

Place & Experience

COMPONENT GOALS

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UBC buildings and landscapes will provide opportunities for collaboration, innovation and community development to reflect the social and environmental sustainability aspirations of the University.

CONTEXT

The Campus Plan and the Public Realm Plan have played major roles in creating a sense of place on campus since their implementation.

Through these plans UBC already has ambitious and successful place-making policy and is looking for improvements and synergies with other green building component areas to carry through to new developments.

Pathway to Net Positive

Place and experience is a component of the GBAP that specifically promotes architectural and landscape designs that outwardly express social and environmental sustainability aspirations of UBC.

This component is emerging in nature, examples might include:

- Celebrating natural systems (e.g., University Boulevard stormwater feature)
- Using locally appropriate materials (e.g., First Nation House of Learning use of locally selected timbers)
- Fostering social connection and cohesion through design of exterior and interior spaces (e.g., the exterior/interior knoll at the Nest)
- Building elements that tell a story and learning landscapes (e.g., rainwater leaders that show water collection at CIRS)
- Exposing building systems creatively (e.g., Campus Energy Centre boilers)

... Buchanan Courtyard provides an outdoor gathering space for arts students with places for sitting, studying and eating.

... PHOTOGRAPHER: PHILIP BERTOCC





Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre provides a place for contemplation both inside and in the library gardens

PHOTOGRAPHER: PAUL JOSEPH
/ UBC COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

Key Directions

Design has a role to play in telling the sustainability story of the building and landscape and communicating their unique identities. Design can also express human and ecological wellbeing by teaching about the processes or systems within the building and by expressing their presence. Expression can also be more abstract and creative, which communicates sustainability in a less literal manner (e.g., through art installations or playful demonstrations). It is important that buildings and landscapes serve the larger aspiration of producing positive, memorable and personally relevant experience, especially given the potentially limited time students are in attendance.

FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN — SHORT-TERM PRIORITY ACTIONS

- Identify short-and long-term student-led initiatives that contribute meaning and memory associated with buildings and landscapes.
- Review the Public Realm Plan goals and guidelines for better coordination and compliance of building landscapes.
- Establish additional GBAP place and experience component goals, in coordination with Campus and Community Planning, to help express a project's social, environmental and economic sustainability goals.
- Integrate heritage considerations early in the design through mandatory "Statements of Significance" for existing buildings.
- Analyze and improve existing design and development processes for strengths and weaknesses in integrating the GBAP place and experience component goals in project design objectives.

TARGETS AND INDICATORS

Targets and indicators will be developed based on foundational studies and data gathering identified in the GBAP.