

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT LANDS: Public Schools, Parks, Libraries & Recreation

Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development



UEL Factsheet Series: #6

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University Endowment Lands: Public Schools, Parks, Libraries and Recreation

Community services, including **public schools, parks, libraries and recreation services** are provided to the University Endowment Lands by a number of entities.

Decisions on the provision of community parks and recreation and access to library services for UEL residents are made by the **UEL Administration** under authority delegated to the Administration by the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development. Property taxes are paid by residents to the province to defray the province’s costs of providing or giving access to these services. Decisions regarding public schools are made under the authority of the *School Act* by the **Province** and the **Vancouver School Board**.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The entire Point Grey Peninsula is part of **Vancouver School District 39**, so school-age residents of UBC, UEL and Vancouver can attend any school within their applicable catchment area (or any other school in the District provided they meet the cross-boundary catchment considerations). Eligible voters in these areas may participate in the election of Vancouver school trustees.

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DID YOU KNOW...

In 1988, approximately 5/8^{ths} of the UEL was set aside by the Province under tenure with Metro Vancouver to be used as Pacific Spirit Regional Park, which formally opened in 1989.

DID YOU KNOW...

In the parts of the Peninsula lying within the City of Vancouver, community services (schools, parks, library and recreation) are provided by the Vancouver School Board and the City through its Board of Parks and Recreation and its Library Board.

DID YOU KNOW...

Decisions on the provision of parks, recreation and library services to University Neighbourhood Association (UBC) residents are made by the Board of Directors of the UNA and the costs of these services are covered by the Services Levy paid by residents to UBC.

DID YOU KNOW...

There are **five neighbourhood parks** in the residential neighbourhoods at UBC, with seven more in the design and planning stages. They are operated and programmed by the University Neighbourhoods Association.

DID YOU KNOW...

UNA residents presenting the **UNA Access Card** have free access to both the **UBC Library** and the **Vancouver Public Library**.



PARKS

UEL has one local community park, **Jim Everett Memorial Park**, located between University Boulevard and Dalhousie Road (in Area D, east of the commercial area). Area C residents and adjacent areas use a lawn portion of **Pacific Spirit Regional Park** between Chancellor Boulevard and Drummond Drive for open space activities. There are also open spaces in the regional park, such as those north of NW Marine Drive.

Under its approved zoning, the Block F development proposed by the Musqueam First Nation will feature a **3.1 hectare park** and other publicly accessible open spaces, including a constructed wetland, plaza, community green and connections with Pacific Spirit Regional Park. The park will be dedicated to the Crown and the developer, and ongoing operation, maintenance and programming will be the responsibility of the UEL Administration. The other publicly accessible spaces will be maintained by the property owners.

PUBLIC SPACES

Other public spaces that are a resource to the local communities on the Point Grey Peninsula include (in addition to some spaces in Vancouver):

- ◆ Metro Vancouver's (874 hectares) **Pacific Spirit Regional Park** which lies almost entirely within the UEL.
- ◆ **University Golf Course**, owned by the Musqueam First Nation, but open to the public, is a privately operated 18-hole facility located along both sides of University Boulevard.
- ◆ The many areas of open space for passive and active use on the 405 hectare **UBC campus**.
- ◆ A number of **religious facilities** in the UEL, including St. Anselm's Church and University Chapel, Regent College and two facilities owned by religious organizations (currently not operating) located on the north-east corner of Wesbrook Mall and University Boulevard.

DID YOU KNOW...

The University Neighbourhoods Association operates the Old Barn Community Centre and the recently-opened Wesbrook Community Centre, whose programs are available to anyone regardless of residence.

DID YOU KNOW...

A community space in University Village (Area D) is available to the Community Advisory Council and others, for meetings and events.

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LIBRARY SERVICES

In 2015, the UEL Administration reached an agreement with the **Vancouver Public Library** (VPL) to provide library access for UEL residents, who can be provided with a library card upon presentation of their identification to a VPL branch. The UEL pays the Vancouver Public Library for this service.

RECREATION

Under its approved zoning, the Block F **development** includes the construction of **workforce housing**, a **child care facility** and a **community centre**. Workforce housing will enhance access to working income people and will be operated by a non-profit agency specializing in such facilities. Priority will also be given to UEL residents for access to the privately operated daycare. The community centre will be built by the developer and turned over to the UEL Administration for ongoing operation.

The **UNA Access Card** provides UNA residents with free access to UBC facilities including the Botanical Garden and the Nitobe Memorial Garden, plus access with preferential rates to UBC athletic and recreational facilities. Other users of UBC facilities, including residents of the UEL area and the City of Vancouver, can access these facilities with user fees.

“The provision of community services to a growing and diversifying residential population is complex and challenging”

LOOKING AHEAD...

The provision of community services to a growing and diversifying residential population is complex and challenging. The UEL Administration is likely to experience growing demands for operational involvement in the administration of community services, particularly in parks and recreation.