



SUBJECT Recommendations from the Naming Committee (May 13, 2021)

SUBMITTED TO People, Community & International Committee

MEETING DATE June 9, 2021

SESSION CLASSIFICATION Recommended session criteria from Board Meetings Policy:
OPEN

REQUEST Action requested - Final approval

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

Pacific Residence to be renamed:

tə ʃxʷhələləms tə kʷaʔkʷəʔaʔl | The houses of the ones belonging to the saltwater

LEAD EXECUTIVE Robin Ciceri, Vice-President External Relations

SUPPORTED BY Michael White, Associate Vice-President Campus + Community Planning
Andrew Parr, Associate Vice-President Student Housing & Community Services

The subject matter of this submission has not previously been considered by the People, Community & International Committee.

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 recommendation of the May 13, 2021 meeting of the Naming Committee for Board approval.

When approving the original 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 həŋqəmiŋəŋ. The Musqueam & Student Housing & Community Services Storytelling Committee comprised of Musqueam community members and UBC staff proposed həŋqəmiŋəŋ House names, with integrated English translation which were approved by the Naming Committee in August 2020. The Storytelling Committee then reconvened and developed a proposal to rename the overall Residence complex with a həŋqəmiŋəŋ name. Supported by the Musqueam Chief and Council, the following new complex name is proposed:

tə ʃxʷhələləms tə kʷaʔkʷəʔaʔl | The houses of the ones belonging to the saltwater

The sea creatures of the House names all reside in saltwater, and collectively convey themes of sustainability, biodiversity, cooperation and individuality. The residence name is deliberately not simplified to prioritize the complexity of the Musqueam language over ease of pronunciation. The expectation of the Musqueam Language

and Culture Department is to have the name represented in its full form, not shortened or abbreviated in any way. By committing to this expectation, UBC and Student Housing & Community Services is expressing its commitment to Indigenous peoples, and Musqueam people specifically, in following the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) recommendations and adopting the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). Student Housing & Community Services is committed to upholding the integrity of the meaning of the phrase by using it fully and properly when referring to this residence and its five buildings.

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

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS (optional reading for Governors)

1. Individual House Names

Attachement 1. Individual House Names:

Building 1: q̄əl̄ʰal̄əm̄ac̄ən̄ lel̄əm̄ | Orca House

The orca is a sea mammal in the same oceanic whale family as dolphins and porpoises, and can be found along the coastline of British Columbia. Orcas are highly intelligent and social creatures who remind us to appreciate our path and encourage strong family ties. Historically, orcas have been known to help people who have fallen overboard and required assistance to reach the shoreline.

Building 2: q̄ʷta:yθ̄ən̄ lel̄əm̄ | 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 their culture and trade.

Building 3: s̄tew̄ət̄' lel̄əm̄ | 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 archaeological 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.

Building 4: t̄əm̄əs̄ lel̄əm̄ | Sea Otter House

Sea otters, another keystone species, 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. Without sea otters, sea urchins can overpopulate the sea floor and devour the kelp forests that provide cover and food for many other marine animals.

Building 5: sq̄im̄ək̄ʷ̄ lel̄əm̄ | Octopus House

Musqueam territory is marked by sites where the powerful being called ɣe:ís (the transformer) visited on his travels. He left his teachings where he walked, and these teachings grew into Musqueam 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 s̄ɣil̄íəx (standing) and sq̄im̄ək̄ʷ̄əl̄m̄əx. It's said that when ɣe:ís killed a giant octopus (devilfish) at Musqueam he flung the smallest tentacle and it landed at s̄ɣil̄íəx. For this reason, there are many small octopuses here today.

MAP: tə šxʷhələləms tə kʷaʔkʷəʔaʔl | The houses of the ones belonging to the saltwater

