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| SUBJECT | <i>alumni UBC</i> ACTIVITY REPORT |
| MEETING DATE | FEBRUARY 6, 2020 |

Forwarded on the Recommendation of the President

**APPROVED FOR
SUBMISSION**



Santa J. Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor

FOR INFORMATION

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| Report Date | January 10, 2020 |
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Presented By Heather McCaw, Vice-President Development & Alumni Engagement
 Natalie Cook Zywicki, Interim Associate Vice-President Alumni and
 Executive Director, *alumni UBC*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights of alumni activity from the third quarter of FY20 including Fall Graduation, launch of the Careers Leadership series, celebrating our alumni at the Alumni UBC Achievement Awards gala and programming in Victoria, Toronto, Singapore, Tokyo and Hong Kong. To date, more than 58,000 alumni have engaged with UBC this year.

Attachments

1. *alumni UBC* Update

STRATEGIC CORE AREAS SUPPORTED

People and Places
 Research Excellence
 Transformative Learning
 Local/ Global Engagement

DESCRIPTION & RATIONALE Update on what *alumni UBC* has accomplished over the first quarter of the year.

BENEFITS *alumni UBC* involves more than 75,000 alumni in the life of the University each year. Learning, Research, Financial, Sustainability & Reputational. Our alumni are donors and volunteers and, through their professional activities and community commitments, contribute to the reputation of UBC.

RISKS Numbering more than 339,000, UBC alumni are the University's largest constituent group. Financial, Operational & Reputational.

Previous Report Dates This is a standing report, provided to the Board most recently on: November 26, 2019; September 12, 2019; June 5, 2019; April 2, 2019;

alumniUBC UPDATE

Alumna Natasha Jeshani was the keynote speaker at a speed networking session held in October at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre.



MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI UBC / AVP, ALUMNI

The past few months have been busy at *alumni UBC*. Not only did we welcome 3,000 new grads to the global alumni network, but we also launched two new career programs that will help support them as they navigate their paths in this world. One is a series on leadership, with expert advice provided by seasoned alumni professionals, and the other is an online book club focusing on lifelong learning and career development.

There has also been plenty of activity in other program areas. Alumni attended stimulating panel discussions on subjects ranging from marriage in the modern age to managing wildfires, and socialized at community gatherings in Toronto, Calgary, Tokyo, New York, Paris, Vancouver and Kelowna. We rounded off the quarter with a number of programs in Asia, including gatherings in Singapore and Shenzhen, and our annual seasonal celebrations in Hong Kong.

The *Trek* magazine review is going well, with a reimagined publication launching this spring to showcase the best of UBC. It will take a themed approach, and the spring issue will examine through a UBC lens the topic of migration, nationhood and human rights. Alumni are being asked for their input and feedback on the redesign at every opportunity; most recently, the Open Minds Forum was asked for feedback on some new cover design options.

As our search for a new AVP/ED continues, we will maintain this productivity and keep moving forward on our strategic plan. I anticipate another highly successful year for our organization.

Natalie Cook Zywicki

*Interim Executive Director, UBC Alumni Association
AVP Alumni*

GOAL 1 | BROADER ENGAGEMENT

Ensure more alumni benefit from the collective resources of UBC and the global alumni network, and more students become familiar with *alumni UBC*.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Online Book Club

In partnership with the Faculty of Arts and the Sauder School of Business, *alumni UBC* launched an online book club in September, exclusively for UBC alumni. The response was immediate, with sign-ups exceeding our original participation goals. As of December, more than 1,000 alumni are participating in this private online forum. Half of them graduated within the last 10 years, but the oldest participant is in her 90s. The book club reads a new book every few months, with lively discussions throughout the reading schedule. The books chosen follow the themes of “lifelong learning” and “career development.” The next title – *How Will You Measure Your Life?* by Clayton M. Christensen – was recommended by **Santa J. Ono** and will be discussed by book club participants on January 6, 2020.

Speed Networking

On October 16, we held a speed networking session to connect job seekers with industry professionals. The session provided a modern twist to traditional networking, with job seekers meeting up to six professionals and spending 10 minutes with each. A total of 135 alumni registered, 65 of them industry professionals who volunteered to help out fellow alumni by reviewing resumes, practicing interview skills or providing general career advice. The event was held at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre and started with a keynote from **Natasha Jeshani, BA’05**, who encouraged job seekers to maximize their 10-minute sessions by being open to learning and hearing feedback. The formal speed networking was followed by open networking.



Keynote speaker **Natasha Jeshani (L)** and alumni UBC’s manager of Alumni Career Education, **Nicole Yeasting**, led a speed networking session in October.

Networking with Style (webinar)

In October, alumna **Katherine Lazaruk, BEd’95, BMus’93**, hosted the webinar *Networking with Style*. The session attracted 245 registrants, and 124 individuals participated worldwide. The webinar provided strategies on how to navigate a party of two or two thousand.

Managing your Energy at Work (webinar)

Our most popular webinar to date, *Managing your Energy at Work: Simple habits for better productivity and creativity*, featured alumnus **Cole Nakatani, BCom’11**. Participants gained insights around what drains their energy, as well as how to create simple habits to restore and protect it. They also learned how to design deliberate practices that build capacity, and apply this to their most important projects. There were 568 registrants, and 271 alumni participated in the live webinar.

alumNIGHTS: Leadership Lessons

On December 4, *alumni UBC*’s year-long Leadership Series launched with an event at the Roundhouse Community Centre in Vancouver. The program began with a panel of leaders sharing advice and divulging some of the challenges they have faced in their own career journeys. Following the formal program, the more than 215 attendees mingled with the panelists and fellow alumni over refreshments. The event was hosted by *alumni UBC* Board Member **Shelina Esmail, BA’93**, and moderated by **Robin Gill, BA’93**. The panelists included **Zack Eberwein, BAsc’17**, **Carmen Lee, BA’01**, **Ryan Spang, BA’99**, and **Marsha Walden, BCom’80**. The event featured a graphic artist capturing highlights from the panelists, and the discussion has since been converted to a [podcast](#).



A graphic artist was on hand at Leadership Lessons in December, which featured six alumni panelists.

WELCOMING 3,000 NEW GRADS

Over the course of three days at the end of November, we welcomed 3,000 newly minted alumni, their proud family members and guests, at receptions held at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre. These celebrations, held for the third time at the centre, reflect a successful ongoing partnership with the Ceremonies and Events Office.

Seventeen alumni representatives from various faculties volunteered their time to congratulate new grads as they crossed the stage at the Chan Centre and hand them each a copy of the alumni handbook. We enjoyed the further support of 60 student, alumni, and staff volunteers, who helped to welcome and steward our new grads and their guests during the receptions.

CELEBRATING DIWALI

On 25 October, 150 alumni, students, faculty, and staff celebrated Diwali with food and dance at the UBC Liu Institute. Diwali marks the beginning of the New Year in India. The festival celebration, which typically lasts from five to seven days, is celebrated by several South Asian Communities, and by a majority of Indians regardless of faith. People decorate their houses with diyas, candles and colourful lights, and they share gifts and recite prayers. UBC's Asian Library hosted the celebration, with the support of *alumni UBC*, the Centre for India and South Asia Research (CISAR), and the UBC Equity and Inclusion Office.



The UBC community celebrated Diwali at the Liu Centre Institute



STANDING OVATION FOR MURRAY SINCLAIR LECTURE

On November 19, in partnership with the Janusz Korczak Association of Canada, Dean **Blye Frank** hosted the annual Dean's Distinguished Lecture at the Robert H. Lee Alumni Centre. This event brought together more than 400 people – 270 of them alumni, including Chancellor **Lindsay Gordon**, BA'73, MBA'76. Senator Sinclair spoke candidly from the heart on the atrocities that Indigenous communities across Canada experienced, particularly around the Indian Residential Schools. He received a standing ovation.



Murray Sinclair delivered the Dean of Education's Distinguished Lecture in November.

HAPPY EVER AFTER

On October 25, the Faculty of Arts and UBC Women's Health Research Cluster presented a panel discussion exploring whether marriage really makes us happier and healthier. Today, we have choices around marriage like never before. But as the framework of modern relationships changes, who benefits? Four Arts academics (**Dr. Marina Adshade**, an instructor at the Vancouver School of Economics; **Dr. Yu Qian**, an assistant professor of sociology; **Mandy Len Catron**, an adjunct professor with the creative writing program; and **Dr. Carrie Jenkins**, a professor in the Department of Philosophy) discussed the benefits of marriage, looking at the shifting framework of modern relationships, the social cost of the marriage institution, and a way forward. The panel presented to a full house of 160 alumni, students, faculty, and community members. Following the event, the talk was converted into an *alumni UBC* podcast, receiving 550+ listens to date.

WINTER LUNCHEON FOR VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF

Alumni volunteers and alumni working on the Okanagan campus were invited to the 5th annual winter luncheon to celebrate all that they do to help UBC shine. More than 100 guests enjoyed a delicious menu that included the “best of” all past luncheons, participated in a fun skill-testing activity, and were invited to help paint a portrait of **Santa J. Ono**.



Santa J. Ono was painted by numbers during an appreciation lunch for volunteers and staff on the Okanagan campus.

ALUMNI & FRIENDS RECEPTION IN TOKYO

On October 16, UBC alumni, donors, and friends in Japan attended an evening reception with Santa J. Ono. Host and *alumni UBC* representative **Robin Mah, BA'81**, welcomed guests and invited them to expand their UBC network in Japan. As part of the evening's program, guests heard an engaging speech from Santa about some of the exciting developments currently taking place at UBC, and for many of the 80 alumni, students and guests in attendance, it was their first opportunity to meet him in person.



Tokyo-based alumni heard about new developments at UBC from the president himself.

ALUMNIGHTS: BOWLING WITH SANTA

On October 29, approximately 100 alumni, donors, and friends came to The Ballroom in the heart of Toronto's Entertainment District to join **Santa J. Ono** and VP DAE **Heather McCaw** for an evening of mingling, food & drink - and bowling! Guests had the opportunity to bowl for part of the evening, and otherwise spent the night strengthening their network in the GTA. A number of new connections were made as the bowlers shared lanes with other alumni and guests not yet known to them. Several Toronto-area donors were also in attendance and had the unique opportunity to connect with Santa and Heather in an informal setting.



Toronto-based alumni went bowling with Santa.

HEALTHY AGING: CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

On November 12, *alumni UBC* collaborated with the faculties of Education and Medicine to present a unique program featuring the Faculty of Medicine's executive associate dean, **Roger Wong**. More than 175 alumni, donors, and guests came to the Fairmont Empress for an important conversation about healthy aging. Over the course of the evening, segments of Dr. Wong's recent TEDx Talk on the subject were screened and interspersed with audience Q&As moderated by journalist **Pamela McCall**. Guests learned about new technologies that can make homes safer, as well as simple solutions for improving socialization and combating loneliness in seniors. Following the program, guests mingled over drinks and hors d'oeuvres at a reception. The evening also included a pre-reception for Education alumni, hosted by Dean **Blye Frank**.



Alumni in Victoria learned about healthy aging during a TedX screening and Q&A featuring Roger Wong.

RECEPTION FOR CANADIAN ALUMNI

On November 21, approximately 50 UBC alumni attended the sold-out 21st Annual Canadian Universities Alumni Reception in New York City to celebrate Canadian university excellence. This annual all-Canadian alumni reception is hosted by CANY (Canadian Association of New York), and this year it took place at Tribeca Rooftop. This is the third year that *alumni UBC* has sponsored this event, together with the Sauder School of Business, and UBC consistently has among the highest number of attendees of any participating university. This year, UBC's table at the event was co-hosted by four local alumni volunteers who handed out UBC swag and helped guests connect with each other.

CANADIAN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI COCKTAIL RECEPTION

On November 23, 100 alumni and guests from universities across Canada attended a biennial all-Canadian alumni reception in Paris, this year hosted by *alumni UBC* Paris representative **Frances Liang**, BSc'96, BSc'01, alongside Paris-based representatives from other Canadian universities. Guests spent the evening at the Maison des étudiants canadiens at the Cité Internationale Universitaire de Paris, where they enjoyed an evening of wine and cheese, music provided by a lively jazz trio, and the opportunity to win a number of door prizes.

HONG KONG ALUMNI & FRIENDS SEASONAL LUNCH

On December 14, a crowd of nearly 140 UBC alumni, donors and friends joined **Heather McCaw** and Dean **Robert Helsley** from the Sauder School of Business for an informal seasonal lunch at the Hong Kong Ocean Park Marriott Hotel. The event was hosted by **Peter Lee**, BCom'89, a highly engaged alumni volunteer in Hong Kong (chair, *alumni UBC* Hong Kong Leadership Council; president, UBC Sauder Alumni Hong Kong; member, UBC Sauder Faculty Advisory Board). A brief program featured remarks from both Peter and Heather, a video greeting from **Santa J. Ono**, and a number of lucky draw prizes - including the grand prize of a weekend beach getaway. Guests enjoyed a casual atmosphere and a deluxe buffet lunch, featuring a charcoal barbecue grill set up on the poolside patio. A number of attendees brought their children with them, making this seasonal lunch a family affair.

SMART CITIES AND UBC RESEARCH

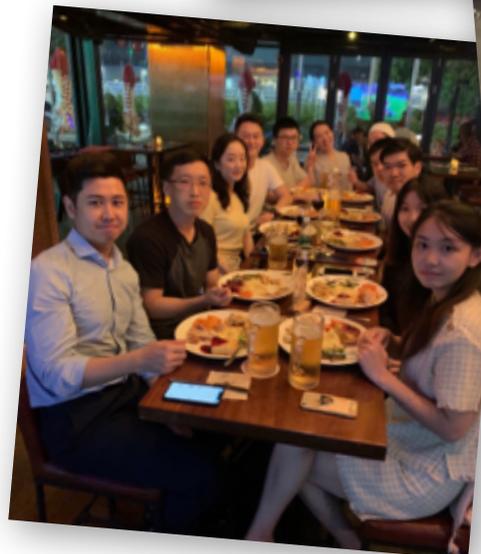
On December 10, UBC co-op students in Singapore on work terms and approximately 40 UBC alumni attended a panel discussion on “smart cities” at the JW Marriot Hotel Singapore South Beach. Guests heard from **Ron Kellett** and **Adam Rysanek** from UBC’s School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, and from **Walter Mérida**, associate dean, Research and Industrial Partnerships, with UBC’s Faculty of Applied Science. They spoke about the key features defining these cities of the future and how UBC research is leading the way towards their development. The discussion, including an audience Q&A, was moderated by **James Olson**, dean of UBC’s Faculty of Applied Science. Following the program, guests attended a networking reception. This event was a partnership between *alumni UBC* and the UBC Faculty of Applied Science.



UBC research and smart cities was the topic of discussion in Singapore this December.

OTHER ACTIVITY IN ASIA

Alumni in Asia took part in a handful of other programs in the region over the course of the fall. On October 14, *alumni UBC* Shenzhen representative **Mary Shu**, *BCom'13*, offered eight alumni a taste of Canada by welcoming them to a Canadian Thanksgiving Dinner in Shenzhen. *alumni UBC* Singapore representative **Chelsea Guy**, *BHK'06*, hosted the last Singapore networking evening of the year at a rooftop bar on November 19 and welcomed 20 guests. Two events were organized by the *alumni UBC* Hong Kong alumni team: an intimate, guided wine-tasting at a private location in Hong Kong on October 30 with 11 attendees, and the latest instalment of the BYOB (Be Your Own Boss) series on November 21, featuring guest speaker and food entrepreneur **Thomas Lau**. Thirteen guests attended, and the event was our first to be live-streamed on Instagram, attracting online audiences to this engaging discussion.



Alumni gathered in Hong Kong for wine tasting, Shenzhen for Thanksgiving, and Hong Kong for happy hour.

HIGH ACHIEVERS

The impressive accomplishments of **Dominic Barton, BA'84, LLD'12**, **Deborah Buszard, Doug Clement, MD'59**, **Tara Cookson, BA'09**, **John MacDonald, BAsc'59, DSc'89**, **David Morley, MEd'08**, and **Gwendolyn Point, BEd'87**, were recently celebrated by alumni UBC at the largest celebration of alumni achievement held to date. Four hundred guests – alumni, faculty, students, friends and senior leadership – attended the annual gala, which was led by Selections Committee chair **Leslie Lee, BCom'84**. Staged at the Hotel Vancouver (the first UBC degrees were conferred more than 100 years ago in the original Hotel Vancouver at the corner of Granville and Georgia), the Boyden-sponsored black-tie affair was emceed by CBC's **Lien Yeung, MJ'15**. Awards in seven categories were presented by **Santa J. Ono** to the recipients, whose social contributions range from influencing corporate practice at the highest levels, to advocating for evidence-based social welfare and aid programs, to increasing educational opportunities for Aboriginal students. Their accomplishments have benefited people not only in British Columbia and the rest of Canada, but around the world.



Seven outstanding members of the UBC community were celebrated at an awards ceremony held in the historic Hotel Vancouver.

TRAVEL CLUB IN PORTUGAL

This October, our small group tour of 18 travellers walked 238 km along the Portuguese Coastal Camino. This 14-day tour was led by Olympic medallist and Vancouver Sun Run and SportMedBC Coach **Lynn Kanuka**. All spaces were booked in record time, and a second tour scheduled for April 2020 is already full.

The route started in the colourful UNESCO-listed city of Porto and followed a beautiful landscape of beaches and dunes through charming seaside towns and villages, where travellers experienced the traditional hospitality that has been offered to pilgrims since the middle-ages. It then crossed into Spain – taking in farmhouses, forests, rolling hills and cobbled stone paths – and ended in Santiago de Compostela.

All *alumni UBC* Travel Club tours can be found [here](#).



The Alumni Travel Club took in the coastal splendours of Portugal.

THE A PROJECT

In December, *alumni UBC* was proud to launch *The A Project*, a volunteer program giving UBC alumni the opportunity to work shoulder-to-shoulder on local community service projects in the Okanagan. For the first project, alumni helped assemble holiday food hampers at the Central Okanagan Community Food Bank, which distributes 2,200 food hampers during the holiday season. This ongoing program provides a platform for alumni to give back to the community, while strengthening ties with fellow UBC alumni. More information on *The A Project* can be found [here](#).



WILDFIRES: CAUSES, CONSEQUENCES, AND COEXISTENCE

On November 7, roughly 60 alumni, donors, and friends joined **Santa J. Ono** and **Heather McCaw** at the Delta Marriott Calgary Downtown for an event presented in partnership with the Faculty of Forestry on the topic of wildfires. The program featured **Dr. Lori Daniels, MSc'94**, a professor of Forest Ecology and director of the Tree Ring Lab at UBC. Her research applies tree-ring analyses to investigate the impacts of climate and humans on forest dynamics. Her presentation was followed by a lively Q&A with the highly engaged audience, moderated by Santa. Following the program, guests had the opportunity to network at an informal reception. The alumni & friends program was preceded by a donor recognition reception attended by roughly 25 guests, which featured remarks from Santa, Heather, and also **Tiffany Lee**, a fourth year International Relations student who has received donor-funded scholarship support.



Santa J. Ono and Dr. Lori Daniels in Calgary

ALUMNI UBC BREAKFAST SERIES IN TORONTO

On November 27, 20 UBC alumni attended the most recent edition of alumni UBC's breakfast series in Toronto, held at Stratus Restaurant. This breakfast featured **Ann Richards, BA'78**, who recently retired after 25 years as an investment advisor and portfolio manager at CIBC Wood Gundy (and has also been a long-time UBC volunteer in Toronto). Richards spoke about the combination of technical knowledge and soft skills needed to attract and advise clients, the influence of robo-advice on the future of the industry, and her experiences as a woman in the industry.



Breakfast Series: It's never too early for learning something new.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR VOLUNTEER MENTORS

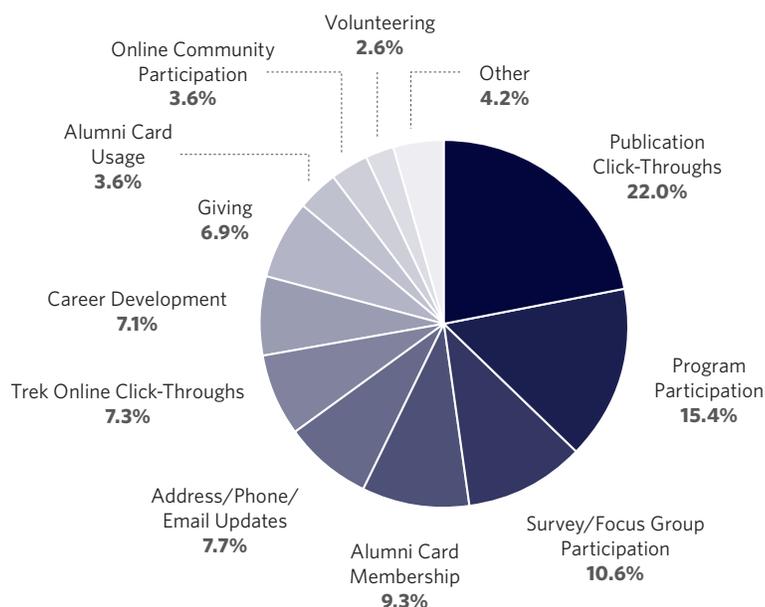
In collaboration with the Centre for Student Involvement and Careers and various faculties, *alumni UBC* planned and executed a professional development opportunity for UBC's volunteer mentors. More than 100 alumni and industry professionals attended on November 13. It was a way to show appreciation for our volunteer mentors and equip them with the skills to be even more effective.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

ALUMNI ENGAGED BY FACULTY 2019-20

| | Q3 RESULTS | ANNUAL GOAL | # PRIMARY CONTACTABLE ALUMNI | % CONTACTABLE ENGAGED | 2019 RESULTS |
|-------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| UBC Okanagan | 2,793 | 4,000 | 16,680 | 17% | 3,609 |
| UBC Vancouver | | | | | |
| Applied Science | 6,731 | 12,000 | 37,600 | 18% | 10,825 |
| Arts | 12,503 | 15,000 | 73,915 | 17% | 14,801 |
| Dentistry | 1,091 | 1,400 | 2,972 | 37% | 1,489 |
| Education | 7,159 | 8,200 | 44,865 | 16% | 8,118 |
| Forestry | 2,483 | 2,250 | 5,624 | 44% | 2,129 |
| Land and Food Systems | 2,027 | 2,100 | 8,731 | 23% | 2,187 |
| Medicine | 3,977 | 6,500 | 15,386 | 26% | 6,567 |
| Peter A. Allard School of Law | 3,390 | 4,100 | 9,879 | 34% | 4,156 |
| Pharmaceutical Sciences | 1,305 | 2,000 | 5,615 | 23% | 2,361 |
| Sauder School of Business | 7,469 | 9,800 | 34,111 | 22% | 9,783 |
| Science | 7,337 | 9,500 | 37,643 | 19% | 9,693 |
| Other | 83 | | | | 70 |
| Total | 58,348 | 76,000 | 293,234 | 20% | 75,788 |

ENGAGEMENT DRIVERS



UPCOMING ALUMNI PROGRAMMING

For more details please see the [calendar](#).

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|---------------|--|---------------|--|
| JAN 16 | Webinar - Inclusive Hiring: Autism and neurodiversity in the workplace <i>Online</i> | FEB 10 | The Habit Course: Build and maintain new habits at work <i>Online</i> |
| JAN 16 | Okanagan Alumni Reunion Dinner Series: Vancouver <i>Vancouver, BC</i> | FEB 12 | Webinar - Cannabis Regulation and the Workplace <i>Online</i> |
| JAN 17 | Winter Classic 2020 <i>Vancouver, BC</i> | FEB 26 | The Art of Adaptive Leadership <i>Vancouver, BC</i> |
| JAN 20 | Lunar New Year Dinner 2020 - Year of the Rat <i>Vancouver, BC</i> | MAY 25 | 2nd Annual <i>alumni UBC</i> Pro Am <i>North Vancouver, BC</i> |
| JAN 28 | alumNIGHTS with the Toronto Raptors SOLD OUT <i>Toronto, ON</i> | | |

2019-20 ALUMNI UBC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIR

Ross Langford, *BCom'89, LLB'89*

VICE-CHAIR

Debra Hewson, *BA'81*

TREASURER

Barbara Anderson, *BSc'78*

MEMBERS AT LARGE [TERMS ENDING 2020]

Barbara Anderson, *BSc'78*

Shelina Esmail, *BA'93*

Ross Langford, *BCom'89, LLB'89*

MEMBERS AT LARGE [TERMS ENDING 2021]

Amir Adnani, *BSc'01*

Randy Findlay, *BASc'73*

Debra Hewson, *BA'81*

Leslie Lee, *BCom'84*

Rahim Moloo, *LLB'05*

Shom Sen, *BCom'84*

MEMBERS AT LARGE [TERMS ENDING 2022]

Aleem Bandali, *BA'99*

Ian Banks, *BA'92*

Miranda Huron, *BA'02, MEd'16*

Patricia Mohr, *BA'68, MA'70*

Fred Withers, *BCom'77*

Ex-Officio:

UBC CHANCELLOR

Lindsay Gordon, *BA'73, MBA'76*

VICE-PRESIDENT, DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT; PRESIDENT'S DESIGNATE

Heather McCaw, *BCom'86*

UBC PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

Santa J. Ono

INTERIM ASSOCIATE VICE-PRESIDENT, ALUMNI; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALUMNI UBC

Natalie Cook Zywicki