



SUBJECT Recommendations from the Naming Committee (August 13, 2020)

SUBMITTED TO People, Community & International Committee

MEETING DATE September 9, 2020

SESSION CLASSIFICATION OPEN

REQUEST Action requested - Final approval

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the People, Community and International Committee, in accordance with authority delegated from the Board of Governors, approves the following Class 1 Facility Naming Recommendations from the Naming Committee:

Pacific Residence building names:

q̓ əłʰələməcən leləm̓ / Orca House

qʷta:yθən leləm̓ / Sturgeon House

słewət' leləm̓ / Herring House

təməs leləm̓ / Sea Otter House

sqiməkʷ leləm̓ / Octopus House

LEAD EXECUTIVE Robin Ciceri, VP External Relations

SUPPORTED BY Michael White, Associate Vice-President Campus + Community Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Board of Governors’ Policy #GA6 ‘Naming’ establishes policies and procedures for approving names for campus facilities. The President forwards Class 1 facility naming recommendations from the Naming Committee to the Board of Governors for approval. This report conveys the recommendations of the August 13, 2020 meeting of the Naming Committee for Board approval.

Upon approval of the Pacific Residence complex name, the Naming Committee recommended that Musqueam be consulted regarding the cultural appropriateness of the individual House names and opportunity for translation to hənq̓əmiñəm̓. The proposed hənq̓əmiñəm̓ house names, with integrated english translation result from the work of the Musqueam & Student Housing & Community Services Storytelling Committee comprised of Musqueam community members and UBC staff.

q̓əłʰələməcən leləm̓ / Orca House

The orca, or "killer whale" is a sea mammal in the same family as dolphins, porpoises, and the other whales and can be found along the coastline of British Columbia. Orca whales remind us to appreciate our path and encourage strong family ties. Historically, orcas have been known to help people who had fallen over and were in need of assistance to reach the shoreline.

q^wta:yθan leləm̓ / Sturgeon House

Sturgeon are massive, slow-growing and long-living fish. Their appearance has remained largely unchanged for 175 million years. Sturgeon are not only part of the Musqueam diet, but also part of our culture and trade. One of our community members re-created a sturgeon harpoon for the first time at Musqueam in decades, informed by our elders and oral history research.

słewət' leləm̓ / Herring House

The Pacific herring is a cultural keystone species that provides a food web for salmon, killer whales, many mammals, sea birds and human beings. Herring bones have been found in archeological digs up and down the Pacific Coast. Herring have also been overfished. Today, this precious species is often only permitted to be harvested for hours at a time to prevent ecosystem disruptions.

təmās leləm̓ / Sea Otter House

Sea otters were once abundant along the B.C. coast but were hunted to extinction during the 1700s and 1800s as they were a target for fur traders. The sea otters we see in B.C. today were relocated from Alaska to the west coast of Vancouver Island from 1969-72. Sea otters are often together in large groups and are known to be playful creatures.

sqimək^w leləm̓ / Octopus House

Musqueam territory is marked by sites where the powerful being called χe:ís (the transformer) visited on his travels. He left his teachings where he walked, and these teachings grew into our law. He transformed people into animals or aspects of the landscape. There are several transformation stories about octopuses that provide important teachings, including the connection between słχiləx (standing) and sqimək^wəlməx.^w It's said that when χe:ís killed a giant octopus (devilfish) at Musqueam he flung the smallest tentacle and it landed at słχiləx. For this reason, there are many small octopuses here today.

All of these names are representative of the Pacific Northwest, are translatable to hənqəmihənm̓ and represent an important component of west coast indigenous culture and history.

The Naming Committee considered the naming requests and resolved to recommend the proposals to the President for referral to the Board of Governors for approval.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS (optional reading for Governors)

1. MAP

