen that can rot an apple to its core. Wallace’s research has determined that bacteria, originally isolated from cold Saskatchewan soils, may be the answer to preventing mould growth and apple rot while the fruit is in storage or transport.

“The majority of post-harvest fungal pathogens are opportunistic,” explains Wallace, who is working with UBC biology professor Louise Nelson. “If a fruit is physically damaged, it is at an increased risk of rotting during storage. So a tiny blemish on the fruit from harvest or handling can turn into a conduit for attack by fungal pathogens and subsequently result in the development of mould.”

The fungal pathogen *Penicillium expansum*, also known as blue mould, destroys millions of stored apples each year. Post-harvest rot can result in yield losses of up to 20 per cent in developed countries such as Canada, while developing countries can lose up to 50 per cent of the crop, Wallace says.

Traditionally, post-harvest rot has been controlled with chemical fungicides, but Wallace says these treatments have become less effective as the pathogen has developed resistance and there is consumer pushback to the chemicals. The research by Wallace and Nelson aims to provide a safer and more sustainable alternative to fungicides.

Wallace suggests the solution may lie in a particular bacterium specific to Saskatchewan soil. *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, due to its prairie roots, can survive in cold storage – a characteristic that is key to dealing with cold-stored produce like apples.

During tests conducted at the British Columbia Tree Fruits Cooperative storage facility in the Okanagan, Wallace determined that these bacteria can prevent blue mould from growing on McIntosh and Spartan apples while in storage. In addition, the bacteria provided control of blue mould on apples that was comparable to a commercially available biological control agent and a chemical fungicide.

“What is novel about our research is that we show the bacterial isolates we tested have an array of mechanisms to inhibit or kill *Penicillium expansum* on apples, while fungicides generally act only by a single mode,” Wallace says. “These findings suggest that the development of resistance by blue mould against our soil bacteria is unlikely.”

She does note that while all three isolates of *Pseudomonas fluorescens* tested provided control of blue mould, the level of control provided by each isolate varied with apple variety.

SINGING A DIFFERENT TUNE

Two birds that look the same, but have songs so different they can’t recognize each other, should be considered distinct species, suggests UBC research.

“Songs are important for birds and who they choose to mate with,” says Benjamin Freeman, a Banting postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Zoology. “Birds evolve different songs and we wanted to find out which populations are so different in song that they should be considered different species.”

Among the 72 related populations of Central and South American birds the researchers tested, they found evidence for 21 new species. Organisms that mate and create offspring that can go on to reproduce are considered to be part of the same species, but there are a number of naturally occurring barriers, such as geographic location or behaviour, that can prevent similar organisms from mingling. In the study, UBC and Cornell University biologists examined how different populations of birds respond to each other’s songs.

In the tropical forests of Central and South America, where the vegetation is dense, birds rely heavily on song to claim their territory and let other birds know where they are. For this experiment, the researchers hung wireless speakers in the trees and broadcast songs from related subspecies. They then observed how the birds responded.

TAKE NOTE

If a bird continued on with its natural behaviour and ignored the speaker and sound, it indicated that the song being played did not represent a threat to territory or mating potential. But if a bird got angry and started to try and kick the “intruder” out, it indicated recognition of the song as that of a competitor. In short, the birds distinguished between songs and reacted accordingly.

Historically, scientists have identified new species by finding birds that look different enough or occupy different geographic locations. “It’s interesting that with one study in one year we came up with good evidence that there are 21 new species that authorities should recognize,” said Freeman. “We know so much about birds, but this demonstrates that we still have a lot to learn.”

This research is part of a larger pursuit to learn about the evolution of bird songs and why birds develop different songs. “As a birdwatcher in tropical forests, you have no choice but to get interested in songs,” said Freeman. “As you walk through the forest, you hear 25 birds for every one you see. As a biologist, I wanted to know – is it important that the birds sing differently and is it a little important or a lot important?”

Freeman and his colleagues have submitted their findings to a committee of ornithologists who are responsible for naming and recognizing bird species of South America.

CHEAPER, SAFER BIOFUELS

Research from a professor of engineering at UBC’s Okanagan Campus might hold the key to biofuels that are cheaper, safer and much faster to produce.

“Methane is a biofuel commonly used in electricity generation and is produced by fermenting organic material,” says Cigdem Eskicioglu, an associate professor with UBC Okanagan’s School of Engineering. “The process can traditionally take anywhere from weeks to months to complete, but with my collaborators from Europe and Australia we’ve discovered a new biomass pretreatment technique that can cut production time nearly in half.”

Starting with materials commonly found in agricultural or forestry waste – including wheat straw, corn husks and Douglas fir bark – Eskicioglu compared traditional fermentation processes with their new technique and found that Douglas fir bark in particular could produce methane 172 per cent faster than before.



Q&A

COULD METRO VANCOUVER WITHSTAND A MAJOR FLOOD?

By Lou Corpuz-Bosshart

The late summer flooding in Texas underscored the need for flood prevention in flood-prone North American cities. UBC landscape architecture professor Kees Lokman is Dutch and has been studying how flood prevention can be grafted right onto the bones of a major city to shield it against major storms and river flooding. With many scientists predicting that the pattern of extreme weather will only intensify in the future, Lokman is leading a research project to analyze how Lower Mainland communities can better prepare for flooding and bounce back in its aftermath. In this Q&A, he explains what's needed to build flood-resistant structures and communities.

How prepared are we in Metro Vancouver to handle a flood emergency similar in scale to what happened in Houston and Mumbai?

We are not well prepared. We have 250 kilometres of dykes that don't meet provincial standards, which anticipate one metre of sea level rise by 2100 – already a very conservative projection. We see many communities and critical infrastructures at risk of future flooding, including the Vancouver International Airport and the Port of Vancouver. While many municipalities have, or are working on, adaptation plans, we're a long way from seeing implementation of these strategies on a regional scale. And while some residents and asset holders are aware of the risk, many more don't even know if they are sitting on a floodplain.

How well are our municipalities working together to prepare for future flooding?

The municipalities are mostly left to their own devices. There is the Fraser Basin Council, which aims to unite these separate efforts, but they have no mandate. We need better collaboration between the municipalities and major asset owners in terms of planning, financing and implementation of flood management strategies. For this we need for the provincial and federal governments to play a stronger role.

What are you doing to shed light on this matter?

We recently received MITACS funding to establish a collaborative platform between academics, local practitioners and subject matter experts to develop innovative adaptation strategies for those areas in the region most vulnerable to future flooding. Hopefully at the end we can show that climate change is not simply an engineering challenge but an opportunity for communities to integrate a whole host of other opportunities including urban development, habitat creation and food production. We would like to have some pretty strong results to present to the public and for consideration to provincial levels of government.

What is the role of design in flood-proofing our cities?

Engineers have traditionally driven flood prevention programs and structures, and that's good and practical, but landscape architects can provide a broader perspective that considers co-benefits and spatial qualities. For example, dredged sediments from the Fraser River can be used to nourish coastal wetlands or grow artificial dunes to protect our coastline. Bypass channels can be designed to temporarily store water during high water events while creating new waterfronts for urban or nature development.

The Room for the River project in the Netherlands has shown how a portfolio of solutions can be implemented at a regional scale to improve flood protection while also providing recreational, ecological and aesthetic values. We need to look beyond current engineering approaches of dykes and seawalls if we are to improve resilience, adaptation and community participation in our natural and built environments.

BIG BROTHER IN YOUR CAR MAY MAKE YOU A BETTER DRIVER

By Andrew Riley

Usage-based insurance (UBI), which monitors a driver's behaviour through a device installed in the vehicle and charges insurance rates accordingly, is growing in popularity. By 2023, UBI is expected to grow to 142 million subscribers globally.

UBC Sauder School of Business professor Charles Weinberg examined how effective UBI policies are in changing consumers' driving habits. In this Q&A, Weinberg explains the advantages of UBI to drivers and insurers, and the privacy tradeoffs.

Your study looked at the effect of UBI policies on changing consumers' driving behavior. What did you find?

Telematics devices installed in vehicles measure a number of elements that insurance underwriters use to price their policies, such as miles driven, time of day, where the vehicle is driven, rapid acceleration, hard braking and hard cornering.

We found that drivers using a telematics device as part of their insurance plan reduced the number of hard brakes they made and improved their overall UBI score (as calculated by the company). However, on average, people drove the same amount of miles per day.

In addition, women were found to improve their driving more than men. Younger drivers also improved more than others, which could be due to the fact that younger drivers learn faster, their habits are less settled, or they have a greater economic incentive to drive safer. Our study did not allow us to pin down the reasons why.

What are the privacy implications of usage-based insurance?

Privacy is an important issue because telematics devices allow firms to track where customers drive and when. In the case of UBI, people recognize that they are actively allowing their insurance company to have access to some otherwise private information. For example, people might not want others to know where they are driving or whether they are driving late at night. It begs an interesting question: should people trade their privacy for an insurance discount?

However, despite these issues, our study results suggest that drivers enrolled in UBI programs can improve their driving safety, resulting in lower rates and fewer accidents.

"The potential to more efficiently harness the energy from forestry waste products like tree bark can open a world of new opportunities," says Eskicioglu. "Our new fermentation process would be relatively easy to implement on site, and, because the bioreactors can be much smaller, the costs can be kept low."

The new process pretreats the initial organic material with carbon dioxide at high temperatures and pressures in water before the whole mixture is fermented, Eskicioglu explains. The new pretreatment process uses equipment and materials that are already widely available at an industrial scale, so retrofitting existing bioreactors or building new miniaturized ones could be done cheaply and easily.

In addition to producing biogas faster and cheaper, Eskicioglu says her new technique may also make methane production safer. "Unlike traditional biomass pretreatment for bioreactors, our method doesn't require the use or generation of toxic chemicals," she says. "We still have some work to do to move it to an industrial scale, but our results so far are very promising."

US INVESTORS SHUN QUEBEC FIRMS

A study led by the UBC Sauder School of Business has found significant US institutional investor bias against firms located in Quebec relative to firms located in the rest of Canada, due to language differences.

"We found that investors are still sensitive to differences between their domestic language and the language used in the location of foreign investment," says Professor Russell Lundholm, the study's lead author. "In the case of Quebec, this bias is surprising given that regulatory filings

are prepared in both English and French, and that all Canadian provinces share the same nationality, federal law, stock exchange and accounting standards."

The researchers found that, on average, US investment holdings in Quebec firms were a quarter of the size of those held in the rest of Canada. The researchers also found that the amount of bias against investing in firms varied with how "French" they appeared to be. The bias was higher for Quebecois firms that had a large ratio of French to English online documents.

The bias was smaller for Quebecois firms whose CEOs had US work experience, or US-based board members or financial analysts. The study, which was co-authored by Nafis Rahman of the University of Hong Kong and Rafael Rogo of UBC, found that UK institutional investors exhibited a similar bias against Quebec firms while investors from France did not.

"Our results indicate that language differences pose a real deterrent for institutional investors," says Lundholm. "This could be a consequence of perceived costs associated with translating documents, a fear of being less informed than investors who speak the same language, or simply feeling less familiar with the firm."

The findings were based on data collected from the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSE) and the Thomson Reuters Institutional Holdings database. The researchers examined all firms headquartered in Canada and listed on the TSE between the years 2000 and 2012, representing 2,094 companies, of which 233 were located in Quebec.



CONGRATULATIONS TO 2,275 NEW ALUMNI AND ONE VERY SPECIAL ALUMNUS

In this historic 100th year of *alumni UBC*, the University of British Columbia will be graduating 2,275 new alumni this November, adding to the 10,583 graduates this past spring in Vancouver and Kelowna, BC. All are welcomed into the global community of more than 325,000 alumni by Lindsay Gordon, who is embarking upon his second term as UBC Chancellor.

Mr. Gordon, a UBC alumnus and past President and CEO of HSBC Bank of Canada, has played an active role in the life of the university, serving on the board of *alumni UBC*, the UBC Board of Governors and the University Senates. A dedicated philanthropist, he was co-Chair of the successful *start an evolution* fundraising and alumni engagement campaign and, with his wife Elizabeth, has given generously to support UBC's Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health in support of aboriginal medical students. He also co-founded the ChILD Foundation in 1995.

To get involved in the program of *alumni UBC 100* activities, go to alumni.ubc.ca.

THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

alumni UBC 100

INNOVATIVE CANADIAN TELESCOPE TO PROBE COSMIC MYSTERIES

A Canadian effort to build one of the most innovative radio telescopes in the world will open the universe to a new dimension of scientific study. The Canadian Hydrogen Intensity Mapping Experiment, known as CHIME, is an extraordinarily powerful new telescope located in the mountains of BC's Okanagan Valley at the NRC's Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory near Penticton. The unique "half-pipe" telescope design and advanced computing power will help scientists better understand the three frontiers of modern astronomy: the history of the universe, the nature of distant stars and the detection of gravitational waves.

By measuring the composition of dark energy, scientists will better understand the shape, structure and fate of the universe. In addition, CHIME will be a key instrument to study gravitational waves, the ripples in space-time that were only recently discovered, confirming the final piece of Einstein's theory of general relativity.

CHIME is a collaboration among 50 Canadian scientists from UBC, the University of Toronto, McGill University, and the National Research Council of Canada (NRC).

ARTIFICIAL BONES MADE WITH 3D PRINTER

Human bones are incredibly resilient, but when things go wrong, replacing them can be a painful process requiring multiple surgeries. Traditional bone grafting is used to treat anything from traumatic fractures to defects, and requires moving bone from one part of the body to another. But Hossein Montazerian, a research assistant with UBC Okanagan's School of Engineering, has discovered a new artificial bone design that can be customized and made with a 3D printer for stronger, safer and more effective bone replacements.

"When designing artificial bone scaffolds, it's a fine balance between something that is porous enough to mix with natural bone and connective tissue, but at the same time strong enough for patients to lead a normal life," says Montazerian. "We've identified a design that strikes that balance and can be custom built using a 3D printer."

Montazerian analyzed 240 different bone graft designs and narrowed it down those that were both porous and strong. He printed those that performed best using a 3D printer and then ran physical tests to determine how effective they would be under load in the real world.

"A few of the structures really stood out," he says. "The best designs were up to 10 times stronger than the others, and since they have properties that are much more similar to natural bone, they're less likely to cause problems over the long term."

Montazerian and his collaborators are already working on the next generation of designs that will use a mix of two or more structures. "We hope to produce bone grafts that will be ultra-porous where the bone and connective tissues meet, and are extra-strong at the points under the most stress. The ultimate goal is to produce a replacement that almost perfectly mimics real bone."

While his bone graft designs are well on their way, Montazerian says the technology still needs some advances before it can be used clinically. For example, he says other researchers in the field are starting to refine biomaterials that won't be rejected by the body and that can be printed with the very fine 3D details that his designs require.

"This solution has enormous potential and the next step will be to test how our designs behave in real biological systems," he says. "I hope to see this kind of technology clinically implemented for real patients in the near future."

NEW BIO-INK FOR MAKING ARTIFICIAL ORGANS

UBC researchers have created a new bio-ink that may support a more efficient and inexpensive fabrication of human tissues and organs. Keekyoung Kim, an assistant professor at UBC Okanagan's School of Engineering, says this development can accelerate advances in regenerative medicine.


Using techniques like 3D printing, scientists are creating bio-material products that function alongside living cells. These products are made using a number of biomaterials including gelatin methacrylate (GelMA), a hydrogel that can serve as a building block in bio-printing. This type of bio-material - called bio-ink - is made of living cells, but can be printed and moulded into specific organ or tissue shapes.

The UBC team analyzed the physical and biological properties of three different GelMA hydrogels - porcine skin, cold-water fish skin and cold-soluble gelatin. They found that hydrogel made from cold-soluble gelatin (gelatin that dissolves without heat) was by far the best performer and a strong candidate for future 3D organ printing.

"A big drawback of conventional hydrogel is its thermal instability. Even small changes in temperature cause significant changes in its viscosity or thickness," says Kim. "This makes it problematic for many room temperature bio-fabrication systems, which are compatible with only a narrow range of hydrogel viscosities and which must generate products that are as uniform as possible if they are to function properly."

Kim's team created two new hydrogels - one from fish skin, and one from cold-soluble gelatin - and compared their properties to those of porcine skin GelMA. Although fish skin GelMA had some benefits, cold-soluble GelMA was the top overall performer. Not only could it form healthy tissue scaffolds, allowing cells to successfully grow and adhere to it, but it was also thermally stable at room temperature.

The UBC team also demonstrated that cold-soluble GelMA produces consistently uniform droplets at room temperature, thus making it an excellent choice for use in 3D bio-printing. Three times cheaper than porcine skin gelatin, cold-soluble gelatin is used primarily in culinary applications.

"We hope this new bio-ink will help researchers create improved artificial organs and lead to the development of better drugs, tissue engineering and regenerative therapies," Kim says. "The next step is to investigate whether or not cold-soluble GelMA-based tissue scaffolds can be used long-term both in the laboratory and in real-world transplants." 

HOW COMPUTERS CAN DETECT EMOTION ON SOCIAL MEDIA

By Sachi Wickramasinghe

Human emotions can be difficult to understand, even for trained professionals. But what if a computer could decipher your feelings, perhaps even better than a therapist? That possibility is a step closer to becoming reality, thanks to a computer program that can detect with near-human accuracy nuanced emotions using Twitter data. In this Q&A, Muhammad Abdul-Mageed, assistant professor in UBC's School of Library, Archival and Information Studies who developed the program, explains the possibilities for the software. The paper was co-authored by Lyle Ungar, computer science professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Why is it important to have computers that can detect emotion, especially on social media?

Emotion is key to communication and decision-making. With people using computers for everything from shopping to health-care decisions, it is becoming increasingly important to have computers that can detect emotions. For example, in classes where students use computers to learn, emotion-detection software - which we call emotional "chatbots" - can help students stay motivated by sending messages like, "I know that is a frustrating problem. Let's try addressing it from a different angle," or "Excellent! You're right to be proud having solved that." This can increase engagement and reduce student frustration and dropout.

Social media is pervasive in our lives and people freely express their emotions online. Emotional chatbots can help improve individual and community well-being in several ways. They can help assess the mood of groups of people, such as stress levels at work. Since emotions can be contagious - in that we are all affected by the emotions of people surrounding us - emotional chatbots can be used to improve the overall well-being of people by exposing them to more positive emotions on social media. With proper consent and privacy guarantees, it can also help in the early detection of mental health problems.

Technology companies could also use this type of software to develop more advanced artificial intelligence that has the potential to better understand human emotions. For example, Apple could use emotional chatbots to develop a more intuitive, emotionally aware Siri.

What were some of the challenges you faced developing this software?

Previous research has shown it is possible to build machines that can successfully detect emotions like anger, disgust, fear, joy, sadness, surprise, and sometimes anticipation and trust. But the human emotional experience is more complex than just eight emotions.

Recent advances in "deep learning" - a branch of artificial intelligence inspired by information processing in the human brain - show that, given enough labelled data, it should be possible to build better models. Manual labelling of data, however, is expensive, so it is desirable to develop labelled emotion data without annotators. While the proliferation of social media has made it possible for us to acquire large datasets with implicit labels in the form of hashtags (in the case of emotion), these labels are not always reliable.

For example, while the tweet "I can't wait to eat my lunch in this amazing Vancouver waterfront restaurant with my friends. #thrilled" clearly expresses happiness, a tweet like "My kid gets to play #angry birds to learn basic physics. And she's complaining about it?! #parenting" does not.

How did you address these challenges?

Our team developed a number of successful techniques that let us use the noisy cues of emotion hashtags in tweets as a way to build a large labelled emotion dataset that we then learn from using deep learning methods.

Our new state-of-the-art program can detect 24 nuanced emotions with near-human level accuracy (an average of 87 per cent accuracy for the computers, compared to 90 per cent accuracy for humans). When we combined some closely related categories of emotions, such as ecstasy, joy, and serenity as one happiness category - reducing the 24 emotion categories to only eight - we reached an even higher accuracy of 95 per cent.



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alumni UBC 100

There is a word in North Korea: *Juche*. Loosely translated as “self-reliance,” *juche* has served as a central pillar of North Korean foreign policy since the country retreated from the global community nearly 70 years ago. More than a patriotic code word, *juche* is a guiding principle of the country’s national identity, and, for most of us in the West, it’s one of the few things we actually know about the famously closed society.

But being self-reliant doesn’t mean losing one’s curiosity about the rest of the world, and, thanks to Professor Kyung-Ae Park at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, UBC has been granted a rare window into life in this reclusive state. For more than 20 years, Park has been carefully navigating the complexities of Asian-Canadian affairs, bypassing the maze of political entanglements to establish relationships – and eventually collaboration – between scholars in Canada and North Korea (officially the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, or DPRK).

In 2010, she created the Canada-DPRK Knowledge Partnership Program (KPP), a unique scholarly enterprise designed to facilitate academic exchanges between UBC and six North Korean universities. Founded on the belief that sharing knowledge is necessary for building human capacity, the KPP has cautiously avoided the peaks and ditches that litter the political landscape, serving as an unofficial ambassador between our two countries by using what’s known as a “Track II” approach to international relations, an unofficial channel that becomes handy when Track I (government) has gone off the rails.

“Since 2011, we’ve been hosting North Korean professors at UBC every year, which means we were able to do it every year regardless of the political situation,” says Park. “I don’t have any political agenda. But I have a strong belief that access to education, access to knowledge, is a universal human right. So I was just trying to provide such access for North Korean scholars, and was hoping to improve bilateral relations through these scholarly exchanges.”

Perhaps one of the keys to KPP’s success is its clarity of purpose. Focused exclusively on the areas of economics, finance, trade, and business, the KPP hosts six North Korean scholars at UBC every year for a period of six months. Arriving in early July, the scholars use the summer to study English, then spend the fall semester alongside undergraduate and graduate students in courses focused on international trade, finance, economics, and management. The visitors then use what they learned at UBC to create a group research project, which they take back to the DPRK and present to their academic peers.

Augmenting the visiting professor program are occasional KPP conferences in North Korea, where Park organizes seminars and workshops between the DPRK and foreign scholars. The first two of these conferences in 2013 and 2014 focused on special economic zones in North Korea, bringing together more than 20 foreign experts and nearly 200 domestic scholars and government officials. In addition, KPP organizes study tours abroad for North Korean experts, providing them with opportunities to interact with foreign scholars outside of their country and gain practical, hands-on experience.

Although the KPP officially launched in 2011, the idea of an academic exchange between the two countries first took root in Park’s mind in the 1990s. After earning her political science degree from Yonsei University in South Korea, and her PhD at the University of Georgia in the United States – where she focused on political development in China and North Korea – Park arrived at UBC in 1993, just as Canada was beginning to engage North Korea on the potential for normalized relations.

From 1995 to 2000, Park made several visits to North Korea and hosted seminars for a North Korea delegation at UBC, all stones along the path to establishing official diplomatic relations between the two countries in 2001. But the honeymoon was short-lived. In January 2002, US President George W. Bush declared North Korea an “axis of evil,” rejecting the “sunshine policy” negotiated by the previous administration and South Korea and severely straining the DPRK’s relationship with the West. By the end of the year, concerns over North Korea’s weapons program led to US sanctions against the country, and Canada was frozen out along with the rest of the West.

“From 2001 on, there was not much interaction at all between North Korea and Canada compared to the latter part of the 1990s,” says Park. “So I thought we might want to consider interactions in the non-political arena – academic exchanges, knowledge-sharing programs, scholarly exchanges, those sorts of non-political activities.”

After much consideration and careful negotiation, Park proposed the KPP to North Korea in 2010. A year later, the first six scholars arrived in Vancouver, establishing UBC as a pioneer in academic relations with North Korea.

In October 2016, Professor Park (facing participants, wearing white) organized a conference in Pyongyang on the issue of sustainable development.



NORTH by NORTHWEST

BY CHRIS CANNON

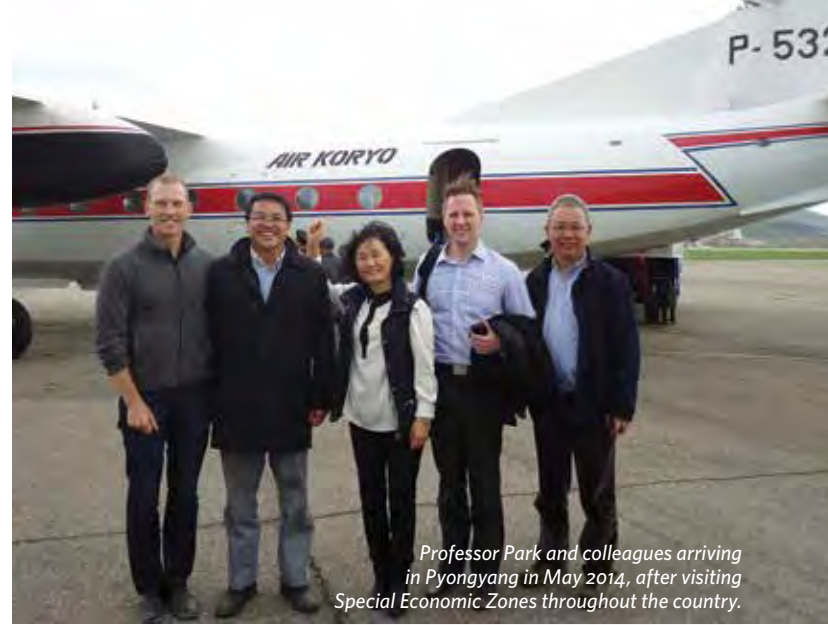
The West’s relations with North Korea have long fluctuated between diplomatic engagement and turbulent flare-ups that threaten stability and peace. Meanwhile, a UBC academic program quietly keeps open a channel of communication even during the most acrimonious of times.

As the centerpiece of the KPP, the visiting professor program has proved beneficial for both countries, offering surprises to UBC faculty as well as the DPRK scholars. “Given how much we hear about North Korea and how little we know, those interactions allowed me to learn quite a few things,” says Yves Tiberghien, who met with the visitors while he was director of the Institute of Asian Research from 2012 to 2017. “In conversations, the scholars were quite humorous. They were lively, quite blunt, and we had good discussions. I gave one group a list of guest lecture topics about the economy, and the first thing they picked was Chinese economic reforms. For me it was edifying to discover that there is an amount of tension and misunderstanding between North Korea and China – often in the West we don’t realize. So it would take this Canadian scholar to talk about the economy of China to them.”

As enlightening as it is for UBC faculty and students to work side-by-side with people who have never before left their home country, it is positively eye-opening for the visitors themselves. “They take tons of pictures – they go around and look at things with fresh eyes,” says Zorana Svedic, a lecturer at the Sauder School of Business who serves as this year’s academic advisor to the visiting scholars. “It’s kind of nice to see them really enjoying their time and trying to absorb as much as possible. It’s very unusual to see people who have never stepped out of their country before, so it’s a big culture shock for them because they’re just not used to talking to people from different cultures, different races, different languages.

“I come originally from Serbia,” she adds, “which is a very Caucasian society – there’s not many races of any other kind. And I grew up in Communism, so I kind of understand some of the things they have to deal with. But still, we were never as closed as North Korea is, so I haven’t come close to experiencing the things they’ve experienced.”

As enlightening as it is for UBC faculty and students to work side-by-side with people who have never before left their home country, it is positively eye-opening for the visitors themselves.



Professor Park and colleagues arriving in Pyongyang in May 2014, after visiting Special Economic Zones throughout the country.

Besides their UBC activities, the DPRK scholars take a field trip to Toronto during their stay, where they meet with UT professors and corporate CEOs and get a taste of Eastern Canada. But as valuable as this ancillary cultural interaction is, the focus of the program is strictly academic, and a large part of that is an attention to pedagogy.

The visiting scholars don’t just absorb knowledge, they absorb the manner in which it’s distributed – how students choose their courses, how professors execute their presentations, and how teachers and students interact in the classroom. DPRK universities tend to follow the “sage on the stage” model: the professors lecture and the students take notes. Western education, particularly business schools, are more inclined to participatory models in which students cooperate in working groups and collaborate with their professors.

“My courses are very interactive,” says Svedic. “People work in teams and students ask a lot of questions. Especially in the Sauder School of Business, we really encourage participation – that’s one of our goals, for

“I have a strong belief that access to education, access to knowledge, is a universal human right.”

– Kyung-Ae Park

students to participate and collaborate with each other. That’s very new to [the North Koreans], so it’s interesting for them to learn about this approach. Our whole goal is for them to try to absorb some of the teaching practices that we have here and take them home [to] utilize in their own classes, [to] spread this knowledge, spread this teaching style across their colleagues as well.”

This is one reason why these scholars are selected for the program earlier in their careers, usually younger professors who can return to their home universities and apply an interactive pedagogical strategy in their own classrooms, passing on not just knowledge, but a new way of learning.

“If we have a chance to work with North Korea in the future, the human capital will be these people.”

– Yves Tiberghien

Naturally, the KPP has earned some notice from other institutions. “It’s praised all around,” says Tiberghien, who has heard glowing reviews of the program at conferences in Japan, South Korea, and the US. “The cadre of Korean scholars that have come to UBC is pretty much the only group that

has gained some factual knowledge about the economy outside of North Korea, so the program is held in high regard by a lot of people that I hold in high regard. If we have a chance to work with North Korea in the future, the human capital will be these people.”

Alumni of the program are already having a substantial impact in North Korean classrooms. “Professors have been devising new courses based on the knowledge they garnered at UBC, writing new textbooks and research books, and sometimes translating books they brought from Canada into Korean and sharing them with other universities in the DPRK,” Park says.

But exchanges between nations don’t happen in a vacuum – conversations about economics and international trade must take into account the global economy, which means bringing other countries into the mix. In 2015, the KPP organized scholars from Kim Il Sung University and the University of National Economy,



North Korean scholars celebrate with Professor Park on the day of their graduation ceremony.

as well as a number of government officials, for a study tour of Indonesia. They researched economic management issues and Jakarta’s development strategies in an unprecedented dialogue with Indonesian scholars and administrators. Later in the year, the KPP worked with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research to bring 12 North Korean scholars and officials to Switzerland to study the country’s agricultural practices.

So far, the program has largely stuck to its original intent, focusing on economics, business, trade, and finance. But in October 2016, Park broke new ground when she organized a conference in Pyongyang on the issue of sustainable development. Tapping 130 North Korean experts and 16 foreign scholars, the conference covered climate change adaptation, sustainable agriculture and tourism, and forest, water, and waste management. The conference was followed in 2017 by two sustainable development workshops in Pyongyang and Mt. Paektu, organized by the KPP and co-hosted by the DPRK Ministry of Land and Environment Protection and the Ministry of External Economic Affairs.

As impressive as the program is, and as successful as it’s been, the spectre of international politics always looms in the distance. Relationships between the DPRK and Western countries has lately reached a fever pitch, potentially threatening any small enterprise trying to make a positive difference.

But if simmering tensions between the DPRK and other countries do cool down and diplomatic relations are normalized, the KPP will likely help lead North Korea into a greater role in the global economy. “We’re not doing any political teaching,” adds Svedic. “We’re teaching business. If North Korea is to open towards any kind of international trading or international business deals, they need to be more familiar with the business practices outside of North Korea.”

“At this moment, when there is so much rattling of the sabres and so much competition and talk of war,” adds Tiberghien, “to have a peaceful program targeting economic issues as a chance for discussion with top scholars in North Korea is very valuable. It gives some hope for another way.”

Professor Park holds the Korea Foundation Chair in UBC’s School of Public Policy and Global Affairs. She is the recipient of the 2017 Faculty Community Service Award, presented in November at the alumni UBC Achievement Awards (see page 31).



Participants at the conference on sustainable development, held in Pyongyang last year.



Professor Banthia in the Materials Engineering lab in UBC's Civil and Mechanical Engineering Building. (Photo: Paul Joseph)



Thondebhavi's new road is a demonstration project for low-cost, long-lasting, climate-friendly roads for rural and remote areas. (Photo: IC-IMPACTS)

TRAILBLAZER

UBC professor Nemkumar Banthia, PhD'87, has led the development of a special concrete with unique properties that could dramatically improve the infrastructure of remote, resource-poor communities. But its vast potential for wider application means that, within a few decades, it might be found almost everywhere.

BY ALIA DHARSSI, BA(HONS)'09



ACC Cement is one of the largest cement companies in India and a partner on the project. (Photo: Alia Dharssi)

The village of Thondebhavi in Southern India is set amid lush hills, bright green palm trees, and ruddy fields sown with crops. On a blistering day in June, farmers in traditional cotton sarongs pause to chat underneath leafy trees, cows rest under sheds with palm-frond rooves, and stick-wielding herders guide a throng of goats.

At first glance, Thondebhavi seems like an unremarkable rural community, but there is something unique in the heart of this village that sets it apart: a half-kilometre stretch of road that repairs itself. The first road of its kind in the world, it is made from cutting-edge concrete developed in a lab almost 13,000 kilometres away at UBC.

Though the village lies about 70 kilometres from the edge of Bangalore, a burgeoning metropolis nicknamed "India's Silicon Valley," it is an unlikely site to pilot new technology. Just two years ago, the villagers' only connection

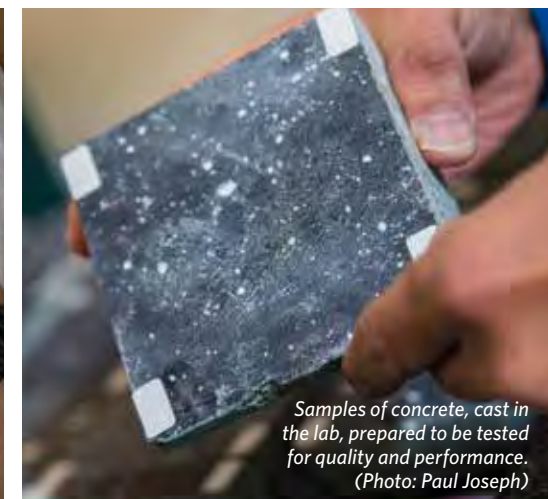
to the outside world was a mud road. It would become so mucky during the annual monsoon rains that mosquitos hovered above it, and farmers struggled to transport their crops - including aromatic flowers, pulses and vegetables - to market.

"It was in terrible shape," grimaces Yashodamma, a middle-aged woman who sits on the elected village council. "It used to be impossible to walk on the road. Old people would slip and fall."

The new hi-tech road runs through Thondebhavi, population 4,800, in an arc bordered by colourful one-storey houses. It connects with another new (but traditional) road built by the government, which leads to the highway. These pavements have transformed the village, making it easier for farmers transporting produce, children walking to school, women commuting to work in garment factories and anyone else with a place to go.



Special nanocoated fibres that attract water are one of the key elements of Banthia's concrete. (Photo: IC-IMPACTS)



Samples of concrete, cast in the lab, prepared to be tested for quality and performance. (Photo: Paul Joseph)

While the villagers go on their respective ways, a team led by UBC civil engineering professor Nemkumar Banthia, PhD'87, is monitoring the U-shaped road, which has sensors buried inside and is an active research project. "For this little village in South India to have the most advanced road system is very exciting for me," says Banthia, who sports a tidy moustache and goes by the nickname "Nemy." He wanted to pilot the technology in Thondebhavi because he was born in an Indian village without roads. "We used to go bike and we had no roads to actually bike on," he laughs.

Banthia is the CEO and scientific director of the India-Canada Centre for Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnerships to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability - or IC-IMPACTS for short. Based on UBC's Vancouver campus, the initiative tackles pressing social problems through solutions that involve research collaborations between India and Canada, and helps build trade linkages between the two countries. Banthia's self-repairing concrete is one such collaboration.

"Development always meant a lot to me. Coming from a very poor community in India - with no water, no infrastructure - I think those are the things that stick with you," says Banthia, who speaks thoughtfully in precise sentences. He became an engineer in the hope that he could make a difference, studying structural engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi before beginning doctoral studies at UBC in the 1980s.

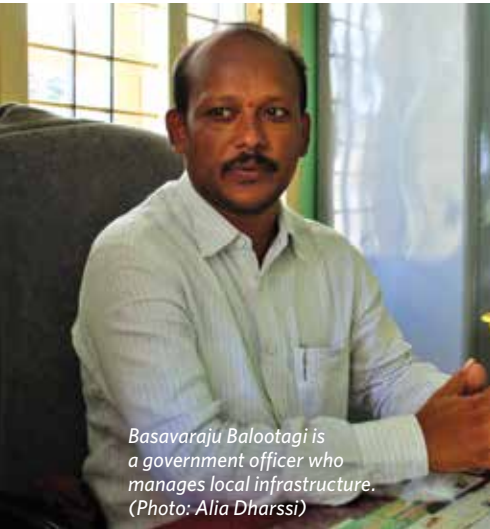
When the federal government put out a call for an India-Canada research centre, Banthia consulted Canadian and Indian researchers and companies to develop IC-IMPACTS' vision to tackle social challenges common to both countries. Banthia won the funding for UBC to build a centre, in partnership with the University of Alberta and the University of Toronto, with a mission to "develop and implement community-based solutions to the most urgent needs of each nation: poor water quality, unsafe and unsustainable infrastructure, and poor health from water-borne and infectious diseases."

Canada and India may seem worlds apart on measures related to GDP, climate and poverty, but Banthia saw what he called an "obvious" connection between the challenges facing his native and adopted countries. He draws parallels between the more than 100 First Nations communities facing boiled water advisories and the tens of millions of Indians who lack access to safe drinking water. He also recalls the De La Concorde Bridge that collapsed in Montreal in 2006, killing five people and injuring six others.

Canada and India may seem worlds apart on measures related to GDP, climate and poverty, but Banthia saw what he called an "obvious" connection between the challenges facing his native and adopted countries.

“We [Canadians] need these new materials – crack-healing materials,” explains Banthia. “As much as we need it in Thondebhavi, we need it in Montreal too.”

All IC-IMPACTS projects are carried out with dollar-for-dollar funding from Canada and India. Technologies are jointly developed and rolled out by researchers and companies from both countries. They work closely with people in communities like Thondebhavi, where the local village council was consulted and ultimately gave permission to IC-IMPACTS to build the road. Other IC-IMPACTS’ collaborations include efforts to develop and install



Basavaraju Balootagi is a government officer who manages local infrastructure. (Photo: Alia Dharssi)



Yashodamma is a member of the village council, which was consulted on the project. (Photo: Alia Dharssi)

low-cost water treatment systems for communities in remote parts of Canada and India. For example, a UBC professor is leading a project to develop technology that uses bacteria and gravity to clean water. Researchers are also working on improving infrastructure and public health. One such initiative aims to increase early detection of tuberculosis in one of India’s poorest states. Another is focused on developing a portable tool for detecting eye infections.

But Banthia’s horizons are bigger than the immediate problems these projects tackle: he wants to shape how Canada does trade. IC-IMPACTS can spur industrial partnerships that increase trade between Canada and India, as well as Canada and other emerging economies, he explains. Plans are already underway to bring Mexico and China into the fold.

“In the end, we are moving towards developing technologies for the global economy,” says Banthia. For this, international collaboration that helps researchers develop technology attuned to the conditions of different countries, including their geography and culture, is key. “When you co-develop technologies,” he explains, “you are coming up with very elegant solutions that are appropriate for a country as opposed to developing technologies without quite understanding a country, without quite understanding the regulations, without understanding the process, the people, their expertise, conditions [or] culture.”

Banthia’s horizons are bigger than the immediate problems these projects tackle: he wants to shape how Canada does trade. IC-IMPACTS can spur industrial partnerships that increase trade between Canada and India, as well as Canada and other emerging economies, he explains. Plans are already underway to bring Mexico and China into the fold.

The concrete project highlights the value of this model. The self-healing technology was developed by Banthia at UBC, but the road in Thondebhavi was designed and built in partnership with the National Institute of Engineering in Mysore and the University of Alberta, as well as Indian and Canadian companies. ACC Cement, one of the largest cement companies in India and a partner on the project, helped identify Thondebhavi – which is just over

two kilometres from one of its cement factories – as a site for deploying the technology. Now, researchers are observing how the road, which has three different segments of varying thickness and proportion of materials, performs in a tropical environment. A second road is slated for the Lubicon First Nation north of Edmonton to examine how the concrete performs under extreme cold.

If the self-repairing concrete takes off, it could be a big business. Forty-six per cent of roads, amounting to three million kilometres, are unpaved in India, while nearly one million kilometres of roads are needed in remote parts of Canada, according to IC-IMPACTS. And those numbers don’t include roads being built in emerging economies like China, and the new buildings and bridges that inevitably come with them.

For now, the concrete will be used for two more projects in India: a two-kilometre road in Haryana and the replacement of a five-kilometre stretch of highway in Madhya Pradesh. Even so, a decade or more could pass before the technology is widely adopted. Even though Banthia’s innovation is an improvement on regular concrete that could result in significant savings, governments may be reluctant to adopt it widely for years,

says Shashank Bishnoi, a concrete expert at the Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi. First, they’ll want to see proof of the successful performance of multiple roads made with the special concrete, he explained. That could take as much as a decade, possibly more.

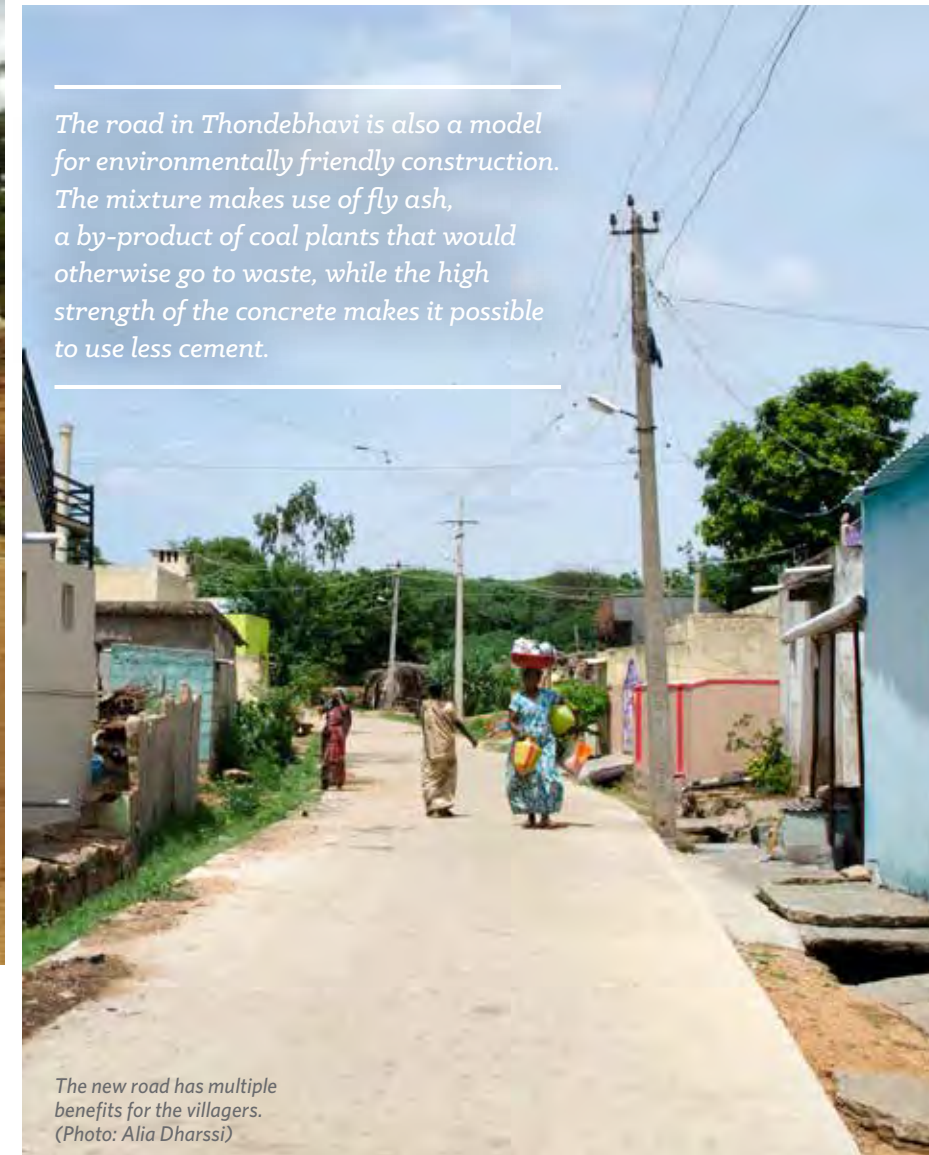
For villagers in Thondebhavi, the self-repairing road is a source of pride and curiosity. The whole village turned up to see the new road being built in 2015, recalls Basavaraju Balootagi, a government officer who has been managing local infrastructure development for five years. He proudly shows off a photo album filled with pictures of foreign visitors, including Banthia.

When the villagers saw tiny nail-like fibres being mixed with chemicals, they grew suspicious, continues Balootagi, sitting in his office in a government building on the outskirts of Thondebhavi. Curious passers-by peer in through the grills on the windows as he recounts the construction of the road. “People began to ask whether, in future, these things would rise up and cause the tires of motorcycles or bicycles to puncture.”



The old road was in terrible shape, and especially difficult to use during monsoon season. (Photo: IC-IMPACTS)

The road in Thondebhavi is also a model for environmentally friendly construction. The mixture makes use of fly ash, a by-product of coal plants that would otherwise go to waste, while the high strength of the concrete makes it possible to use less cement.



The new road has multiple benefits for the villagers. (Photo: Alia Dharssi)

That was far from the case. “These things” were actually steel fibers that were added to the concrete to improve the strength of the road. The mixture also contains special nanocoated fibres that attract water and are one of the key elements of Banthia’s concrete. When concrete reinforced with these nanocoated fibers cracks, it can repair itself with a small amount of water, which could come from rainfall or another external source. The water hydrates the cement at the site of the crack, resulting in a chemical reaction that bonds the road by reproducing the same product that gave the concrete its original strength. The technology works in all kinds of climates, though a long draught soon after casting would be an issue, Banthia says.

“There are fibres in this concrete that are keeping the crack narrow and, as the crack is formed, they bond. It’s like a stitch,” explains Banthia, placing his palms together, then pulling his fingers apart before interlocking them, as he describes the mechanism. “Then, as the water comes in, they produce additional products that now fill the crack that has just formed.”

The road in Thondebhavi is also a model for environmentally friendly construction. The mixture makes use of fly ash, a by-product of coal plants that would otherwise go to waste, while the high strength of the concrete makes it possible to use less cement. In fact, the road is 60 per cent thinner than a typical Indian road, and its embedded sensors indicate it has held up in the face of heavy rains and extreme heat. Most Indian roads fall apart within

five years, with many “showing deterioration within two years of being laid due to poor materials, intense heat, poor drainage, and monsoons,” according to a write-up about the project by IC-IMPACTS. In contrast, Banthia anticipates the road in Thondebhavi will last as long as 15 years before needing maintenance, describing it as a demonstration project for low-cost, long-lasting, climate-friendly roads for rural and remote areas.

Banthia’s technology offers great possibilities, and yet the concrete road in Thondebhavi looks just like any other. For the locals, it’s the everyday benefits of the road built by IC-IMPACTS and the government-funded road accompanying it that matter most.

The old road running past their houses was in such bad shape that some villagers dreaded leaving their homes. One woman describes it as having been unbearable, while a middle-aged farmer complains of getting boils from walking in filthy, stagnant water on the road. “We had to wash our feet with soap water every time, but an itching sensation remained,” he says.

There were also economic costs, as locals struggled to take their produce to market. “The new road is smooth,” says Suresh Reddy, a farmer who grows tomatoes and maize. “Earlier it was bumpy. And the tomatoes would bang about in the boxes and get squashed. You get lesser prices because of this.”

Cows would defecate on the old road, adding to the muck when the road became waterlogged with monsoons. “Now, nobody allows anybody to dirty the road,” says Yashodamma of the village council, noting that the elimination of such filthy water means that fewer worms, snakes and malaria-transmitting mosquitos are attracted to the area. “Earlier no one gave a damn.”

As for Banthia, such everyday changes are one of the most “satisfying” parts of his career. His face lights up when he talks about meeting a man using a wheelchair during a visit to Thondebhavi. “[The man] said, ‘Thank you so much for building this for us, because, during the monsoon months, this whole village is completely unwalkable. There is no way you can walk around, let alone [use] a wheelchair. ... Now, I can go visit my family. I can go visit my friends,’” recalled Banthia.

“This was the most exciting thing. When he came and said thank you.” ■

Writer Alia Dharssi travelled to Thondebhavi this summer. She interviewed the villagers and government officials, who all speak the local language Kannada, with the help of a translator.

Alumni often ask about how the UBC admissions system works: who gets in and why? Here, Pamela Ratner, UBC's vice-provost and associate vice-president of Enrolment and Academic Facilities, addresses some of those questions.



UBC Student Admissions 101

How many students apply to UBC and how many get admitted?

Every year, we receive more than 40,000 applications for our undergraduate programs (domestic, international and transfer students) and roughly two-thirds of those applicants are offered admission. These applicants are very well-qualified students. Last year, we offered admission to 63 per cent of the Grade 12 domestic graduates who submitted applications to UBC (both campuses combined). In comparison, 60 per cent of international undergraduate applicants were accepted.

How many students are enrolled at UBC in the current academic year?

In September, UBC welcomed 63,370 students to its Vancouver and Kelowna campuses. Of these students, more than 70 per cent are from BC, five per cent are from the rest of Canada, and 25 per cent are international students from about 150 countries.

My child had a 90 per cent average but was not accepted at UBC. Why?

Admission to UBC is competitive. The admission criteria are determined by three things: (a) how many domestic students apply, (b) the grades they present, and (c) how many new first-year seats are available (as determined by government targets and funding). Demand from international students does not affect any of these factors. In addition, UBC looks beyond applicants' grades and considers their personal profiles: what kinds of things have they done outside of the classroom and what have they learned from those experiences? As a result, having high grades does not, in and of itself, guarantee admission, particularly to our most competitive programs.

In addition to grades, how else are applicants evaluated?

UBC uses broad-based admissions criteria, in addition to grades. The information helps us determine whether an applicant will flourish here – not just because of their grades, but also because of the experiences and ambition they bring with them. Applicants are asked to tell us about the things that are important to them, their significant achievements, what they've learned from their experiences, and the challenges that they've overcome. Alumni volunteers play an important role in this broad-based admissions process, helping, with others, to assess the personal profiles of prospective students. Grades are still of vital importance, but we look at the whole person too.

Are only Lower Mainland kids getting accepted into UBC – what about the interior or the north?

UBC accepts students from all over BC, Canada and the world. Around 1,200 students from the BC interior and the North were accepted in 2017.

What about Aboriginal students?

We estimate that there are around 1,500 Aboriginal students enrolled across the two campuses, although this may be an understatement as this number relates to those who self-identify as Aboriginal, and some may choose not to disclose their status. In recent years, UBC has made considerable efforts to encourage participation from Aboriginal students. The 2017 incoming class saw a 32 per cent increase of students who identify as Aboriginal entering UBC directly from secondary school.

What is the difference in admission standards between UBC Vancouver and Okanagan?

As mentioned previously, admission standards vary by how many domestic students apply, the grades they present, and how many new first-year seats are available (as determined by government targets and funding). Because those factors differ for the two campuses and for our many programs, admission standards vary.

Does UBC have admissions programs for children of alumni, like some of the Ivy League universities?

No. As a public university receiving taxpayers' money, UBC accepts students based solely on their meeting the admissions criteria. It doesn't matter who their parents are. In some private US schools, these types of programs, often referred to as legacy admissions, are more prevalent, although there is some evidence that the practice is declining.

How does UBC decide how many international undergraduate students to accept?

The number of international undergraduate students we can admit is determined by individual faculties and approved by the UBC Senate in accordance with our commitment to provide excellent education and appropriate levels of support for all students, including counselling, advising, library services, experiential learning opportunities, and so forth.

Do international students take spaces away from domestic students? Are international students subsidized by BC taxpayers?

No. Each year, the provincial government funds UBC for a set number of domestic students. Domestic and international undergraduate applicants are considered separately, and they do not compete for the same spaces. Domestic applicants compete against each other for the government-funded spaces, while international students compete for spaces that are not government funded. We have always enrolled more domestic students than we are provincially funded for. International undergraduate students pay significantly higher tuition fees, unaided by funding from BC taxpayers.

Is it easier for international students to get accepted?

The university first evaluates domestic applicants to ensure that the most qualified students are offered admission to the domestic, government-funded spaces. This competitive process determines the marks required to gain admission – typically far above the minimum standard. With the wide range of educational systems found around the world, it is impossible to precisely equate grades (for example, 75 per cent vs. B+ vs. 4 for an International Baccalaureate Certificate course). Through the competitive process, UBC establishes admission criteria for international students that are comparable with domestic students and validates these equivalencies by examining first-year performance to ensure that international undergraduate students admitted perform at the same level as domestic students with comparable grades.

How much tuition do international students pay versus domestic students?

UBC's international undergraduate students pay a higher tuition fee than domestic students that is benchmarked against fees charged for similar programs at peer institutions in Canada and reflective of the value of a UBC degree. Tuition revenue from international students enables UBC to provide an outstanding education and enriched student experience for all students. In the 2016/17 fiscal year, \$234 million was received from international undergraduate students compared with \$221 million from domestic undergraduate students. International students also provide important economic benefits to the city, the province and the country – sparking relationships that can lead to lasting, mutually beneficial exchanges of research, trade and business opportunities.

Are there any scholarships available?

Yes, there are a range of scholarships and bursaries available to domestic students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. UBC and its donors award \$15 million to incoming students with awards such as the Major Entrance Scholarship, the Schulich Leader Scholarship, and the Centennial Scholars Entrance Award. For those with financial need, there are bursaries and student housing assistance and supplement grants. For international students there are merit-based and need-based awards, including the International Scholars program, now in its 16th year, and the MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program.

More details on all of these are available at:

students.ubc.ca/enrolment/finances/awards-scholarships-bursaries

Where do the majority of UBC's international students come from?

UBC has one of the most diverse populations of international students in Canada, representing many countries. The top five source countries of international students are China, the US, India, Republic of Korea, and Japan. This year's first-year undergraduate students come from 131 countries.

What about domestic students going abroad? How does UBC ensure global engagement isn't just a one-way street?

International engagement is the hallmark of a globally-ranked university like UBC, one of Canada's best universities, and it's one of the compelling reasons students from BC and the rest of Canada come here to study. They know that they will have an opportunity to learn from top faculty members drawn from around the world and to interact with and learn from peers whose diverse backgrounds will enrich their student experience.

We encourage our domestic students to broaden their horizons through internationally-focused learning opportunities – enabling them to become global citizens ready to meet the challenges of the world. More UBC students go on exchanges, research, and study abroad programs than students at any other university in Canada. UBC's Go Global program, for example, partners with 300 universities worldwide, and administers over \$1.4 million in international learning awards.

What advice would you give to a prospective applicant to UBC?

We look at each prospective student as a whole person: a combination of talents, interests, and passions. Our students have a wide variety of backgrounds, experiences, and skills. What they have in common is a commitment to pursue academic excellence in a challenging, rewarding, and supportive environment.

If you would like to find out more about the student admission process, please see page 43 for details on an upcoming presentation.

Quick facts about UBC students of 2017/18:



63,370 students at UBC
(Vancouver and Okanagan campuses)



52,321 undergraduate students;
11,049 graduate students

14,921 new undergraduate students;
2,062 new graduate students

47,048 domestic students;
16,322 international students

7,166 new first-year students
at the Vancouver campus

2,124 new first-year students
at the Okanagan campus



The admission average for new first-year students at the Vancouver campus is **90.5** per cent and at the Okanagan campus is **84.4** per cent



769 Indigenous students,
including **293** new Indigenous
students (students with
Indigenous basis of admission)

Overall, UBC's student body
represents **182** countries

New first-year students
come from **131** countries

Sarah and Matthew

are the most common names
of students at UBC

Among new students,
the most common names are

Nicholas and **Emily**

Among all students (new and
returning) from outside Canada/
US/Australia/UK/New Zealand,
the most common names are

Yue and **Ali**



In 2016/17 at UBC Recreation
at the Vancouver campus,
there were **950** intramural
teams (in ten leagues),
and **1,200** events teams
(for 14 events)



The most popular beverage
in student residence at the
Vancouver campus is **water**
from the water fountains,
followed by coffee



The most popular food item in
student residence at the Vancouver
campus is the **salad bar**

(Numbers are accurate to August 25, 2017, and are subject to change.)

reconciliation, one story at a time

reflections on canada c3

BY TREVOR CORKUM, MFA'12



CANADA C3
COAST TO COAST TO COAST

The Polar Prince icebreaker in the Torngat Mountains National Park, Newfoundland and Labrador. (Photo: Jackie Dives)

On June 1, the icebreaker Polar Prince set sail from Toronto on a 150-day journey to Victoria. It traversed all three Canadian coasts on a 23,000 km route that included navigation of the Northwest Passage. The epic adventure was a signature project of Canada 150 and aimed to engage millions of Canadians in national discussions centred around four key themes: reconciliation, diversity and inclusion, the environment, and youth engagement. Three hundred lucky Canadians were selected to fill a passenger list representing a cross-section of our society. It included scientists, artists, musicians, Indigenous elders, historians, politicians, business leaders, youth, newcomers, journalists, celebrities, and teachers. Each passenger was assigned to one of 15 legs of the journey, during which they enjoyed community events and cultural activities, both on board and via shore excursions. Alumnus Trevor Corkum was writer-in-residence for Leg 6 of the route, a week's sailing from Nain in Newfoundland and Labrador to Iqaluit in Nunavut. One of his shipmates was alumna Nadine Caron, MD'97.

I first met Nadine on the streets of Kuujjuaq in northern Quebec. Our plane had left Montreal two hours earlier and dropped our Leg 6 group off at Kuujjuaq Airport. On the descent, circling down, thick boreal forest rose up to meet us, punctured here and there by sombre grey lakes. As there were delays in boarding the chartered plane to Labrador, our group decided to take a walk through town.

Kuujjuaq is the administrative capital of Nunavik, the Inuit homeland of Quebec. As the heart of Nunavik, it was a fitting entry point for our journey north. Like many northern communities, Kuujjuaq is a sprawling town, houses spiralling around dusty, unpaved roads, hemmed in by the harsh beauty of rocky hills. Snug in our puffy coats – even though it was late July – Nadine and I lagged behind the rest of the group, lost in conversation.

I remember we spoke at length about books. She recommended *The Truth About Stories* by Thomas King, and I told her how I'd loved Madeleine Thien's *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*. She spoke about her daughter, husband, and their life in Prince George. I talked about my partner. When I asked about work, she told me she was a doctor. We soon fell into a comfortable silence, watching kids at the community centre play pick-up ball.

It was only later, after the group boarded the ship and formal introductions were made, that I realized Nadine was Nadine Caron, co-director of UBC's Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health and Canada's first female Indigenous surgeon. Turns out I had even seen her before on TV, in a moving one-on-one interview with Peter Mansbridge.

But I knew her first as simply Nadine. Engaged conversationalist. Voracious reader.

We were an eclectic group of 25 Canadians that included a Yukon Supreme Court justice, a ceramic artist, a Conservative MP, a comedian, and an advocate for those with Down syndrome. We departed Nain, Labrador, on a retired Coast Guard icebreaker, the *Polar Prince*, which powered its way alongside the spellbinding Torngat Mountains en route to Iqaluit.

A typical day would see us boarding a flotilla of Zodiacs to zoom ashore for a community or cultural event, like learning to cook Arctic char with Inuit elders. Days were full and emotions high. In the evening, we'd gather to debrief. Stories were shared, themes engaged, and sometimes, in the intimacy of those late hours, wounds and private memories revealed.

It was hard not to be moved while travelling through Nunatsiavut, the magical homeland of the Labrador Inuit. Or when meeting with Inuit youth



A dilapidated building in Hebron, NL. The community was forced to relocate in 1959. (Photo: Jackie Dives)



Husky pups with members of the Nain community. (Photo: Yanick Lesperance)



Leg 6 started in Nain, NL. The hockey sticks were donated to the community on behalf of Project North, in partnership with Canada C3. (Photo: Jackie Dives)



Nadine Caron (Photo: Yanick Lesperance)



Aboard a Zodiac in the Eclipse Sound Canyon (Photo: Jackie Dives)

The Polar Prince at anchor (Photo: Martin Lipman)



Shore trips involved learning how to catch and prepare Arctic Char. (Photo: Jackie Dives)



Hebron, Labrador, is now a national historic site. (Photo: Peter Wall)

“Laughter is a form of resilience for many Indigenous communities. It means that we survived. It means that we’re still laughing. It means that we’re still here.”
~ Nadine Caron

who are reshaping the world’s understanding of their people through activism and story. Or connecting with elders like Sophie Keelan and John Jararuse, whose lives had been turned upside down when Inuit living in the village of Hebron, where a mission had been established in the 1830s by the Moravian church, were forced to relocate in 1959, after the Newfoundland government halted service. Disaster ensued as families were split apart, the Inuit scattering to unfamiliar communities in the south.

One of the most powerful moments on our journey was a ceremony in the refurbished church in Hebron. On long wooden benches, we listened to Sophie and John sing an Inuktitut hymn before sharing memories of their childhoods in Hebron, full of love and family and time on the land. Sophie and John’s tales were stories of resilience; their connection to and love of the land unbroken, despite the hardships they’d endured.

Hebron is a recognized historic site now, part of the Torngat Mountains National Park, co-managed by the Inuit and Parks Canada. Sophie and John were gracious

hosts, welcoming us to their territory, preparing a traditional meal of bannock and Arctic char and inviting us to walk the trails where the Inuit have lived, hunted, and died for thousands of years. Their generosity, humility, and infectious laughter were highlights of the trip.

The Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Legacy Room on the ship is designed as a safe space to discuss reconciliation. The Legacy Room idea was conceived by Nova Scotia Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Morley Googoo, who partnered with the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund. There are a growing number of Legacy Rooms across the country, spaces where Canadians can gather to reflect on the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s final report.

It was in the Legacy Room that some of our group’s most powerful conversations occurred. Conversations like Nadine’s story of her mother’s time at a residential school in Ontario, how upon entering the school her mother was given the designation Number Forty – stripped of everything from her name to the culture and language she was forced to leave.

“What I started to notice about the Legacy Room was that it garnered a level of respect on the ship,” said Nadine on later reflection. “It was supposed to be the quiet space, and it was. We had some very challenging, very eye-opening conversations together. Yet there was also a lot of laughter.”

She told me about how her mother, attending a reunion at her former residential school, ended up laughing on the front step with her sister, an hour after breaking down with grief.

“Laughter is a form of resilience for many Indigenous communities,” she explained. “It means that we survived. It means that we’re still laughing. It means that we’re still here.”

dealists among us believe we’re navigating a critical moment in Canada’s history, at long last beginning to incorporate some of the vital stories missing from the official narratives of our country. Recognizing Canada’s historical mistreatment of Indigenous peoples, the wrongs done to Inuit, First Nations, and Métis communities, is an urgent first step.

Not long after our return from the trip, I asked Nadine what reconciliation looks like from her perspective.

“In order to reconcile something, you have to recognize and accept the past with the present,” was her response. “You need to start from a place of respect. If you’re proud that Canada does well in hockey, or that we have a democracy, or whatever it is that makes you proud

to be a Canadian, you have to be able to take that and also look at the past.” In other words, being part of our country carries a responsibility to bear the full weight of our collective history, in all its joy and accomplishment, but its darker chapters too.

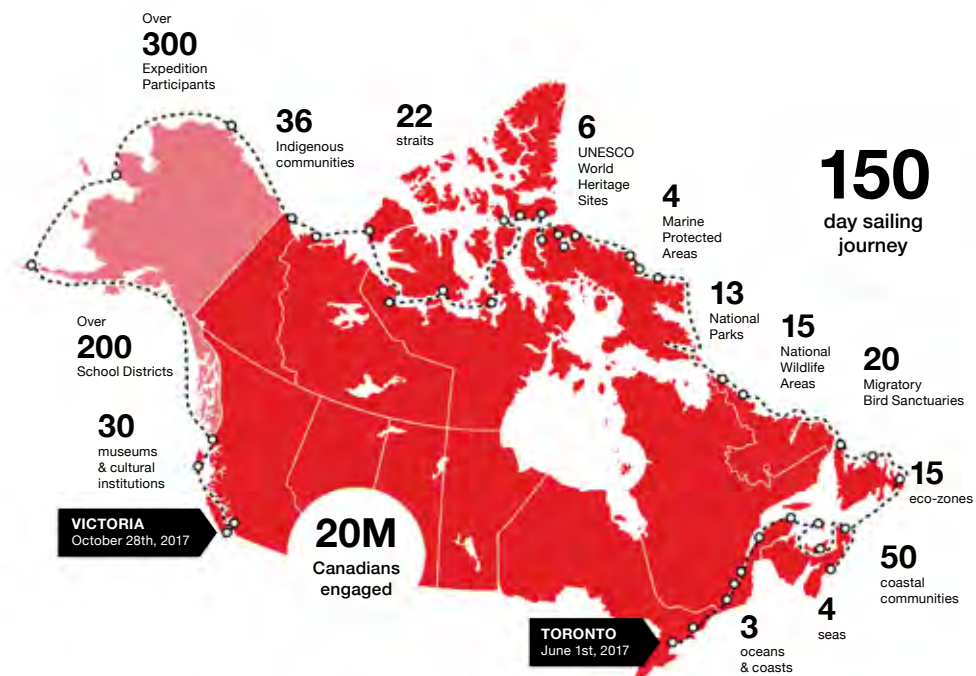
Moving forward, she says it’s the duty of all Canadians to apply the spirit of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action in their day-to-day lives.

“Figure out what that might mean to you personally. How are you going to take those calls to action, interpret them through the lens of your own profession and do something to be part of the change we need? If you are a health care practitioner, how can you address your care of Indigenous Canadians through that lens? And if there’s something you don’t understand, it’s your responsibility to ask. It’s everyone’s responsibility.” She sees the icebreaker *Polar Prince* as an apt metaphor for Canada powering its way into the future. “By seeing where we’ve come from, by knowing where we’ve been, we are better able to redirect the country to where we’d like it to be in the future.”

Trevor Corkum is a Toronto-based writer and educator. His novel *The Electric Boy* is forthcoming with *Doubleday Canada*.

Nadine Caron is an associate professor in the Department of Surgery in UBC’s Faculty of Medicine, and was appointed co-director of the university’s Centre for Excellence in Indigenous Health in 2014.

ABOUT CANADA C3 | canadac3.ca



Backseat views along the Alaska Highway.



expedition canada 150: two ubc grads thumb their way across canada

BY CHRIS PETTY, MFA'86



The start: Highway 1, just outside Whitehorse.



Wandering around the Sign Post Forest in Watson Lake, Yukon.



Ori Nevares (L) and Philippe Roberge departed on their (budget) grand travel adventure on July 8.



Classic Tim Hortons ad material?

A coming of age ritual shared by young men and women over the eons has been the grand travel adventure to vaguely romantic, unknown places. In 19th century England, for example, some young adults ventured to Italy and France to live in villas, drink wine and write intense, intellectual novels, while 20th century middle-class youths from North America (when they weren't fighting in wars) took to the byways of Europe or Asia to find themselves, drink wine and write wistful novels of love and alienation.

This summer, Ori Nevares and Philippe Roberge, two BAsC'17 grads, chose the budget-conscious Canadian version of the travel adventure: they decided to hitchhike from Whitehorse to St. John's, to learn a little bit about themselves and a lot about their own country. They called their project Expedition Canada 150 for two reasons: Canada's 150th, obviously, and because they

carried just \$150 each in cash. They hoped to prove that frugal travel was still possible in this expensive age, and to take the pulse of Canadians vis a vis our reputed friendliness and generosity.

"Last year we took some friends and did a tour of the west coast of North America by car," says Nevares. "We wanted to see how far we could get in six hours of nonstop driving. But this year we wanted to do something to celebrate Canada's 150th. And since neither of us had ever really seen much of Canada, it seemed like the perfect opportunity."

They decided to record their voyage with weekly video blogs, social media pages posted with their progress, and portraits of the men and women they met along the way. They plan to produce a documentary ("We have more than 600 gigs of video," says Roberge), and write a book about their adventure.

To organize for the trip, they got sponsorships from Canon, who supplied the camera, L'Oréal (for sport sunblock) and Bergans, an outdoor clothing company from Norway. They made "Canada" signs, carried large Canadian flags, filled backpacks with clothes and camping gear, and prepared

themselves to look like who they were: two wholesome students on their way across the country. They flew to Whitehorse – chosen as the point of departure because it is the farthest west of larger Canadian cities – and on day one of their adventure, they hauled themselves and their packs to Highway 1 and stuck out their thumbs.

Hitchhiking was fairly easy, according to both, though they did have some long waits. “Our longest wait was about four hours on Highway 2 between Edmonton and Calgary,” says Nevares. “We were in the middle of nowhere and the cars just went whizzing past at 120 kph. We couldn’t walk anywhere, because an hour in either direction got us to a similar stretch of road.”

Once in a car, they would make a point of asking the driver the same four basic questions: How did your family come to Canada? What’s your favourite thing about Canada? How did you hear about our project? What’s the best piece of advice you can give us? These interviews, together with the blogs, will form the basis for the upcoming doc and book.

“It wasn’t a piece of cake,” says Roberge. “It was a tough slog, especially the first part. In Brandon, we went through a big storm and a tornado.

That night we got to sleep under a bench at a Tim Horton’s, all wet and miserable, and we thought, ‘What are we doing? We could be home in Vancouver with our friends, my girlfriend, having a great summer!’”

“People were amazing, and incredibly generous,” says Nevares. “But they’d say how jealous they were of what we were doing, that they envied our life.

And I’m thinking how exhausted I am, and that I have to sleep on the floor on the ferry to Newfoundland, using my sweater as a pillow.”

From the beginning, they were able to depend on the kindness of the strangers who had seen their blog and social media postings for food and, often, lodgings, but Winnipeg was the turning point. They were interviewed by the local CBC station, which plugged their social media presence and made a big deal of their adventure. From then on, they

became minor celebrities. “We got way more offers for accommodation than we needed. It was an amazing response,” says Roberge. They were even comped the ferry ride to Newfoundland. Ultimately, they ended up spending under \$10 of the \$300 they took with them.

“In Brandon, we went through a big storm and a tornado. That night we got to sleep under a bench at a Tim Horton’s, all wet and miserable.”

“Altogether, we had something like 58 rides between Whitehorse and St. John’s,” says Nevares. “People always ask us if we had any negative experiences, and quite honestly, we didn’t. There were some dodgy people, for sure, and one guy who kept talking about the coming apocalypse, but he was really quite cool. At no time did we ever feel threatened or unsafe.”

“Ninety-nine per cent of the people we met were friendly, encouraging and incredibly generous,” says Roberge. “And they’d tell you things about themselves they’d probably never tell anyone else. I guess they think they’ll never see us again. But we heard about peoples’ divorces and other family secrets.”

“The hardest part,” says Nevares, “was staying positive. You’re on the road for hours, waiting for a ride, then in the car for hours more, all after sleeping the night before on a bench, and you have to be friendly and interested. You can’t just fall asleep, even though you’re totally exhausted. Then, when you get somewhere at the end of the day, when some generous person has put you

up for the night in their house, you have to be on your best behaviour over dinner with the family. And before you can go to sleep you have to write and upload the day’s blog, along with any video footage. But at the end of it, none of that matters. The people were incredible. It’s the best adventure I’ve ever had in my life.”

The grand adventures of youth frequently produce bits of knowledge and insight that a person can use to great advantage in adulthood. Did that happen for Nevares and Roberge?

“No question,” says Nevares. “It’s the advice we heard from just about everybody we met along the way: ‘Live for today. If you have a dream, go for it.’”

“People praised us for being brave, for doing the impossible,” says Roberge. “But we’re just normal guys. We’re not super smart or super strong people. We just decided to do it. If we can do something like that, anyone can. You just have to decide to take the first step.”

“Our first step was to buy the plane tickets from Vancouver to Whitehorse,” says Nevares. “Once we did that, there was no turning back.”

“Right,” says Roberge. “We didn’t buy flight cancellation insurance. We had to go.”

For more on Expedition Canada 150, visit expeditioncanada150.com and facebook.com/expeditioncanada150



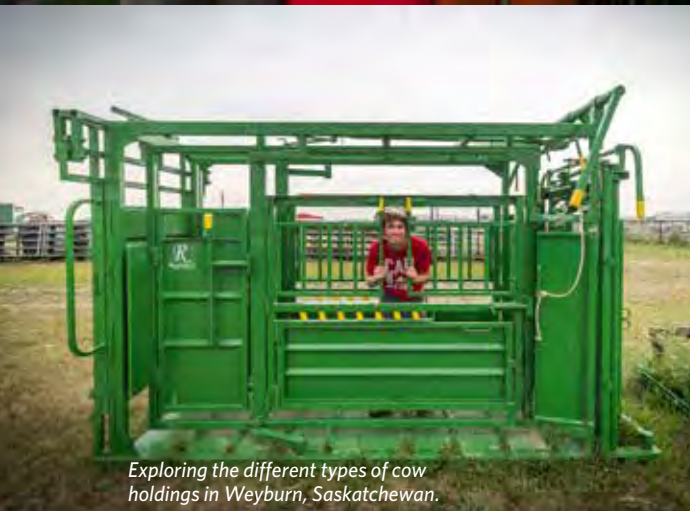
In Ottawa, they met Joan O’Malley, who sewed the first (current) Canadian flag.



While waiting for lifts, they fantasized about a Champagne lobster dinner. New Brunswick obliged.



Canola fields south of Edmonton.



Exploring the different types of cow holdings in Weyburn, Saskatchewan.



In the hitchhiking groove: playing some guitar in the back of a Westfalia.



The end: Looking out over Signal Hill, St. John’s.



“The people were incredible. It’s the best adventure I’ve ever had in my life.”

Back on the West Coast, they celebrated by climbing Brunswick Mountain, the highest peak in the North Shore mountains. (Kiefer James Photography)



Looking east down University Boulevard, with the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre on the left.
alumnicentre.ubc.ca

Photo by Hover Collective



YOUR DINNER IS WAITING

Share the excitement of *alumni UBC's* 100th year where you live by hosting or attending a 100 Dinners gathering.

100 Dinners lets alumni organize special get-togethers in their community. Either host a private dinner for UBC friends you already know, or organize a public dinner to make new connections with alumni in your region. We'll give you all the tools you need to make your event a success.

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alumni UBC 100

alumni UBC 2017 *Achievement Awards*

PRESENTED BY **boyden**

For the past 100 years, UBC alumni have proven they are capable of amazing things. This November, at the *alumni UBC Achievement Awards*, we will honour eight inspiring members of the UBC community who, through their extraordinary endeavours, have taken the lead on important issues to create positive social change.

Achievement Awards Recipients



ALUMNI AWARD OF DISTINCTION
Indira Samarasekera
O.C., PhD'80, LLD'06

Dr. Samarasekera is a metals and materials engineering scholar with international stature whose achievements span research, government relations, industry innovation, and university administration. Her leadership has been described as transformative, and she is a highly effective champion for post-secondary education, research funding, and technology transfer.



GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Karim Damji
MD'87

Dr. Damji is a leading ophthalmologist who is dedicated to global health and has strong links to East Africa, where glaucoma is a common blinding disease. His approach to spreading knowledge and skills, by empowering local care providers to improve the quality of eye care in their own countries, has enabled thousands of people to benefit.



FACULTY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Dr. Kyung-Ae Park

Professor Park holds the Korea Foundation Chair at UBC and leads Track II diplomacy efforts between Canada and North Korea. A core component of this work is hosting six North Korean academics at UBC each year, who study business and economics. This ground-breaking program aims to build human capacity and improve the quality of life for North Koreans.



FACULTY COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD
Dr. Mary Ann Murphy

Dr. Murphy is well-known for her advocacy around issues relating to older adults and developed the first undergraduate ageing specialization within a Canadian School of Social Work. She has built strong links between UBC Okanagan and the wider community, giving her students unique learning experiences and facilitating innovative collaborations to address complex societal needs and challenges.



HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD
Nancy Hermiston
O.C.

Professor Hermiston heads the Voice and Opera divisions in UBC's School of Music and established the UBC Opera Ensemble in 1995. She also serves as university marshal. She has nurtured the development of many promising young singers, and her willingness to share her love of classical music with the wider community has enriched the cultural life of Vancouver.



VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP AWARD
Ian Robertson
BSc'86, BA'88

Mr. Robertson has been a highly effective advocate and fundraiser for UBC over many years. While chairing *alumni UBC*, he helped develop a robust alumni engagement strategy and was instrumental in establishing an alumni centre. A former Thunderbird swimmer, Mr. Robertson is a leader within the Thunderbird alumni community in support of athletes' success.



YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD
Lianping Ti
PhD'15

Dr. Ti is an outstanding young academic whose research focuses on the efficacy of healthcare systems for people suffering with drug addiction and related infectious diseases. Her research has uncovered barriers to healthcare for these marginalized populations and has already played a role in shaping new hospital policies to address them.



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION AWARD
Helen Burt
PhD'80

A highly-respected research leader based in UBC's Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr. Burt co-founded Canada's Centre for Drug Research and Development to support the commercialization of innovative academic discoveries. She is best known for developing novel drug-delivery systems, which target specific locations in the body and control the rate of a drug's release.

Read more about the recipients at alumni.ubc.ca/awards

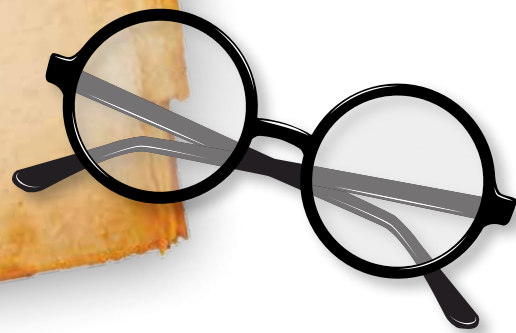
alumni UBC 2018 ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

NEXT YEAR'S AWARD RECIPIENTS WON'T RAISE THEIR OWN HANDS. THAT'S WHY WE NEED YOU!

Do you know a graduate, student, faculty or friend of UBC who deserves to be recognized as a leader, advocate, artist or visionary? This is your chance to bring them into the limelight. To nominate online, visit alumni.ubc.ca/nominate. NOMINATION DEADLINE: **Friday, February 16, 2018**

HARRY POTTER and the Legacy of Arkley



In 1976, Stan and Rose Arkley donated their extensive private collection of children's literature to UBC Library's Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC). Stan was a member of the class of 1925, whose members had earlier donated the outstanding Alice One Hundred Collection to mark the 100th anniversary of the original publication of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and the 40th anniversary of their graduation.

Today, through purchase and donation, the Arkley Collection of Early and Historical Children's Literature comprises more than 12,000 Canadian, British, and American children's books, serials, and manuscripts.

It has always prioritized popular works or "books that children actually read," so it seems incredible that as late as spring 2015, it did not include a single *Harry Potter* book – the most popular children's literature series in several generations. Yet it wasn't until that summer that the RBSC began the process of acquiring complete sets of the US, UK, and Canadian first editions of the *Harry Potter* series. As books were added to the collection, RBSC learned more and more about the profound and surprising connections that Vancouver shares with the beloved series.

As most fans know, the story of *Harry Potter* began in the summer of 1990 on a delayed train from Manchester to London, when the seven-year saga of a young, orphaned wizard "simply fell" into the mind of author J. K. Rowling. The story of *Harry Potter* in Vancouver began at Kidsbooks' former flagship location on West Broadway in the fall of 1998. The store's co-owner, Kelly McKinnon, saw a reference in *Publisher's Weekly* to the debut novel in the series and asked her partner, alumna Phyllis Simon, *MLS'73*, whether she had heard of this book that was making such a splash in the UK. McKinnon and Simon asked Vancouver's Raincoast Books, the Canadian distributor for Bloomsbury Publishing, to import 200 paperback copies of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* – a hefty order for a title with no track record. They sold the first 200 books

within two or three weeks and ordered another 200, followed by another 400 – selling them all by word of mouth throughout that fall.

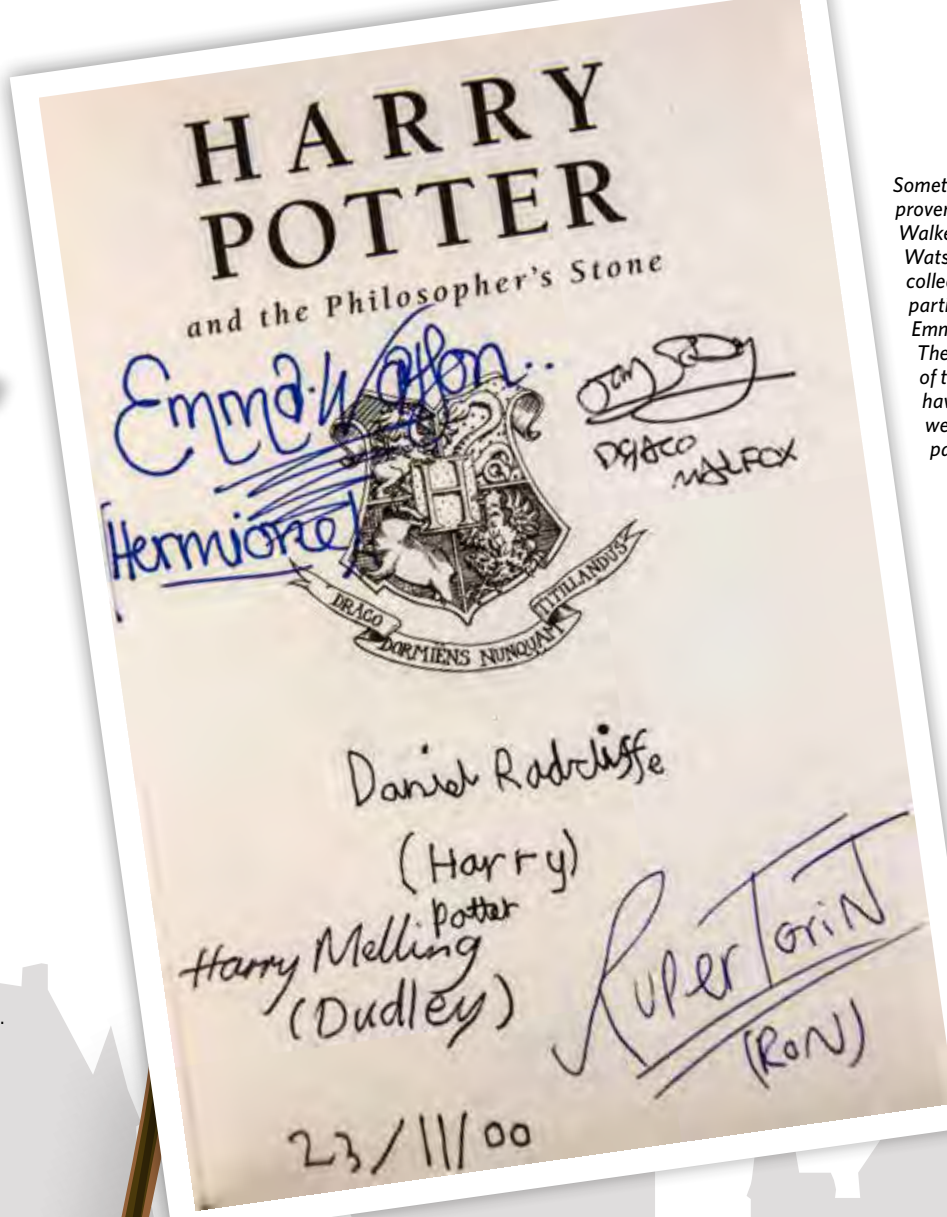
Despite the humble beginnings of the *Harry Potter* series, by the time the fourth book, *Goblet of Fire*, was published in 2000, the phenomenon and the fandom were in their full glory. The series was the topic of front page stories for major publications such as *Maclean's*. With 1,900 pre-orders for *Goblet of Fire*, Kidsbooks began preparations for a midnight book release party.

Step one to hosting a fantastic *Harry Potter* party is creating a truly magical environment. Kidsbooks did this by hiring Vancouver interior designer Catherine Youngren to turn their 25-metre storefront into the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Youngren created the design for the enormous hand-painted wooden facade, and Ken Hollands, *BFA'96*, a UBC alumnus in technical theatre, built and installed it. The 500 free tickets to the first release party were distributed within six hours. Many fans arrived in costume and enjoyed a sorting ceremony (Hogwarts' method for assigning students to different school houses), magic tricks, lightning-bolt tattoos, games, and, most importantly, the release of a new *Harry Potter* adventure. According to a *National Post* story published after the midnight party, Kidsbooks sold 500 copies of *Goblet of Fire* in just seven and a half minutes. They went on to host another three midnight release parties, the final one taking place on the great lawn at VanDusen Botanical Garden. Ticket sales for the party were capped at 3,500, and 5,000 books were ordered.

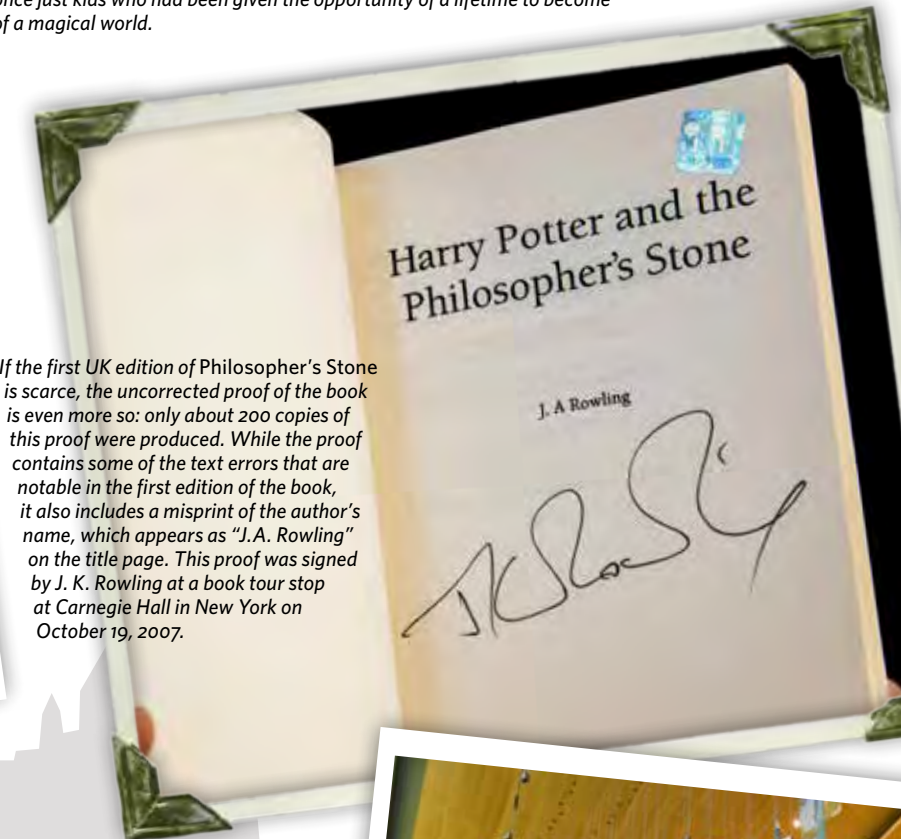
In a 1999 interview in the *Vancouver Sun*, Kidsbooks founder Phyllis Simon said of the *Harry Potter* phenomenon: "I've never seen anything like this, neither in children's nor adult publishing.... Not since *Charlotte's Web* or *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*; but it's so different, what's happening with Harry." Simon saw the phenomenon as reflective of the moment in which the series was born: a rare "magical reading experience" crossing both gender and age gaps, combined with the powerful promotional tool of global media. In terms of the lasting impacts of the series, Simon feels that the books legitimized children's literature, bringing new respect to the entire genre.

While Vancouver-based Kidsbooks was the first bookstore in Canada to carry *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, it was Raincoast Books that truly brought the series to Canada. In October 1998, Allan MacDougall, founder and then president of Raincoast Books, a local wholesale and distribution company, made his annual visit to the Frankfurt Book Fair. MacDougall knew that Kidsbooks was doing a brisk business with *Philosopher's Stone* and happened to run into an old friend, Barry Cunningham, J. K. Rowling's original editor at Bloomsbury Publishing. After making inquiries, MacDougall found that all Canadian rights for the first two books were still up for grabs. A quick phone call to London secured Raincoast's distribution rights. A few weeks later, Bloomsbury offered Raincoast the opportunity to not only distribute UK editions of the existing *Harry Potter* books, but to publish Canadian editions. Between the rights acquisition in 1999 and publication of the final book in 2007, the company's annual revenues at least tripled, with reported sales of 11 million *Potter* titles.

In an interview with *Maclean's*, MacDougall acknowledged that the company was "proud of what we've accomplished – we were never out of print, never failed to get books to stores. *Harry Potter* gave us the chance to show that a small Canadian publisher is quite capable of doing what multinational houses do."



Sometimes a book is special not because of the particular edition, but because of its provenance. This paperback copy of *Philosopher's Stone* was previously owned by Felicity Walker, a young actress from Hertfordshire, England, who was the body double for Emma Watson's Hermione Granger in the first three *Harry Potter* films, during which time she collected a wealth of often unique mementos from the productions. The title page of this particular book is signed by Daniel Radcliffe (who played Harry), Rupert Grint (Ron), Emma Watson (Hermione), Tom Felton (Draco Malfoy), and Harry Melling (Dudley Dursley). The book, which bears the date November 23, 2000, would have been signed during the filming of the first movie, when the young stars ranged in age from 10 and 13. Now all grown up, they have gone on to enjoy successful careers. But these childish signatures remind us that they were once just kids who had been given the opportunity of a lifetime to become part of a magical world.



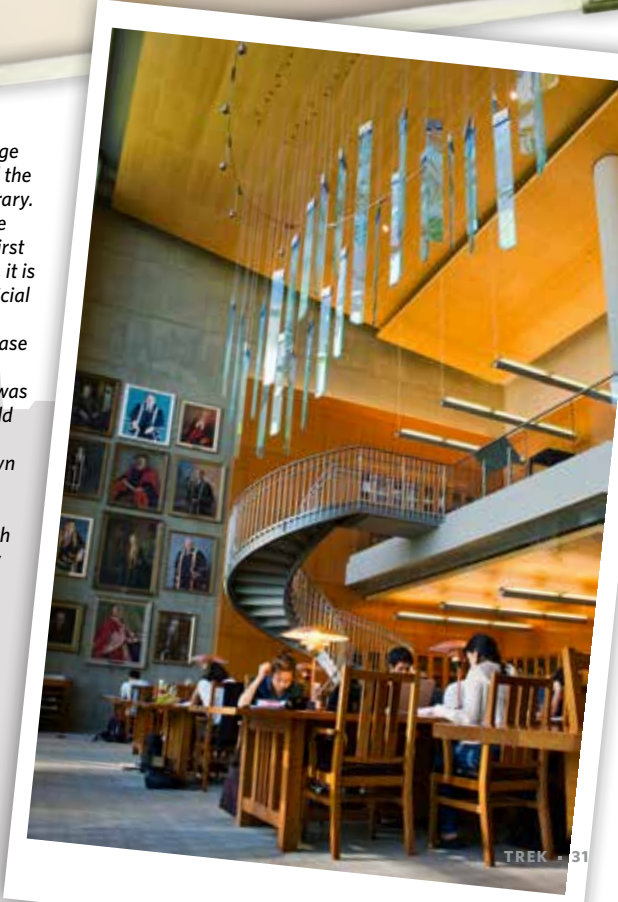
If the first UK edition of *Philosopher's Stone* is scarce, the uncorrected proof of the book is even more so: only about 200 copies of this proof were produced. While the proof contains some of the text errors that are notable in the first edition of the book, it also includes a misprint of the author's name, which appears as "J.A. Rowling" on the title page. This proof was signed by J. K. Rowling at a book tour stop at Carnegie Hall in New York on October 19, 2007.

MacDougall was also responsible for bringing not only the *Harry Potter* series to Canada, but author J. K. Rowling herself. In March 2000, he attended a dinner at Goldsmiths' Hall in London in honour of *Harry Potter's* international publishers and found himself sitting beside the author. Over the course of the evening, MacDougall, with his characteristic charm, persuaded her to make her first trip to Canada in October 2000 for two historic appearances in Toronto and Vancouver. While in Vancouver, Rowling held a press conference with junior journalists, conducted interviews, and gave two readings for more than 10,000 fans at the Pacific Coliseum as part of the Vancouver International Writers Festival.

Given the local impact of the series, the RBSC's collection of *Harry Potter* books not only ensures that scarce first or special editions of these works can be properly cared for and made accessible to Canadians for generations to come, but allows UBC to tell the story of the effect this literary phenomenon had on the people, the business, and the cultural landscape of Vancouver.

UBC Library's collection of US, UK, and Canadian first editions of the *Harry Potter* series is now almost complete, with just one more book to secure: a scarce UK first edition of *Harry Potter and*

The Barber Learning Centre is a large modern library facility built around the core of the original 1920s Main Library. Like the original building, the centre includes a room named for UBC's first librarian, John Ridington. However, it is probably better known by its unofficial name: The *Harry Potter* room – so called because of its winding staircase and walls covered in portraits (including Ridington's). Ridington was a controversial character who would not have seemed out of place in a *Harry Potter* novel. He was known for his authoritarian approach to enforcing library etiquette, and the nickname King John soon stuck with irreverent students. "There are few of us who have not at some time seen his bearded countenance appear unexpectedly from behind a barricade of books, to gaze down reprovingly upon us, and, if need be, make a few remarks in pithy, and Johnsonese English," reported the 1916 *Annual*.



harry potter



Stan and Rose Arkely pictured in 1979 with Sheila Egoff (R), who was a founding faculty member of UBC's library school (now the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies) and an expert in children's librarianship and children's literature.



RSBC's copy of *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* (J. K. Rowling, 2001), features an original watercolour drawing as a frontispiece by artist Jason Cockcroft, illustrator of the cover art for the UK children's editions of *Order of the Phoenix*, *Half Blood Prince*, and *Deathly Hallows*. Rowling later adapted *Beasts and Where to Find Them* for the screen, as a prequel to the Harry Potter films.

the *Philosopher's Stone*, of which only 500 copies were published. At auction it has so far proven elusive, selling for prices well beyond the range of the library's budget (despite the RSBC's first attempt at crowdfunding in preparation for an auction held this July). But there is no intention of giving up. As Albus Dumbledore says in *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*, "We must try not to sink beneath our anguish, Harry, but battle on." **■**

Rare Books and Special Collections conducts weekly tours on Wednesdays at 11 am. See rbsc.library.ubc.ca/visiting/tours for more information.

One rule of quidditch is that players are required to hold a small "broomstick" between their legs at all times (usually a PVC pole). (Photo: Andrew Dyk)

FLYING HIGH

Muggle quidditch takes off at UBC.

BY CHRIS PETTY, MFA'86

It seems unlikely that a fictional game in which the players fly among the clouds on broomsticks chasing a magical sphere called a snitch would ever make it as a college sport. But a generation brought up on Harry Potter and all things enchanting wasn't about to give up on their dreams of rising above Muggledom.

A college in Vermont claims to have originated quidditch (for Muggles) in 2005. By 2007, enough teams had taken flight to hold a world cup competition and form the International Quidditch Association. Now, there are teams across Europe, North and South America, Asia and India. The first Canadian teams came out of Ontario in 2009, while UBC's first team hit the metaphorical stratosphere in 2010 as an Alma Mater Society club. By 2014 teams had risen up in universities and high schools across the country. It's a gender-neutral sport, one of its basic rules requiring that a team can field no more than four players of the same self-identified gender at a time.

While the game is, of course, tethered to the ground, it is remarkably faithful to its fictional roots. Two teams of seven (three chasers, two beaters, a keeper and a seeker) try to toss slightly deflated volleyballs, called quaffles, through two sets of three hoops situated at either end of a field. Only the chasers are allowed to score, while the beaters, armed with slightly deflated dodgeballs called bludgers, try to stop the opposing chasers by hitting them with their balls, rendering them momentarily incapable of flight. After 17 minutes, a player not affiliated with either team, the snitch runner (a player with a tennis ball in a sock, the snitch, attached to his or her back like a tail), runs onto the field. This player's task is to avoid having the snitch snatched from their back by either team. A seeker from each team enters the field a minute later and tries to "catch the snitch." Each quaffle tossed through a hoop scores 10 points for the chaser's team, while the team whose seeker catches the snitch scores 30. The game ends when the snitch is taken from the snitch runner. The team with most points wins.

Oh. One more thing. Each player, except the snitch runner, is required to hold a small "broomstick" between their legs at all times (usually a PVC pole). Such a rule is no more ridiculous than making hockey players chase a little rubber puck while manoeuvring down an iced field on shoes with knife blades on the soles, or the arcane rules of any given sport. Think golf. Or basketball. In quidditch, the broomsticks lend a sweet sense of authenticity.

The game has grown considerably at UBC. "When the club started in 2010," says Jade Kandola, a 3rd year biology student who has been playing since she came to UBC, "they used hula hoops on sticks spiked into the ground. Now we have fully functional teams and proper equipment, and many of our players have played on the national team."

"It's not a bunch of nerds running around on broomsticks. It's athletes trying to win."

In 2016 the AMS team split in two, forming an additional squad as a Thunderbirds Sport Club (TSC). This team soared to the top and won the regional competitions that year, and came in fourth at the national competitions in Victoria. This September, tryouts were held for both teams and attracted more than 70 enthusiasts. Twenty-six of these will make up the TSC team, while the rest will play for the AMS team.

The TSC team, flying under the T-Bird banner, is the more focussed, competitive group. "We tend to get the stronger players," says Gloria Cuthbertson, a 2nd year English student "Also, our practice schedule is fairly intense. A lot of our players come from rugby and soccer, and they take it quite seriously."

The AMS team is more community focussed. "You don't have to be a student to play for the AMS team," says Kandola, "so we have to be a little more relaxed with our practice schedule. Some of our players have already graduated from UBC and just want to keep playing."

Still, quidditch is a vigorous, demanding sport, regardless of which team one joins. "It's really intense," she says. "It's not a bunch of nerds running around on broomsticks. It's athletes trying to win. You get a huge competitive rush when you're on the field. Also, there's the social aspect of the sport. You get to meet an amazing variety of people from all faculties and sports."

But what happens when students who haven't been exposed to Harry Potter come along in the next few years. Will quidditch appeal to them? "We have new players who've never read any of the Potter books," says Cuthbertson. "They're attracted to quidditch because they see what a great sport it is."

In the Harry Potter universe, Quidditch is a fast-paced, dangerous sport with students screaming around on powerful broomsticks high above the ground. In our universe, it's slightly slower - but just as competitive and taken just as seriously by many players. In spite of being surface-bound, quidditch has taken off at UBC, and promises to keep growing. Big leagues, here we come! **■**

PREZ LIFE

Highlights from the busy schedule of UBC president Santa J. Ono. Follow him on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and Twitter @UBCprez

For a video message from Professor Ono with an update on UBC's strategic planning process, please visit trekmagazine.alumni.ubc.ca



Went to Ottawa to advocate for the support of fundamental science, with profs Phil Hieter (biochemistry) and Liisa Galea (psychology).



Met a T-Birds enthusiast not afraid to show his true colours.



Gave the BC Minister of Advanced Education, Melanie Mark, a tour of our Vancouver campus (alumni centre in the background).



Spoke to new students at UBC Vancouver's orientation "Imagine."



Added himself to the alumni UBC 100 Global Map (alumni.ubc.ca/map). So can you! (Photo: V. Saran)



Met Arthur McDonald, Nobel laureate in physics.



Visited the Stewart Blusson Quantum Matter Institute at UBC.



Played his cello at a concert in support of suicide awareness.



Met thousands more new students at the UBC Okanagan orientation "Create."



Met some T-birds alumni – members of the 1997 National Championship Football Team.



Surfed the crowd at Homecoming. T-Birds beat the Huskies 31-10. (Photo: V. Saran)



Thanked the Zero Waste Squad for making sure Homecoming was sustainable. (Photo: V. Saran)



Found his inner samurai during Club Days at UBC Vancouver.

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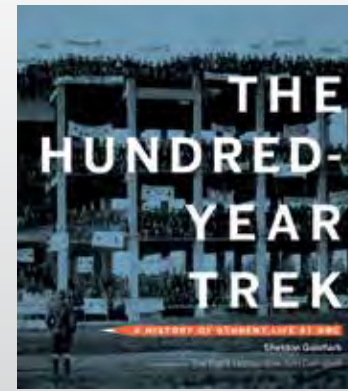
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The Hundred-Year Trek: A History of Student Life at UBC

Heritage House, \$32.95.

Order through the UBC Bookstore.

Sheldon Goldfarb, PhD '92, MAS '96, has been the AMS Archivist at UBC for more than 20 years. In 2014, a year before the Alma Mater Society's 100th anniversary, he began the gargantuan task of writing a book to tell the story of a century of student life and politics at UBC. The result - *The Hundred-Year Trek: A History of Student Life at UBC* - can now be ordered from the UBC Bookstore (bookstore.ubc.ca) and a portion of the revenues goes to the AMS. As a taster, Goldfarb shared with *Trek* magazine some of the fascinating tidbits he has uncovered during his project.

During which era would you most like to have been a student at UBC, and why? Well, the most interesting era was probably the late 60s, when the world was turned upside down, and not just at UBC: protests, demonstrations, the counterculture... students occupying the Faculty Club. That doesn't mean I'd have liked to live through it all; you know the old curse about living in interesting times. It might have been interesting (in a quieter way) to have been in the room with Sherwood and Evelyn Lett when they wrote the first constitution for the Alma Mater Society - not that that constitution lasted very long. Within a year or two it was being amended. Amending its constitution, or at least its code and bylaws, is one of the oldest traditions at the AMS. We're always changing things, then changing them back.

Over the decades, what aspects of student life have changed the most? What I discovered in writing the book was that, on the one hand, lots of things are just the same as they've always been (students complaining about fees, the student leadership worrying about how to engage the general student body, students partying, students studying), but at the same time - wow - some things we just don't do anymore, like electrocuting students as part of first year orientation (not electrocuting them to death, but zapping them with electricity). Hazing is gone, thank goodness.

And student attitudes have changed about things like Indigenous peoples and feminism. The student body no longer pretends to be an Indigenous group, with the *Totem* for an annual publication. We still use the name Thunderbird, of course, but we did eventually get permission for that from a chief.

But the biggest change, though this probably affects the student leadership more than the general student body, is that since the wild 60s turned everything upside down, the students have obtained a say in running the university, or at least have representation on the Senate and Board of Governors, and on various university committees and faculty bodies. They are also supposed to be consulted on tuition increases and the like. There was very little of that before 1965. In fact, the students didn't even have full control over their student society: one of those early constitutional changes I mentioned was vetoed by the University Senate, and Student Council used to have to submit its minutes to the university for approval.

What have been your most unusual discoveries about UBC's student history? One was that the university used to cancel classes so students could attend the AMS General Meeting. I've suggested to the current AMS president that he mention this to Santa Ono.

I also learned that UBC almost closed during the Depression, and that in the early days the students would rampage through the downtown streets in wild, linked-arm snake dances.


And then there were the Revolutionary Trutchkeyites, which I discovered in the pages of the *Ubyssy* back in 1978 in the free announcement column for clubs. Every week or so, amidst the notices from the French club or whatever, there'd be these strange announcements emanating from a group called the Revolutionary Trutchkeyites, talking about sock hunts or cleaning binges or eating spaghetti and watching Fellini movies - usually to take place at Trutch House. I presume this was a group of people living in a house on Trutch Street, all with keys of course, hence Trutchkey... not to be confused with Trotsky...

Do any individuals in particular stand out? Oh, yes, two in particular from the past 50 years: Stan Persky and Kurt Preinsperg. Persky was one of the leaders of the revolution in the late 60s, an unorthodox president of the Arts Undergraduate Society who wanted to introduce "human government" and who at one point tried to get athletic funding for an imaginary hockey league; unfortunately, I think all he got was imaginary funding.

As revolutionaries go, he was rather quirky, maybe more hippie comedian than hardliner. When Dow Chemical came to campus, he wanted to reason with people to convince them not to apply to work for them. His harder-line fellow activist, Gabor Maté, said, Oh, let's just block the doors.

And then there was Kurt Preinsperg, the longtime controversial writer of letters to the editor of the *Ubyssy* (about things like tying foreign aid to population control). He went from that to becoming president of the AMS (not the usual route) but got in trouble for compiling "Rules for Romance" (tips for picking up girls, some said). There was even a tongue-in-cheek documentary made about him, called, of course, *Rules for Romance*.

Earlier there was Evelyn Lett, who helped write the first AMS constitution and who continued to be interested in student affairs for years afterward (pushing for student residences, for instance). The AMS gave her its Great Trekker Award in 1965. Later there was the first female frosh president, who made an even bigger splash after UBC: Kim Campbell, our first female prime minister (who has graciously contributed a foreword to the book).

What do you consider to have been the most inventive student protest? Making a complaint to the UN about tuition was pretty inventive, though it backfired on the AMS president who did it. Then there was Pat Marchak (later dean of Arts), who made a protest of sorts as editor of the *Ubyssy*, writing an editorial in which she attacked "phonies," i.e. people who put extra-curricular activities ahead of their studies. That backfired too, because at Christmas she confessed that no new staffers had joined the paper. Presumably they were too busy studying. 

CLASS ACTS

What have you been up to lately? Share your latest adventures, unique stories, milestones, and journeys with fellow alumni in Class Acts. Don't be shy. You're a member of *alumni UBC* - you've got bragging rights.

If your submission includes photos, please ensure they are as high-resolution as possible. Submissions should not exceed 750 characters (about 200 words), and may be edited for length and clarity where necessary.

trekmagazine.alumni.ubc.ca/classacts

1950s

The Geological Engineering class of 1955 was small - only three students - but it bore a wealth of talent. **William Smitheringale**, *BSc'55, PhD (MIT)*, was a geological consultant in BC for many years; **Eric Walter Mountjoy**, *BSc'55, PhD (Uni. of Toronto)*, was a professor at McGill and received the 1997 Logan Medal of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC) for his teaching and research on carbonate rocks; and **William A. Padgham**, *BSc'55, PhD (Wisconsin)*, who won the 1996 Ambrose medal of the GAC for his sustained and dedicated service to the Canadian earth science community.

1960s

Robert Thomson, *BA'62*, has set up his own publishing company, Godwin Books (www.godwinbooks.com), and reprinted two of George Godwin's works: *The Eternal Forest* (1929) and its sequel *Why stay we here?* (1930), which follows Godwin to France in WWI. Thomson has also published seven of his own books, the most recent of which is *Florence, Dante and Me*. It draws upon the letters he wrote to his fiancée over the course of his year-long university study in early 1960s Italy, and aims to capture the experience of a young and adventurous student in a distant land. On June 7, 2017, **Doreen Braverman**, *BEd'64*, was presented with the Sovereign Medal for Volunteers by the Honourable Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, Judith Guichon, at Government House in Victoria. **Bill Donnelly**, *BSc'64, PhD'67*, is co-author of a graduate-level physics textbook that has

Prime Minister **Justin Trudeau**, *BEd'98*, hosted a town hall at UBC's Okanagan campus on September 6, and more than 2,500 people attended. It was his first visit to UBC since taking office.

recently become available: *Foundations of Nuclear and Particle Physics* by T. W. Donnelly, J. A. Formaggio, B. R. Holstein, R. G. Milner and B. Surrow, Cambridge University Press (2017). Although Bill is retired from a career of 38 years at MIT, he continues to be active as a nuclear theorist and is working on another book. **John Kalbfleisch**, *BA'64*, has written the novel *A Stain Upon the Land* (Shoreline Press). The book focuses on the 1827 shooting of prominent Montreal official Robert Watson. The murder horrified the bustling city and launched a mystery that endures to this day: who killed Watson, and why? Blending fact and fiction, *A Stain Upon the Land* is a tale of intrigue, passion and violence that ranges from the Highlands of Scotland to the backwoods of Upper Canada, from the War of 1812 to a cholera epidemic that scourged Montreal in 1832. The novel follows the fortunes of a young woman and the two men who love her - and not all of them can survive. Though several people had reason enough to want Watson dead, no one was ever punished for the crime. **Professor Gordon McBean**, *BSc'64, PhD'70*, is the winner of the 62nd International Meteorological Organization Prize awarded by the World Meteorological Organization. Established in 1955, the prize is the most important award in meteorology and rewards outstanding contributions in meteorology, climatology and hydrology. **George Swede**, *BA'64*, has won first place in the Haiku Society of America's 2017 Merit Book

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Awards with his 40th collection of poetry, *Helices* (Red Moon Press, 2016). More details about his career can be found at www.georgeswede.com.

1970s

Larry Nickel, *BMus'77, PhD'07*, was awarded his PhD in music from UBC in 2007. His doctoral thesis was writing his oratorio *Requiem for Peace*. It has since been performed by choirs all over the world. Recently, Dr. Nickel directed the Carnegie Symphony Orchestra in NYC for its performance of *Requiem for Peace*. Dr. Nickel was commissioned by The Tenors to write an arrangement of *Ave Maria*. Their performance of Dr. Nickel's arrangement has over 200,000 YouTube hits. • **Arnold Fine**, *BCom'79, LLB'80*, has received the 2017 Adam Albright Award for Outstanding Adjunct Professor at UBC's Allard School of Law.

1980s

In his third collection of stories, entitled *Ernest Palmer's Dream and other stories*, **St. Hope Earl**

McKenzie, *PhD'82*, tours the rural Jamaican world in which he was born and raised, the island's towns, and even ventures to Toronto, Canada. The characters we meet include young scholars who are caught up in the turbulence of cultural relativism, homophobia and madness, the nature of evil, and generational conflicts about religious beliefs. We meet a deaconess who takes in a mentally ill woman from streets, a loner who longs for riches and has a dream which changes his life, and an ageing farm worker whose goal is to get one more shot at earning some money in the United States. We are shown the impact of political violence on the life of a Rastafarian, and we meet a group of men in the country who are determined to carry out the wishes of a dead man. We even meet an angry Taino ghost. These stories are intended to entertain, disturb, and provoke thought.

• **Daria Ellerman**, *BA'87*, was picture editor for a feature film directed by **Mina Shum**, *BA'88, Dip. Film and TV Studies'90*, and produced by **Stephen Hegyes**, *BA'89, MA'95*, all grads of UBC's Film and Television Arts program. *Meditation Park* comes 23 years after Shum's breakthrough success with *Double Happiness* starring Sandra Oh, who returns for a role in the new movie. • **Anita Miettunen**, *BSc'87, MSc'99* (*Nottingham Trent University, UK*), previously worked in environmental regulatory science for the federal government, and was primarily based in Gatineau, QC, and Ottawa, ON. She now works as a program coordinator at UBC for the Liber Ero Fellowship Program, which supports early-career applied conservation research scientists across Canada. Miettunen is an active writer and illustrator and recently published her first children's book, *Big Blue Forever* (Red Deer Press,



Anita Miettunen



FIGHTING FENTANYL

As more "party" drugs like cocaine, MDMA, and ketamine are found to be cut with fentanyl and its analogues – opioids up to 100 times more potent than morphine – there is growing concern among members of the nightclub and underground party scenes about the risk of accidental overdoses at their events.

This is why, in fall 2016, registered nurse **Orla Adams**, *BA'08*, launched a series of workshops at clubs around Vancouver to train promoters, club employees, and party-goers on first aid techniques, recognizing symptoms of an overdose, and how to administer the life-saving opioid antidote Naloxone. Previously, Adams had worked at Insite – one of Vancouver's supervised injection facilities – where she helped to treat and prevent many overdoses.

According to Adams, club- and party-goers are a difficult population to target for health education. "They are predominantly healthy young people who don't regularly interface with the health care system," she says. In Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, however, the culture of drug use is more open, and the population of drug-users who regularly interact with health care providers is well educated in overdose prevention and management. "[They] look out for each other and save lives on a daily basis."

Adams' concern is personal: more than a nurse, she is also a DJ, dancer, and long-time participant in the nightlife scene, and has witnessed first-hand the effects of its culture of secrecy. While working on an inpatient ward at St. Paul's Hospital, she provided care to patients who had overdosed on fentanyl or its analogues when they believed they were taking other drugs. Although some patients survived their ordeals, others never made it out of intensive care.

These situations, she says, are preventable. "I want party-goers who are going to be using recreational drugs to feel comfortable telling someone what they are using. I want a high level of awareness of the risks of drug use and a strong impulse to look out for each other."

Now living in Toronto, Adams hopes to continue her educational work there before the situation reaches the critical level it has in Vancouver. The popularity of her initial training workshops gives her reason to be optimistic. "It's encouraging to see promoters and entertainment companies being honest about the realities of drug use in the nightclub industry," she says, "and showing leadership by providing free opportunities for their clients and staff to learn more about the risks of illicit drug use and how to manage overdose situations."

For more information on overdose prevention and management, visit towardtheheart.com

Adams can be found online @OWABOWA on Facebook, Instagram, and Soundcloud.

BUSINESS VANCOUVER 2017 Forty under 40

Join us for an evening of celebration as *Business in Vancouver* honours the achievements of BC's top young entrepreneurs, executives and professionals at the 2017 Forty under 40 Awards. Winners are under 40 and have demonstrated excellence in business, judgement, leadership and community contribution. 2017 winners will be profiled in BIV's 2018 Forty under 40 special year-end edition on December 5th.

January 23rd, 2018 | 6:15 pm-9:00 pm
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Visit www.biv.com/events/40under40 to see the winners list and to register for the event

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Vic Cavalli

2017). Her book was inspired by the true story of how Canada's largest blue whale skeleton, buried for more than 20 years in PEI, eventually became a magnificent display at the Beaty Biodiversity Museum in Vancouver. Her book also includes facts about the blue whale and information about threats to this endangered species. Drawn to children's literature, Miettunen is also enrolled in the MA in Children's Literature program at UBC. ■ **Vic Cavalli**, MA'88, has been teaching English at university level since 1988 and creative writing since 2001. His debut novel, *The Road to Vermilion Lake* (Harvard Square Editions), was released this year. Cavalli is especially grateful

for UBC Professor Tom Blom's encouraging support during his formative stages as a writer, and for Professor Patricia Merivale's outstanding teaching, which opened his horizons for modern fiction.

1990s

■ **Catherine Chick**, BSc'91, MBA (McMaster), has been appointed as the chief information officer at Mitacs, responsible for establishing and implementing the technology vision that supports the organization's strategic plan. She will be based at Mitacs' Vancouver office at UBC. Chick joins Mitacs from Seaspans, where she served as VP, Business Services and Technology and has held leadership positions in the technology, manufacturing, financial, and higher education

sectors. ■ *Dust Blown Side of the Journey* is a book of poetry by **Eleonore Schonmaier**, MFA'92, that has been published by McGill-Queen's University Press. Reflecting a childhood in the northern Canadian boreal forest and an adult life lived without borders, her poems show the beauty of the lived and natural world in both wilderness and urban settings. ■ **Maia Kumari Gilman**, BA'92, MArch'99, has recent published *The Erenwine Agenda*, an ecofiction novel about an environmental activist working in New York City who takes on the natural gas industry. ■ In her new book, *Positively Canadian: A fun guide to Canadian language, culture and history*, **Heather Pattullo**, MEd'92, explores what it means to be Canadian. Whether you are an adult wanting a "refresher" on Canada, an ESL student wanting grammar practice while learning zany Canadian facts, or a new citizen of Canada, there is something here for everyone. ■ **Laura K. Davis**, BA'93, has published *Margaret Laurence Writes Africa and Canada*, the first book to examine how Laurence addresses decolonization and nation building in 1950s Somalia and Ghana, and 1960s and 1970s English Canada. Focusing on Laurence's published works as well as her unpublished letters not yet discussed by



Catherine Chick



Derry McDonell

critics, the book articulates how Laurence and her characters are poised between African colonies of occupation during decolonization and the settler-colony of English Canada during the implementation of Canadian multiculturalism. ■ **Derry McDonell**, BCom'96, recently moved his family to Hong Kong, where he has taken up a post as consul for Political, Economic and Public Affairs at the Consulate General of Canada in Hong Kong in Macao. This comes after two years of Mandarin language training and before that a posting at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo. They are very excited to explore all that Hong Kong, Macao and China have to offer, and to join the many ranks of Canadians in the region. McDonell looks forward to meeting UBC alumni of all stripes. ■ **Michael V. Smith**, MFA'98, has released *Bad Ideas*, a new collection of poetry that explores the inevitability of loss and triumph with irony and tenderness. Through this dazzling collection of a remembered life, hung out to ogle like laundry on the line, Smith recalls a mother who discovers a sex tape, a man who dreams of birthing his own son and a woman who blends her baby girls into milkshakes. *Bad Ideas* is a testament to how an altered perspective effects change, how stories can be recast. ■ Journalist **Deborah Campbell**, BFA'99, MFA'02, has released *A Disappearance in Damascus*, winner of the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. The story begins in 2007, when the author travels undercover to Damascus to report on the exodus of Iraqis into Syria following the overthrow of Saddam Hussein. There she meets and hires Ahlam, a refugee working as a "fixer"- providing Western media with trustworthy information and contacts to help get the news out. But one morning

Ahlam is seized from her home in front of Campbell's eyes. Haunted by the prospect that their work together has led to her friend's arrest, Campbell spends the months that follow desperately trying to find her - all the while fearing she could be next. Through its compelling story of two women caught up in the shadowy politics behind today's conflict, *A Disappearance in Damascus* reminds us of the courage of those who risk their lives to bring us the world's news. ■ **Bob Wakulich**, MFA'99, won the 2017 Big Pond Rumours Press Chapbook Contest with a collection of poems entitled *Channeling The Masters*, a poetic satire which examines contemporary issues in the styles of 17 famous deceased authors.

2000s

■ **S. D. L. Curry**, MBA'00, has published a new book *Hidden by the Leaves*. Set amidst the Christian holocaust of 17th century Japan, *Hidden by the Leaves* tells the story of a priest and his two young catechists in their heroic efforts to save the lives of the villagers who have become their family. ■ In her new book, entitled *Your Heart is the Size of Your Fist*, **Martina Scholtens**, MD'00, a clinical instructor with UBC's Faculty of Medicine, offers a unique and personal glimpse into the efforts taken by doctors to care for refugees in Canada - the first by a Canadian doctor on refugee health. Through first-hand recollections, she sheds light on the experiences of people seeking a fresh start in a new country while



Martina Scholtens



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WHO GETS IN? THE TRUTHS AND MYTHS OF HOW CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES MAKE ADMISSION DECISIONS

A presentation by UBC's director of undergraduate admissions, **Andrew Arida**
January 2018, Vancouver (and online)

Details to be confirmed and will be posted on alumni.ubc.ca/events

Grades, self-reporting, personal statements, short-answer questions, extra-curricular activities, and applicant interviews. A great deal of information can go into admission decisions. This raises a question: how do Canadian universities use all this information to determine who gets in? Andrew Arida will provide an overview of the rationale and process Canadian universities often use to make admission decisions. He will also dispel the myths and rumours that often surround this. Expect an interactive and lively discussion!

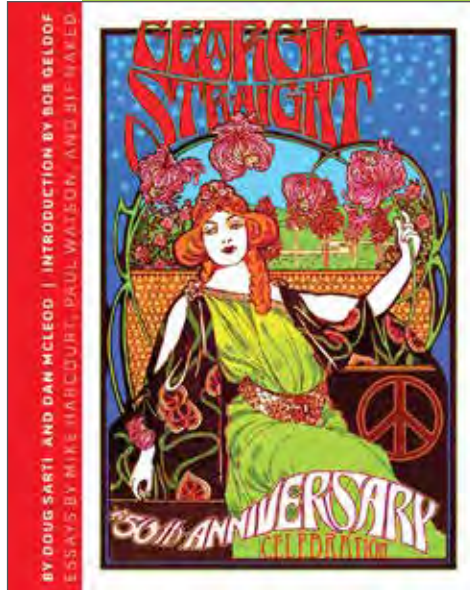
navigating around poverty, language barriers, and neighbours who aren't always friendly or helpful. ■ **Dr. Paul Dhillon**, BA'04, is a general practitioner in rural Saskatchewan and a clinical assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan. He is co-founder of The Review Course in Family Medicine, which helps residents and international medical graduates prepare for their certification examination in family medicine. On the leadership front, he has served as president of the Professional Association of Interns and Residents of Saskatchewan, and in 2016 he captained Team Canada to a 14th place finish at the World Medical Football Championships in Barcelona, Spain. Dhillon has also served as a medical officer in the Canadian Armed Forces; worked in Sierra Leone in an Ebola hospital with Save the Children; and edited a book – *The Surprising Lives of Small-Town Doctors* – donating all of the proceeds to charity. The College of Family Physicians of Canada has honoured him with the Murray Stalker Award “as the Canadian family medicine resident most likely to become a future leader in our field.” ■ **Julie Walkinshaw**, MSW'08, has recently expanded her counselling business in the Okanagan by hiring another counsellor. As well as offering general counselling services to individuals, families and children, both counsellors specialize in work with individuals and couples that are dealing with sex addiction. ■ **Miranda Lam**, LLB'02, a litigation partner at McCarthy Tétrault, has been appointed vice chair of the Vancouver Foundation Board of Directors for 2017-2018. Vancouver Foundation is the largest community foundation in Canada, with more than \$1.1 billion in assets and more than 1,700 funds under management.

2010s

In her book *The Memory Illusion*, forensic psychologist and memory expert **Dr. Julia Shaw**, PhD'13, draws on the latest research to show why our memories so often play tricks on us – and how, if we understand their fallibility, we can actually improve their accuracy. The result is an exploration of our minds that both fascinating and unnerving, and that will make you question how much you can ever truly know about yourself. Think you have a good memory? Think again. ■ **Cameron Johnston**, BASc'14, recently took four months off work to cycle solo across Canada, crossing 10,858km from the Pacific to the Atlantic. He documented his travels on his website, CameronJohnston.org, which was so popular that he's decided to publish its contents as a book, due out in 2018. Cameron is the fourth generation of his family to attend UBC. His great grandmother, **Ada Irene Lucille Menzies (née Vermilyea)**, BA'1916, was in the first graduating class; her son, Dr. M. Albert Menzies, was a child psychiatrist who had a teaching affiliation with UBC Medical School. ■ **Otolith** – the ear stone – is a series of bones that help us to orient ourselves in space. In her book *Otolith*, **Emily Nilsen**, MFA'15, attempts a similar feat in poetry: to turn the reader's attention to their relationship to the world, revealing an intertidal state between the rootedness of place and the uncertainty and tenuousness of human connection.



Cameron Johnston



The Georgia Straight: a 50th Anniversary Celebration

Rocky Mountain Books, Hardcover, \$40

ORIGINS OF THE GEORGIA STRAIGHT

The Georgia Straight, Vancouver's iconic free weekly newspaper, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. To mark the occasion, *Straight* journalist **Doug Sarti**, BA'89, and owner and publisher **Dan McLeod**, BSc'65, have released a new book showcasing more than 100 of the paper's most stunning covers, along with short essays, insider details, and contributor reflections that put each of the issues into historical context. (The book's introduction, for example, is by Bob Geldof, who edited the entertainment section during the early 70s.)

In his prologue to *The Georgia Straight: a 50th Anniversary Celebration*, McLeod recounts the origins of the paper's name. The story takes place before the Pit Pub was established on UBC's Point Grey campus, when the nearest watering hole for several miles was the since-demolished Cecil Hotel pub on Granville (pre strip-joint days). The Cecil had thus become a popular gathering spot for students.

It was here, in February 1967, that McLeod and fellow UBC student **Peter Auxier**, BA'65 – who were then editors and publishers of *TISH*, a poetry magazine founded by UBC English graduate students – had an urgent discussion with artists Michael Morris and Glenn Lewis. Their beer-fuelled mission: to come up with a better name for a new “underground” newspaper that had recently been founded and given the working name of Terminal City.

The four friends, representing a portion of the collective that gave the paper its original name, disliked the title and its implied negativity. A meeting to finalize the name was imminent, so they needed to come up with a vote-swaying alternative. Their brainstorming led to names of local geographic landmarks, narrowed to bodies of water, and landed on the Georgia Strait. McLeod, however, had a different interpretation: “I thought, ‘yes, the Georgia Strait,’ because we would be straight shooters, speaking truth to power. And, thinking ironically, in our lifestyle and beliefs we were anything but ‘straight.’”

Despite facing stiff opposition at the next meeting, the new name won the majority vote, and another piece of Vancouver's history was born. ■

ALUMNI BUILDER AWARDS

Congratulations to our Alumni Builders

Created exclusively to commemorate the 100th year of *alumni UBC*, the Alumni Builder Awards recognize a cross section of alumni representing all faculties who have significantly contributed to the University and enriched the lives of others, and in doing so have supported *alumni UBC*'s mission of realizing the promise of a global community with shared ambition of a better world and an exceptional UBC. We are proud to honour the following alumni whose contributions have been recognized by UBC faculty, advisory councils, and other leadership groups to mark our 100th year.

Mr. Peter A. Allard, QC, BA'68, LLB'71
 Claudio I. Arato, BSc'89, BASc'91
 Jacob Austin, PC, QC, OBC, BA'54, LLB'55, LLD'11
 Lawrence I. Bell, OBC, BA'61, LLD'04
 Daniel R. Bowditch, BASc'71
 W. G. Burch, BASc'48
 Peter Busby, CM, BArch'77
 Anthony C. B. Cheng, MD'67
 Ignatius K. Chong, BCom'82
 Billy K. Chow, BSc'86, PhD'91
 Wallace B. Chung, CM, OBC, OC, DSc'94
 Angela Crane, PhD'14
 Brenda Currie, DipDh'76, BDS'04, MSc'07
 Andre De Leebeek, BASc'76
 Meeru Dhalwala, LLD'16
 Allan G. Doig, BA'73
 Catherine A. Ebbehoj, BSN'75, MSN'99
 Morna A. Edmundson, BMus'81
 David K. Eto, BSc(Agr)'85
 Dr. Jennifer L. Gardy, BSc'00
 Paul L. Geyer, BASc'88
 Andrew Halper, LLB'81, BA'83
 Blake M. Hanna, MBA'82
 David F. Hardwick, MD'57, LLD'01
 Dr. Ossama R. Hassanein, MASc'74, MBA'76

David L. Hemerling, BSc'89, DMD'93
 Frederick J. Hume, BCom'68
 Marietta E. Hurst, BA'57, MEd'82
 Frank Iacobucci, QC, CC, BCom'61, LLB'62, LLD'89
 Nelson R. Jatel, BSc'98, MA'14
 Elizabeth A. Johnson-Lee, BSc'88, DMD'92
 Satnam Lalli, BSc(Pharm)'80
 Michelle S. Lee, BCom'92
 Peter P. Lee, BCom'89
 Angelique O. Leung, BSc'84, DMD'88
 Joanna Leung, BCom'91
 William H. Levine, BA'63
 Gerald L. Ma, BCom'90
 Stephanie K. Ma, BSc'00, MSc'03
 Laura Mandelbaum, BA'08
 Rebecca L. Matts, BA'97
 Ann McAfee, BA'62, MA'67, PhD'75
 Jason D. McLean, BA'95, LLB'99
 R. Christine Melton, MD'77
 Julia P. Montgomery, BA'57
 Sarah A. Morgan-Silvester, BCom'82
 Doug T. Nielsen, DMD'72
 Aleksey Novicov, BASc'81
 Dr. Peter H. Pearse, CM, BSF'56
 Marion L. Pearson, BSc(Pharm)'82, MA'08, PhD'14

Sherry L. Priebe, BDS'03, MSc'09
 Francis M. K. Pun, BASc'94
 Bryce Rositch, BA'76, BArch'80
 Gerald R. Skinner, BA'65
 Gregory E. Smallemberg, BLArch'88
 Dr. Kenneth A. Spencer, BASc'67, PhD'72
 Harold L. Steves, BSc(Agr)'63
 Anne M. Stewart, QC, BSc'72, LLB'75
 David Sweet, OC, DMD'78
 Beverley L. Tamboline, BA'53, MD'60
 Ali Tehrani, PhD'04
 Sheldon Trainor-DeGirolamo, BCom'88
 Andrew H. Tsang, BSc'96, DMD'97
 Leon Tuey, BEd(Sec)'64
 and Joan Tuey, BEd(Elem)'63
 Praveen K. Varshney, BCom'87
 P. Joan Wasyluk, BA'77
 Tim C. Watson, BASc'82
 Wayne B. White, BASc'67
 William F. White, BASc'67
 Carmen C. Wong, BSc'03
 Dr. John G. Worrall, BSF'63
 Victor J. Yang, LLB'70, BCom'72
 Ernest Yee, BA'83, MA'87
 Joseph Yu, MBA'71

Read more about the recipients at alumni.ubc.ca/builder

alumniUBC 100

M =

48

Percentage of first-year UBC students surveyed who believed that their peers had made more friends at university than they had. This misperception affects their well-being, and the researchers (from UBC and Harvard) think it may inform initiatives designed to help new students adapt to university life.

Sample Q&A from a Reddit AMA (ask me anything) session featuring UBC president Santa Ono. Many questions were serious, but others, like this one, were on the quirkiest side:

Q: Would you rather fight 100 duck-sized horses, or one horse-sized duck?

Santa Ono: I'd rather fight the 100 duck-sized horses because they're little and not a threat... but one horse-sized duck would be terrifying!

UBC's position in the annual Times Higher Education World University Rankings for 2018. It was one of four Canadian universities to make the top 100 and has moved up two places since last year. The University of Oxford was ranked top.

34

The number of alumni and friends who attended the "party of the century" held on UBC's Vancouver campus to celebrate the 100th anniversary of alumni UBC.

500+

Amount paid for a journal believed to be the earliest first-hand account of BC by an English woman. The journal, now part of UBC's Rare Books and Special Collections, was written by Susannah Weynton (née Hack, 1821-1901), wife of Captain Alexander John Weynton of the Hudson's Bay Company supply ship Cowlitz. \$88,000



"Some Canadians may struggle with the concept of granting rights to an ecosystem or river. And yet it is far from unusual in our legal system to extend rights to non-human entities. For example, corporations are designated by the law as legal persons and enjoy a wide range of rights.... Recognizing that nature has rights could help us transcend the destructive perception that humans are separate from our environment and superior to other creatures.)

UBC prof and environmental lawyer David Boyd, commenting on New Zealand's move to recognize nature's legal rights, which broke an impasse on land disputes between the government and the indigenous Maori people (Vancouver Sun, Sept 5)

"We were the beneficiaries of public parks and schools. We were gypsies. We trained where anybody would have us. So having this, it's been worth the wait because this is stunning."

Whitecaps president Bob Lenarduzzi, commenting on the official opening of the National Soccer Development Centre at UBC (News 1130, Sept 22)



4,500

The number of Olympic-sized swimming pools that could be filled every year with fish discarded by industrial fishing fleets due to poor practices and management, according to researchers at UBC and the University of Western Australia. (UBC News, June 26)

"It's never been a safer time to be a child in Canada than it is now. The likelihood of getting kidnapped by a stranger is one in 14 million. And yet the leading cause of death for kids is kids in cars. Parents, in their misguided effort to keep kids safe, are putting them in cars and driving them places, not understanding that they're putting them at greater risk."

UBC professor Mariana Brussoni was quoted in an article about a Vancouver father who was told his children were too young to ride public transit by themselves (CTV News, Sept 5)

"It's very hard to find anything undesirable about raising taxes on high-value Vancouver property.... Politicians don't like to irritate the kind of people who live in \$5 million to \$10 million homes. But there's no good reason not to do it."

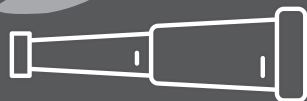
UBC economist Thomas Davidoff commenting on why a mansion tax, proposed by long-time anti-poverty activist Jean Swanson, is a good idea, but has not been implemented in Vancouver. (The Province, Sept 24)

"[In 1912], the city wanted to straighten the street that is now Pender, and so they took Chang Toy's land away for the 'public good,' giving him what they determined was fair market value. He had no say. They didn't need the last six feet on the edge of his property, so left him a useless sliver with no value. As an act of protest, Chang Toy put up a building on that narrow piece of land anyway, so that the thinness of the building itself would serve as a reminder of the treatment of Chinese as second-class members of Vancouver society. Some of my students called the Sam Kee Building the "F- You Building", because Chang Toy was making a statement with it about what racism had taken away from him and other Chinese in Vancouver."

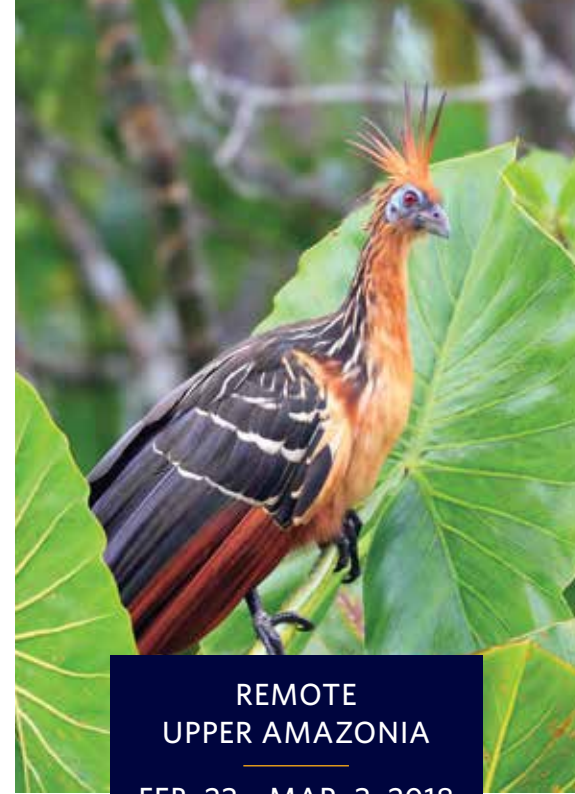
UBC history professor Henry Yu explains the origins of the Sam Kee building in Vancouver's Chinatown - the world's thinnest building, according to the Guinness Book of World Records (Vancouver Sun, Sept 24)

7 QUADRILLION

The number of computer operations that occur every second on CHIME, Canada's new radio telescope (see page 6). This rate is equivalent to every person on Earth performing one million multiplication problems every second.



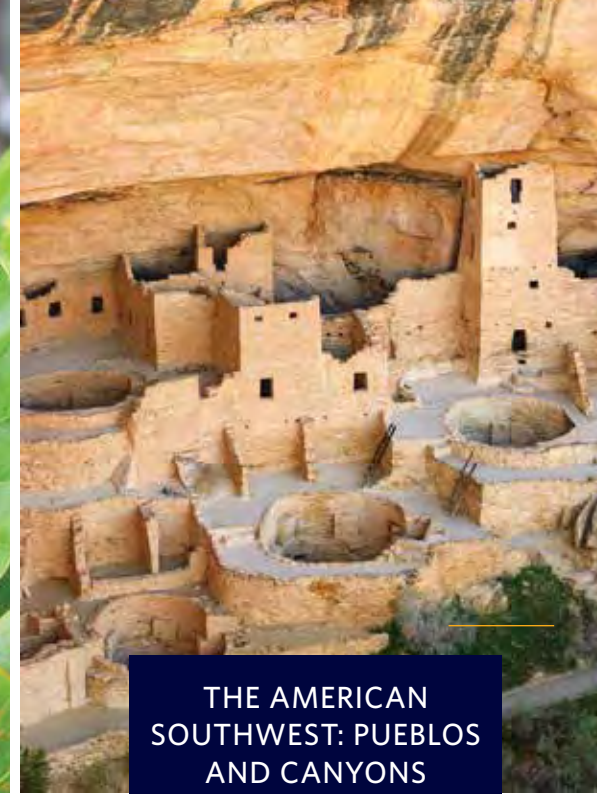
QUOTE UNQUOTE



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IN MEMORIAM



Henry George Sivertz, BA'48, LLB'52

Henry passed away in Shuswap Lake General Hospital on July 26, 2016, after living many years with dementia. He was born in Victoria, BC, on June 1, 1927. Both sets of grandparents lived in Victoria and Henry's youth was spent there and in Vancouver. He graduated in law at UBC, then articulated and practiced in Vancouver during the 1950s with Douglas, Symes and Brissenden.

He married Marguerite in 1951, and four children were born in that decade. The family moved to Salmon Arm in 1962, where Henry practiced law for the next 30 years until his retirement. Henry enjoyed his life in Salmon Arm, with skiing in the winter and tennis and sailing in the summer. He remained in touch with his Icelandic roots at his cabin in Point Roberts, WA. He is survived by his wife, Marguerite, sons George (Valerie), Chris (Songsak), and Frank (Carol), as well as two granddaughters, Samantha of Vancouver and Kristen of Toronto. He was predeceased by his daughter Laurie. Henry was a good man and will be missed by many.

Madeleine A. Johnson (née Macdonald), BA'48

Madeleine was a teacher, and a loving mother and grandmother. She was born on June 4, 1925, in London, Ontario, and died July 8, 2016, after losing a courageous battle with arthritis and Parkinson's.

Following two years of service during WWII in the Canadian Women's Army Corps, Madeleine graduated with a BA from UBC in 1948, then taught school in Jamaica and, later, Langley, BC, where her Junior High School dance class won first prize at the Langley Waltz Festival. She continued her interest in teaching and, after certification from the University of Alberta, Madeleine taught at the King Edward Junior High School in Edmonton. A move with her husband John and their family took her to Calgary where she taught for several years at the Louse Dean School. As a teacher she enjoyed following the achievements of her many former students.

An adventurous spirit and a fascination with elephants took her and John on many photo safari trips to Africa and other foreign countries. A lifelong love of reading and books inspired her to organize a book club for her friends.

She is survived by her husband of 64 years, daughter Leslie, son Victor, his wife Ola and their daughter Nikita.



Dr. John M. Fredrickson, BA'53, DM'59
March 24, 1931 - April 5, 2017

Born in Winnipeg and of Icelandic descent, John was the son of Frank Fredrickson and Beatrice Fredrickson (née Peterson). He is predeceased by his parents, brother Frank, sister Marilyn, and Marilyn's daughter Melissa Peppiatt (Freya, Stuart). He is survived by his wife Alix (née Gordon); daughters Kristin and Lisa; son Erik;

niece Signy (Lowell, Silas) and nephew Grant Jon Fredrickson; and nieces Francesca Robyn and Marney (Liam, Laura) Peppiatt.

John grew up in Vancouver, attending Maple Grove School, Point Grey, Magee and UBC, where he won six Big Blocks in soccer as an undergraduate and received a degree in medicine. He pursued a long and distinguished career in academic otolaryngology and head and neck surgery, beginning at the University of Chicago, where he interned, followed by the University of Freiburg, Germany, where he was a research fellow, and then Stanford University, where he took up his first teaching position. Returning to Canada, John was head of Clinical Sciences at the University of Toronto for 15 years. Capping his career, he served from 1982 to 2002 as Lindburgh Professor and head of the Department of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery at Washington University, St. Louis.

Over the course of his tenure in medicine, John served as president of the American Laryngological Association, and became a member of the Barany Society Executive, in addition to chairing the Examining Committee of Otolaryngology for the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. John was a member of the American Board of Otolaryngology and served as editor of the American Journal of Otolaryngology. He was a long-standing member of the prestigious Collegium Oto-Rhino-Laryngologicum, and chairman of the Research Committee for the American Academy of Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery. He was a member of grant review committees for the Medical Research Council of Canada, and the American National Institute of Health. John made significant research contributions to the fields of vestibular neurophysiology and microvascular reconstructive surgery of the head and neck. Recognition for his work continues.

Affectionately known as "Bud," John had a conscientious, kindly presence that was appreciated by all. Ever the athlete, he followed many sports but particularly his beloved soccer. John's life story would not be complete without mention of his love for jazz and classical music. His has been a unique, eventful life. He will be deeply missed. The family thanks Windermere Care Centre and Dr. R. Menzies. If desired, donations can be made to Parkinson Society British Columbia.



Patricia Wadsworth (née Beck), BSc'55, MA'70
May 1, 1931 - August 16, 2017

Patricia Mary (Beck) Wadsworth passed peacefully in Vancouver following a long and courageous battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Pat completed the five-year combined Nursing program at UBC and Vancouver General Hospital (VGH) in 1955 and a Master of Adult Education degree in 1970. She also completed Fellowships

in both the Canadian and American Colleges of Health Care Executives. Pat held many senior positions in health care, including vice president of Nursing at VGH and executive director of the BC Health Association. Pat always had time to dedicate to nursing causes. Later in her career, Pat was a highly sought after consultant as well as a pioneer in Health Care Accreditation in Canada. She was the recipient of innumerable honorary distinctions in recognition of her contributions. She put her stamp on many things, and her natural leadership and mentoring skills inspired many others to go on to do whatever they wanted, regardless of gender. Pat will be greatly missed by many friends and family.

Thomas Michael "Mike" Harris, BASc'56

December 29, 1932 - June 4, 2017

Michael was both scholar and adventurer. He graduated in engineering physics (UBC) and earned a master's degree in aeronautical engineering (Institute of Aeronautics, UK). He served six years as a fighter pilot with the RCAF and four years as a test pilot with Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory. An athlete and inventor, Michael rowed with the UBC "Cinderella Crew" that won gold at the 1954 Commonwealth Games and invented the "Baseball Trajectory Analyzer." He authored one non-fiction book, consulted on two others and wrote many technical papers. Michael is survived by his wife Virginia "Ginger"; children, Lynn, Brian, Leigh (Daniel Sussman) and Aprille, and their mother, Patricia; grandchildren, Zane, Chloe, Quinn, Declan and Sorelle; and siblings, Moira Johnston Block, Sheilagh Simpson, Brian (Janet Knight) and Gerald (Sherryll).



Douglas Padraic Ormrod, BASc'56

May 1934 - September 2017

Doug was raised on the family farm in Langley and went on to study agronomy at UBC. Doug taught and conducted research at a number of universities, predominantly UBC, University of Guelph and University of Victoria. Doug was driven to succeed and reached the peak of his career at Guelph as dean of Graduate Studies;

however, in "retirement" at UVic, he was able to return to his passion: teaching and directly guiding the learning of students. Doug had graduate students from all over the world, and he managed to travel much of it throughout the years. By all accounts, Doug had a very successful career and life, although he was plagued by mental health issues and, at age 75, was finally diagnosed with bipolar disorder. If you would like to remember Doug, a contribution to an organization such as the Canadian Mental Health Association would be appropriate.



Anne Isabel Brewster (née Richard), BSc'59

Born in Sao Paulo, Brazil, on February 10, 1936, Anne died peacefully at Moog and Friends Hospice House in Penticton on May 30, 2017. She is survived and sadly missed by her sister, Christine (James); nieces Emma (Paul), Heather (Chris) and Joelle (Mark); and cousins Karen, Ron, and Maureen (Lowell). She is predeceased by her parents, Mary and David Richards. Anne

received a degree in Honours Chemistry from UBC in 1959. She moved with her husband Charles to the Eastern US, where she had a long career with Bell Labs, AT & T and GTE. After retiring to Penticton (where she had attended Pen-Hi), Anne became an active volunteer, notably with Critteraid Sanctuary, the Penticton Industrial Development Association and assisting seniors with their computer skills. She will be greatly missed by her many dear friends. The family would like to thank the staff at Regency Southwood and Moog & Friends Hospice for all of their care and compassion.



Tibor Bezeredi, DM'60

Tibor Bezeredi, UBC professor emeritus of medicine, died June 21, 2017, age 87. He is survived by his loving partner in life, Meg. A colleague wrote: "He was best known as a passionate teacher who was generous with his time and advice."

Wayne K. Huffman, BSc'61 (Mechanical Engineering)

Wayne Huffman, loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away on March 28, 2017. Wayne joined Finning in 1961 as a sales trainee in Vancouver. He was assigned a sales territory in 1963, and worked in mining sales from 1968 until 1972. For the next four years he was in management with Ritchie Brothers Auctioneers. In 1976 he started his own company, selling used heavy duty equipment.

Wayne returned to Finning in 1985 as a salesman with the international use equipment group in Vancouver. He subsequently became consignment manager, used equipment manager and then general manager of used equipment. He took that experience across the Atlantic in 1998 to become general manager of used equipment for Finning's operations in Britain. Wayne retired in 2000 and returned to Vancouver. He enjoyed his retirement years, pursuing his love of trains and antique cars, while spending as much time with his family as he could. He and his wife retired to Salmon Arm in 2007, where they spent many happy years. Wayne leaves behind his loving wife Helen, his children Steve (Janet), Keven (Ellie), Megan (Lee) and Mike (Julie), along with his grandchildren Tony, Shaun, Alanna, Elise, Liam, Talia and Deylen.



John Keith Dungate, LLB'65

John Keith Dungate passed away peacefully at home April 15, 2017, in Kelowna, BC. He was born July 16, 1938, in Vernon, BC. After graduating from the UBC Faculty of Law in May 1965, he moved to Prince George, where he practiced law until 2013. He is survived by his four children, Trevor Dungate (Jennifer), Tammy Ramsay (Ian), Troy Dungate and Trina Dungate and his four grandchildren.

Also survived by his sister, Betty Smith (Gordon), sister-in-law Pat Dungate and many nieces and nephews. John enjoyed an active life of skiing, cycling, travels with family and friends and visits with his grandchildren. He particularly enjoyed the 50-year celebration for the Class of 1965 from the UBC Faculty of Law. Donations in John's name, if desired, will be gratefully received by the Okanagan Rail Trail project. Contact the Community Foundation of the North Okanagan www.CFNO.org or 250-542-8655



Raymond Troy Lassau, BSc'66, MSc'72

R. Troy Lassau passed peacefully, surrounded with the love and laughter of his family, on June 10, 2017, at Vernon Jubilee Hospital in Vernon, BC. He was the beloved father of Andrew Lassau and his wife Christine Ludlow, Marissa Lassau and her husband François Harbec; affectionate Grandad to Gabrielle and Madisen Lassau and Liam and

Emma Harbec; and devoted husband for 40 years to his predeceased wife Julieta Cacanindin Lassau. Troy spent many years at Ortech (Ontario) as R&D Director in Metallurgy, and served as adjunct professor for the faculty of Material Science at the University of Toronto. He was a passionate Rotarian, a hardworking Halton Catholic District School Board Trustee, board director for the Halton Childrens Aid Society and one of the founders of the Halton Industry Education Council in Burlington, Ontario. Troy always spoke with great fondness of his many years at UBC and the respected friends and colleagues he met and retained until his passing.



James Theodore Grinder, BEd'67

James (Jim) Grinder, born September 13, 1942, in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, passed away in Comox, BC, at St. Joseph's Hospital on September 18, 2017. He is survived by his wife Dena of 54 years and their two children John (Sharon) and Liza (Sandy), and grandchildren Jayden, Alexandra, Logan and Jamie; also his mother Evelyn Sapinsky, brother Dan Grinder

and many in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews. Jim was predeceased by his father Arthur Grinder and sister Judy Stuckle.

Jim attended UBC, obtaining his teaching degree in 1967, and then continued his studies at Gonzaga University where he completed his Master of Arts degree. His career started in Dawson Creek and then moved on to Summerland, where his music program attained provincial and national acclaim. Jim was the Performing Arts coordinator for S.D. #71 (Comox Valley) from 1980-1990, and he finished his career as a university professor at Malaspina (Vancouver Island University). He adjudicated stage and concert band festivals throughout British Columbia.

Jim's grandkids were his pride and joy. He loved jamming with them as well as skiing and boogie boarding. Jim was well known for his giant pumpkins, winning the Royston Pumpkin award many times! Jim also loved to hunt, fish, cycle and play music. He was an active member of the "Walkers," winning many shootouts and hockey pools. Jim also loved to travel. Dena and Jim toured Asia, New Zealand, Cuba, Hawaii, Mexico, Canada and, of course, Disneyland.

Jim was a gentle and loving man and a good friend to all. He will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to BC Lung Association to fund research.



Arthur John Sansom, MEd'75

John was born in Wimborne, England, in 1927, and trained as a teacher at Winchester College. He then embarked on a 40-year teaching career that spanned four countries: England, Nigeria, Sweden and Canada. In 1961 John emigrated to Canada with his Scottish wife. They began their married life in Irvine, AB, where John taught in the high school. After four years of summer school

at U of A, John had his Bachelor of Education degree, and shortly after that the family moved to BC. Two summer schools and several correspondence courses later, he graduated from UBC with a master's degree in education. He was an administrator in the Shuswap School District for 21 years until retiring in 1987. Having done a year of specialized training in the teaching

of geography, John was always interested in travel. In retirement he and Irene enjoyed many travel experiences and adventures and, in later years, the comfort and ease of cruising. John died peacefully at home in Salmon Arm on March 28, 2017, with his family beside him. He is survived by Irene, daughter Karen, son Brian and his wife Tess, and three grandsons.



Rani M. Shroff, MSW'77

Our one and only radiant, Rani M. Shroff, MSW'77, passed away suddenly in January 2017 at age 72. Rani was a well-loved wife, mother of two daughters, grandmother of three, a beloved sister, aunt, friend, cousin and social worker. She is missed immensely by her family and friends in Vancouver and abroad who knew of her strength and perseverance in the face of

a long-term illness. Despite the illness, which she did not allow to define her, she was smart, feisty, courageous, funny and charming. In 1996, she had a consultation with American doctor Andrew Weil, who marvelled at her ability to outrun her illness. For decades, her husband and youngest daughter formed an interconnected daily care tripod with Rani, so that she could still enjoy traveling, fine dining and adventures. Rani valued kindness, caring and love above all else.

She doted on all her family pets and used to ask, "What are they thinking, looking at me with those big, lovely eyes?" Her happy smile and lively humour were two of her best features and earned her much popularity as a psychiatric social worker at Riverview Hospital. Rani took on life for 72 years, laughed with her loved ones and friends, lived on three continents, travelled extensively, hosted animated dinner music parties with her husband, played a gutsy hand of bridge and enjoyed swimming, yoga and Scrabble. Up until the last, Rani loved mangoes, sushi, chocolate cake, ginger tea and dining at the Teahouse. She will be loved forever.

This quote used to sit on Rani's desk blotter: *"But these are human things, the Point of it all is Out There, a Little Beyond that last rise that you can just barely see, hazy and purple on the sky."*

Charles Garner Harrison, LLB'85

Charles Garner (Chuck) Harrison passed away on January 24, 2017, following a brief illness. He is survived by Edith, his wife of 36 years, children Paige and Mark, parents Marilyn & Philip, and sister Elizabeth. He was predeceased by a stillborn daughter, Georgia.

Chuck was born in Calgary. His family moved to Vancouver when he was three, where he lived for the rest of his life. He graduated from UBC Law, gaining articles at Russell & DuMoulin, now Fasken Martineau. He remained there practicing Labour and Employment Law his entire career. Chuck loved the outdoors, particularly skiing and hiking, and vinstilled that same love in his children.

Jan deBruyn, BA'49

It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of our beloved dad, grandpa, and great-grandpa, Jan de Bruyn, on February 24, 2017. He died peacefully and gently.

Jan was born on April 9, 1918, in Abcoude, Holland. His family immigrated to British Columbia in Canada in 1926. They first lived first on the Queen Charlottes and eventually moved to New Westminster,



then Burnaby. Jan graduated from John Oliver School.

Jan worked in Ottawa before WWII, and here he met Betty Roy. They were married in May 1941. Jan enlisted in the army in 1941, and worked in the Pay Corps until 1946, reaching the rank of Staff Sergeant. After being demobbed, Jan went to UBC, where he received his BA in English Literature. In 1949, he won a Beaver Club

Scholarship to continue his studies at the University of London, from which he received his MA in 1951. After returning to Vancouver, Jan began teaching English at UBC, where he worked until his retirement in 1983.

In 1958, to celebrate BC's Centennial year and his 40th birthday, Jan and friend Vic Hopwood hiked across the Rockies together, from Jasper, Alberta, to Golden, BC.

After retiring from UBC, Jan and Betty moved to Sandy Hook, near Sechelt, where they had built a retirement home. They lived there until 1995, when they moved to the West Kootenays, close to two of their daughters. In 2002, they moved to Castlewood Village, a seniors' apartment complex in Castlegar. Here, Jan formed a writing group called the Lifewriters, which produced eight books of collected stories. He was still writing up to a month before his death - now by hand because he couldn't type any more.

Jan and Betty, who died in 2015, were married for almost 74 years and raised six children together. One of their sons, Frankie, died in 1961. Jan is survived by his children Sydney, Diane, John, Mary, and Kathy; 13 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.



Danielle Durant, BSc'12

It is with great sadness that the family of Danielle Durant announces her passing on April 15, 2017, at the young age of 30. Danielle will be lovingly remembered forever by her parents, Dave and Dawn, her sister Amanda (fiancé Don), as well as her grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends. A trust fund has been set up for her pets at Mountain View Veterinary

(604-427-2744) or, alternatively, donations may be made to Tiny Kittens Rescue, www.tinykittens.com.

Obituaries are included in our biannual print issues, usually published in May and November, and should be 1100 characters (about 300 words) or less. Please send original photos by post or attach high resolution images to your online submission. Tributes may be edited for length and clarity where necessary. Note that print issues of the magazine are also published online.

There is no fee for submission.

Due to the high number of submissions, we are unable to guarantee publication in the next print issue. If you would prefer your submission be included in the next applicable online issue in lieu of print, please select that option in the form.

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NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA ("ALUMNI UBC")

TAKE NOTICE that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the members of *alumni UBC* will be held at the Jack Poole Hall at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre at 6163 University Boulevard, Vancouver, British Columbia, at 6:00pm on Wednesday, January 17, 2018.

The business to come before the membership will be the special business of considering the amendment and replacement of the Bylaws of *alumni UBC* by passing the following resolution as a special resolution, requiring the support of at least 2/3 of the voting membership present at the meeting of the membership:

The following Special Resolution will be submitted to the membership:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the *alumni UBC's* Bylaws be wholly revised, by replacing them in their entirety with the proposed Bylaws recommended by the Board of Directors.”

Copies of the proposed Bylaws in both a clean and a highlighted version showing the proposed changes are available at alumni.ubc.ca/egm by request at the *alumni UBC* offices or can be emailed to anyone on their request.

Casual attire and light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP online by January 2nd at alumni.ubc.ca/egm/register

Dated as of October 13, 2017.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Per:

Faye Wightman

Chair, *alumni UBC* Board of Directors

What is your most prized possession?

I've written many of my best songs on a 1957 Gibson J45. So there's that. But really, my most prized possession is my kettle. It can heat things to six different temperatures and keep the water at that temperature for 20 minutes. Isn't that mind-blowing?

Who was your childhood hero?

I was pretty obsessed with John Lennon. I wasn't a very cool kid, but I understood all too well how cool he was. I was also obsessed with Calvin and Hobbes. I think Calvin might have been my childhood hero, and is likely still my adulthood hero.

Describe the place you most like to spend time.

Anywhere within a 45ft radius to my kettle.

What was the last thing you read?

White Noise by Don DeLillo. Incredible piece of work. A must-read.

What or who makes you laugh out loud?

My friend Colin. He used to play bass in my band. One time we were on tour in Europe and "I Will Survive" came on the radio. He ate an entire apple while lip-syncing the song, never taking time to chew. It was all over his clothes, all over the tour van, little bits of half-chewed apple. He trusts his instincts. I have been in pain from laughing more than a handful of times because of him.

What's the most important lesson you ever learned?

Being mean to anyone for any reason, no matter how tempting it is, will never make you happier.

What's your idea of the perfect day?

Wake up at home. Eat all meals with family and favourite people. Read a book. Play a show somewhere in Berlin. Sleep in own bed.

What was your nickname at school?

"Eye-patch Dan." It's because my name was Dan and I had to wear an eye-patch for a year in Kindergarten.

What would be the title of your autobiography?

Make Love To Strangers

If a genie granted you one wish, what would it be?

Ten more seasons of Deadwood.

What item have you owned for the longest time?

Have I told you about my kettle?

What is your latest purchase?

A very large box of diapers.

Whom do you most admire (living or dead) and why?

People who can provide insight and humour at the very same time.

On completing his degree at UBC (he majored in English), Dan Mangan shunned the boredom he feared would come from holding down a "real job," and decided to try and make his living as a musician. He was drawn to the romanticized notion of being a "travelling troubadour," and made his way overseas, where he landed small gigs in the bars and cafes of Western Europe. He also toured North America in a borrowed station wagon and even made it to Australia. While the reality was not as romantic as he had imagined - "It was a gruelling process. I basically rambled around like a dishevelled hobo..."- the experience marked the beginnings of a musical evolution that has produced four distinct albums.

The breakthrough album, his second, was *Nice, Nice, Very Nice* (2009). It was shortlisted for the Polaris Music Prize and Mangan was named Artist of the Year at the *Verge Music Awards*. Next came *Oh Fortune* (2011), which won a Juno award as *Alternative Album of the Year*, while Mangan was recognized as *New Artist of the Year*. During this time, he was also the subject of a CBC documentary, which introduced him to a much wider audience.

When he and his band members (whom he credits for much of his success) took a break from the road, Mangan was offered the opportunity to score the soundtrack for the movie *Hector and the Search for Happiness*, starring Simon Pegg. He's also explored different writing genres - contributing articles to the arts section of *The Guardian* newspaper, *Huffington Post Canada*, and *Montecristo Magazine*.

His most recent album, *Club Meds* (Dan Mangan + Blacksmith), was released in 2015 to critical acclaim. But success does not mean he's forgotten his small-time troubadour roots or the hard slog it took to get his music noticed; one of his latest ventures is co-founding *Side Door*, an online booking and ticketing platform that helps up-and-coming musicians, audiences, and would-be hosts connect for intimate concerts in unconventional venues across Canada.

In September 2012, Mangan married long-term girlfriend Kirsten Slenning at the UBC Farm. The couple and their two sons live in Vancouver. [@danmanganmusic](#) | [sidedooraccess.com](#)

What would you like your epitaph to say?

"Before"

If you could invent something, what would it be?

A digital platform that matches artists with hosts in unique spaces for incredibly intimate and unique performances world wide... Wait, have I told you about "Side Door"?

In which era would you most like to have lived, and why?

Right now. No matter how much garbage anyone ever tells you about how Millennials don't have any attention

What is your pet peeve?

When bullies find a way to imagine themselves as victims.

What are some of your UBC highlights?

I took a sociology class by a prof named Richard Fredericks (no longer at the school) that actually changed my life. I think that education has become a means to an end in so many cases, and that the "end" is employment. But education in its purest form must just be knowledge and perspective. I'm a better person because of that class. 📖



Dan Mangan, photographed on Wreck Beach.



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