



Submission to the UBC Board of Governors Regarding the Proposed Board 2 Approval of the Gateway Building

Dear Board of Governors,

The Gateway Building project is an exciting new proposed feature to our campus landscape and community. We are excited to hear about the interdisciplinary elements included in the development of the Gateway Building that provide key foundational access to the health sciences and service fields. For several departments, namely the UBC School of Kinesiology and School of Nursing, it has been long overdue to have a designated facility to call home. With a growing campus population, it is of most importance that the university increase classroom facilities and lecture hall space available across the UBC Vancouver campus.

With a growing population also comes a need for new, spacious facilities to support the various UBC Student Health Services that will serve students. Over the past several years, there has been an increased overflow of students at different healthcare units across campus, and wait times for a counsellor have extended drastically. This project proposal is especially critical for these students who are seeking urgent support from UBC Counselling Services, since this unit will receive its own specialized location within the Gateway complex.

The Alma Mater Society is strongly supportive of the Gateway Building's objectives of finding a permanent home for student health services as we emerge from a challenging pandemic. The inclusion of space for student services is the highest priority for us in regards to the UBC Gateway Building proposal.

We appreciate the development and planning team's engagement with the Musqueam people and acknowledging the unceded territory on which it will be located. While these efforts have not gone unnoticed, we want to remind the administration of the importance of putting reconciliation efforts, as laid out in the UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan, at the forefront of the community

development process. Reconciliation must be prioritized ahead of the need to construct a monumental landmark that represents power or prestige.

We look forward to seeing what the UBC Gateway building will add to our community, and encourage the Board of Governors to grant the proposal Board 2 approval. The Alma Mater Society hopes that these requests are taken into consideration with advancing student needs and priorities into a new era of academic excellence. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cole Evans', with a stylized, cursive script.

Cole Evans
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morgan Lorenz', with a stylized, cursive script.

Morgan Lorenz
AVP University Affairs