

**UBC  
CLIMATE  
HUB**

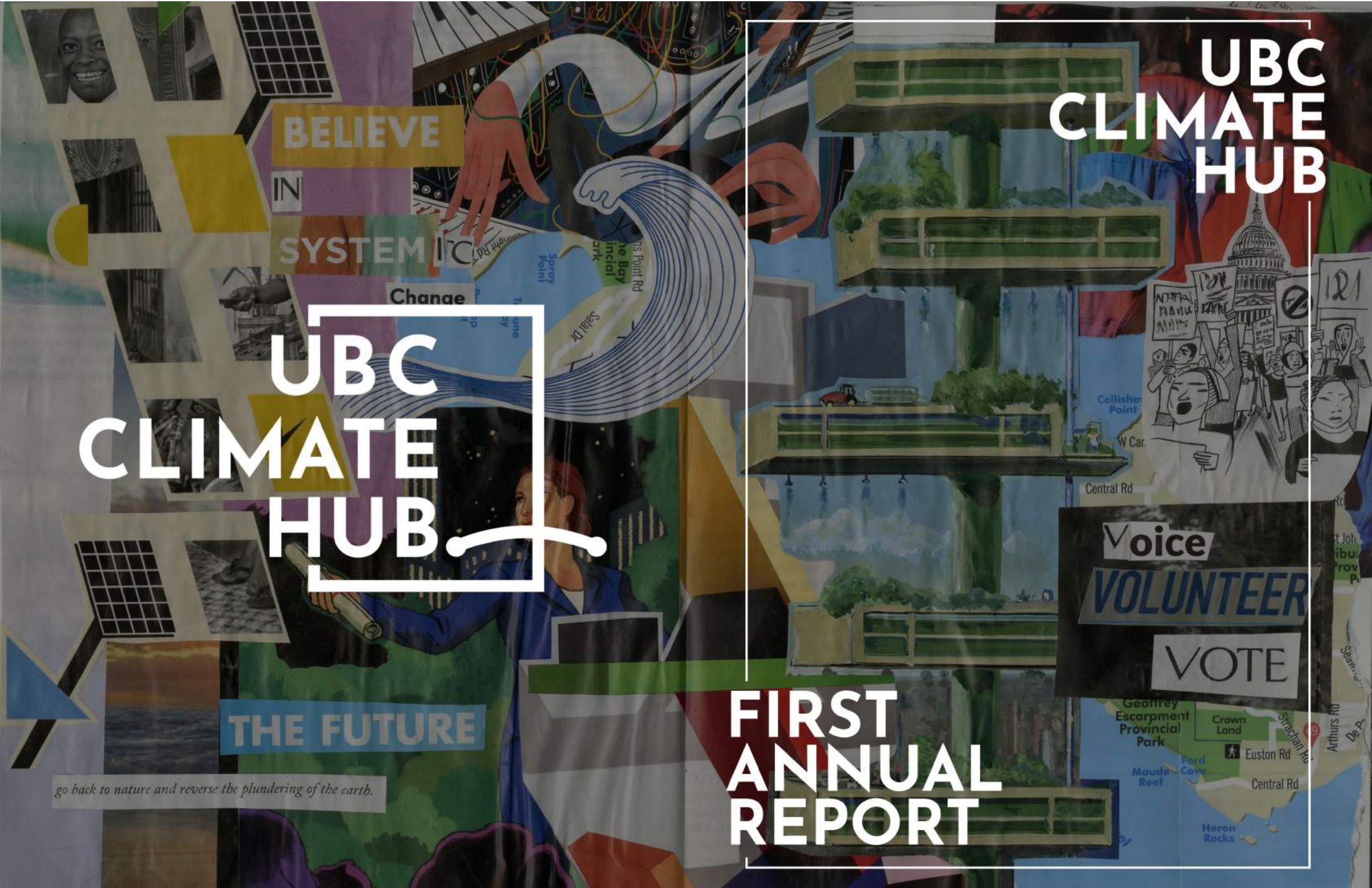
**UBC  
CLIMATE  
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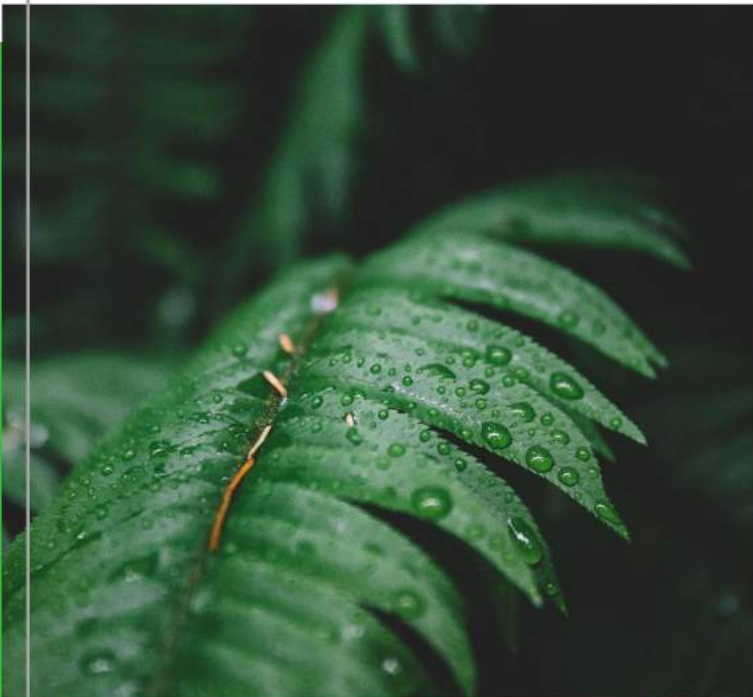
**THE FUTURE**

*go back to nature and reverse the plundering of the earth.*

**FIRST  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

**Voice  
VOLUNTEER  
VOTE**





# GRATITUDE FOR THE LAND

Climate change has been called the biggest threat to human rights in the twenty first century (UNEP, 2015). The communities who have least contributed to climate change are the ones will bear the heaviest burden. We are constantly humbled and inspired by the resilience that Indigenous peoples have shown in the face of climate change. They are at the forefront of the climate justice movement and we have so much to learn from them as we strive towards a just and livable future for all. We would like to recognize that the UBC Climate Hub organizes on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x̣məθḳ'əỵəm (Musqueam) people. For the UBC Climate Hub, a land acknowledgement alone does not capture our gratitude. We are continuously working to recognize how colonial dynamics and culture contribute to the ongoing dispossession and marginalization of Indigenous peoples all around the world.

As uninvited guests on Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh land we are working towards unpacking the privilege that we carry, and understanding the responsibility we have to help dismantle the system that continues to harm Indigenous peoples. We have the responsibility to unlearn harmful ideologies and understand the connection between the settler-colonial system here and the acceleration of global climate change. The UBC Climate Hub acknowledges that any conversation is incomplete without centring the voices of marginalized communities, especially Indigenous communities. As a young organization, the UBC Climate Hub is working on thoughtfully and consistently unlearning colonial ideologies and practices while embedding more justice centred principles into our internal and external community dynamics and organizing.

We are always eager to engage in critical conversations and meaningfully weave in feedback.

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# LETTER FROM THE STUDENT DIRECTOR

GRACE NOSEK

STUDENT DIRECTOR AND FOUNDER



Grace Nosek is currently pursuing her PhD in law at the University of British Columbia (UBC), studying how to use law to protect climate change science from manufactured doubt. She is fascinated by the intersection of law and story and focuses her research on how law can tell better stories in the pursuit of environmental and social justice.

To supplement her legal and policy research and advocacy, Grace has written and published three novels in an environmentally themed young adult series, the Ava of the Gaia trilogy.

In May 2018 a small group of students met with President Ono to ask for seed funding for a new university-wide initiative—a University of British Columbia Climate Hub. The meeting was the culmination of ten months of non-stop work, including meeting with hundreds of university stakeholders, engaging students in a campaign to centre climate justice in the university's strategic plan, and organizing a student-led Town Hall. What has the Climate Hub accomplished since then?

In the last year, the Hub started a climate mentorship program for more than 150 graduate and undergraduate students, planned and hosted the first ever Climate Solutions Showcase, connected hundreds of university and community members around climate projects, designed a UBC Climate Asset Map to facilitate climate connections and action, supported the creation of a suite of art and communications projects centring climate justice, and piloted climate ambassador workshops in schools across Vancouver to empower young people on climate change, among other things.

The thread running throughout all of our projects is a deep commitment to climate justice. Climate change disproportionately burdens those already marginalized by society. Those who have contributed the least to the problem are bearing the worst consequences of a warming world—including catastrophic storms, draughts, wildfires, and social unrest.

Every day we show up with urgency, inspired by those leaders, often Indigenous peoples and young people, putting their bodies, hearts, and minds on the line to safeguard a just and livable future for us all. We also recognize and reflect on the fact that the Hub is located on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam) First Nation. We know that decolonization is critical to climate justice and that Indigenous peoples around the world are leading the climate fight.

The other key themes that animate the Climate Hub's work are hope, agency, storytelling, joyful community, and systems-level change. We are in the midst of a mental health crisis—our peers feel helpless to act on climate, consumed by the suffering and devastation already unfolding, and terrified for our collective future. People also tell us they're lonely, anxious, and searching for meaning in life. In response, we are building a hopeful community grounded in the belief that every person brings vital energy to this movement and that we can more effectively advance climate justice as a collective.

We are profoundly grateful to the students, staff, professors, community members, and UBC executives who believed in and supported our vision. We can't wait to show you what we're going to do next. Join us!

HOPE  
AGENCY  
STORYTELLING  
JOYFUL  
COMMUNITY  
SYSTEMS LEVEL  
CHANGE



2018  
JAN  
2019  
FEB  
2020  
MAR  
APR  
MAY  
JUN  
JUL  
AUG  
SEP  
OCT  
NOV  
DEC

# ABOUT US

## OVERVIEW

We are a student-driven initiative at UBC, funded by the UBC administration and supported by a wide array of offices and initiatives at UBC.

The vision for the UBC Climate Hub originated with a dedicated group of student volunteers who wanted to see their ideas for climate action become a reality. During the summer of 2018, the Climate Hub was endorsed by UBC President Santa Ono, and received support from the university's senior administration. The work of the Climate Hub is now coordinated by a dedicated staff member and five part-time student staff, who are hosted by the UBC Sustainability Initiative and report to the UBC Program Manager for the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. These staff support the work of an incredible team of student volunteers and advisors.

VISION  
VISION  
VISION  
VISION

Speeding the transition towards a just and sustainable low-carbon future.

OBJECTIVES  
OBJECTIVES  
OBJECTIVES  
OBJECTIVES

Connecting and empowering university and community stakeholders to take bold climate action for a just future.

MISSION  
MISSION  
MISSION  
MISSION

## UBC CLIMATE HUB'S OBJECTIVES

- 1 To have climate research and initiatives at UBC reach wider audiences, on and off campus.
- 2 To increase awareness of climate issues and solutions among members of the university and the wider community.
- 3 To empower more students to engage in the fight against climate change through 3 - 5 programmes or initiatives a year
- 4 To support more UBC students to become climate leaders.
- 5 To create closer partnerships with external organizations and more opportunities for community engagement by UBC students.
- 6 Academic mission of UBC: climate justice + climate crisis

# STRATEGIES

## UBC CLIMATE HUB'S STRATEGIES

Facilitate collaboration on climate research, innovation and engagement within UBC

Mobilize Climate knowledge on and off campus

Reduce barriers to climate innovation

Create climate-related opportunities for student research and experiential learning

Expand partnerships between on and off campus communities and mobilize campus climate resources to support community needs

Support student leadership, engagement, and innovation on climate

## UBC STRATEGIC PLAN 2018 - 2028

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 1 | 6  | <b>Collaborative Clusters</b><br><i>Enable interdisciplinary clusters of research excellence in pursuit of societal impact</i>                                |
| 2 | 9  | <b>Knowledge Exchange</b><br><i>Improve the ecosystem that supports the translation of research into action</i>   |
|   | 16 | <b>Public Relevance</b><br><i>Improve the ecosystem that supports the translation of research into action</i>   |
| 3 | 7  | <b>Research Support</b><br><i>Strengthen shared infrastructure and resources to support research excellence</i>   |
| 4 | 8  | <b>Student Research</b> <i>Broaden access to, and enhance, student research experiences</i>   |
|   | 13 | <b>Practical Learning</b> <i>Expand experiential, work-integrated and extended learning opportunities for students, faculty, staff and alumni</i>             |
|   | 14 | <b>Interdisciplinary Education</b> <i>Facilitate the development of integrative, problem-focussed learning</i>  |
| 5 | 9  | <b>Knowledge Exchange</b> <i>Improve the ecosystem that supports the translation of research into action</i>  |
|   | 19 | <b>Global Networks</b> <i>Build and sustain strategic global networks, notably around the Pacific Rim, that enhance impact</i>                                |
|   | 20 | <b>Coordinated Engagement</b> <i>Co-create with communities the principles and effective practices of engagement, and establish supporting infrastructure</i> |
| 6 | 15 | <b>Student Experience</b> <i>Strengthen undergraduate and graduate student communities and experience</i>   |

# TIMELINE

MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV

2018

TEAM ASSEMBLED

Having secured operational funding to develop the Climate Hub over a 2-year pilot phase, the team hires 3 student staff and a full-time coordinator. Kate Higham is confirmed as inaugural Climate Hub Coordinator.

CLIMATE TOWN HALL

To kick-start conversations around UBC's role in advancing bold climate action in the context of the newly-released UBC Strategic Plan, students of the Sustainability Collective, led by Grace Nosek, organize a university-wide town hall on climate change. Bringing together students, staff, faculty, administrators and community members, the town hall advanced many bold ideas for climate action at UBC, and catalyzed support for the foundation of the UBC Climate Hub.

SHOWCASE MENTORSHIP AND CLIMATE ART EXHIBIT LAUNCHES

At the start of the academic year, the Climate Hub launches the mentorship program. In its first year, the program connects over 110 undergraduate student mentees with over 40 graduate student mentors.

Over 400 attendees and more than 20 community organizations attend a day-long event featuring innovative and interdisciplinary climate solutions and research. The Showcase and Climate Art Exhibit not only mobilize knowledge on climate solutions in creative ways but also create space for people to connect with others and foster collaborative action.

CLIMATE HUB RECEIVES FUNDING

Energized by the success of the Town Hall, the Sustainability Collective Climate Hub working group develop a proposal for a student-driven Climate Hub; Grace and others meet with stakeholders across campus to build support and shape the vision for the Hub. Momentum builds; on May 14, the team presents to UBC President Santa Ono, who provides seed funding of \$25,000. Thereafter, the team begins work on a suite of core Climate Hub projects: the Climate Solutions Showcase, a graduate-undergraduate student mentorship program and the UBC Climate Asset Map.

TERM WARP UP

The asset-mapping collaboration with the SEEDS program and students from Geography 310 culminated in a presentation and report. The report produced by the students investigating the possibility of expanding asset mapping activities to include Metro Vancouver.

# TIMELINE

MENTORSHIP PROGRAM SOCIAL



The Climate Hub welcomes students in the Mentorship Program to the new semester on January 16th and shares feedback collected from the mid-term survey sent out in December, asking for recommendations for how the program can pivot and better serve student needs in the upcoming term.

CARBON CAPTURE EVENT

Responding to community interest in an event surrounding carbon capture and carbon sinks, hosts an event: Carbon Capture: Fantasy or Reality?

CLIMATE FRIENDLY FOOD FORUM

Co-hosts an event with students from LFS450, the SEEDS program, Campus and Community Planning and the UBC Sustainability Collective at the AMS Nest on Climate Friendly Food.

CLIMATE NARRATIVES TALK + PARTY

Grace speaks about her research on reclaiming narratives from corporate interests and the power of hopeful, action-oriented communities. The event ends with a dance party.

CLIMATE ART INITIATIVE LAUNCHES



5 artists are paired with researchers to represent the key findings on climate solutions creatively.

YOUTH CLIMATE AMBASSADOR PILOT LAUNCHES

The Climate Hub supports a new workshops model focusing on climate justice, systems thinking, and the power of personal stories to inspire hope and agency for youth living through the climate crisis. During the pilot phase, the project team presents to over 600 high school and middle school students.

GREEN NEW DEAL TOWN HALL

The Climate Hub supports students from the Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability in hosting a town hall on the Green New Deal, as part of a national series of events.

UNIVERSITY CLIMATE CHANGE COALITION FORUM

START OF SUMMER

The Climate Hub restructures, embedding student staff in the offices of key partners on campus to facilitate closer partnerships and knowledge exchange between units. The team expands to a total of 5 student staff. Liam Orme steps in as the new Climate Hub coordinator.



UPCOMING MILESTONES

- Athlete's Video launch
- Launch of the Climate Creative Collective

FALL 2019 PROJECTS LAUNCH

- Climate Solutions Showcase
- Climate Art Exhibit
- Mentorship Project Round 2
- Youth Climate Ambassador Launch
- Climate Justice Research Collaborative

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

2019



# PAST PROJECTS





*"The students that do attend our pod meetings are engaged, truly curious and respectful. It's been great to get to know them and understand their different disciplines and backgrounds".*

- Mentorship Program Mentor



*"I loved getting into a room with people concerned about climate change and with knowledge and skills to share. It grounds climate change action in reality."*

- Mentorship Program Mentee

OVERVIEW

The Climate Hub Mentorship Program creates a space for multidisciplinary learning and cross-faculty dialogue for students who are interested in learning more about/doing more in relation to climate. In its first year, the program grouped undergraduate students and graduate students in 13 pods, each with a specific theme or issue related to climate change (e.g. climate change and art, climate policy, climate and biodiversity).

The pod structure empowers students to join a vibrant and connected climate community, enabling them to expand their personal and professional networks, and their understanding of climate issues and solutions. In this environment pods were invited to create projects organically.

In fall 2019, the Climate Hub will relaunch a refined Mentorship Program based on feedback from mentors and mentees.



HIGHLIGHTS

In its first year the program matched over 100 undergraduate student mentees with 40 graduate student mentors

The program included 13 pods on various climate related themes

The Hub hosted 2 social events to bring together the entire Mentorship Program community

# CLIMATE MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

# CLIMATE SOLUTIONS SHOWCASE

OUR PARTNERS

PACIFIC INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE SOLUTIONS | AMS SUSTAINABILITY

OVERVIEW

The October 25, 2018 Climate Solutions Showcase convened an interdisciplinary audience of students, faculty, staff and community members to explore climate solutions being developed at UBC and beyond. The event featured an array of research and other creative projects, displayed climate art in the 'Visualize Climate Change' exhibit at the Hatch Art Gallery, hosted a brainstorm regarding emissions reductions strategies for UBC, and enabled connections with stakeholders on and off campus.

In addition to youth, faculty, and community speakers, the Showcase also provided a platform specifically for graduate students, who shared their research in Pecha Kucha style sessions. The event was also brought into the undergraduate classroom. As an assignment, CONS210 students created infographics communicating climate-related challenges; these were displayed at the Showcase.

HIGHLIGHTS

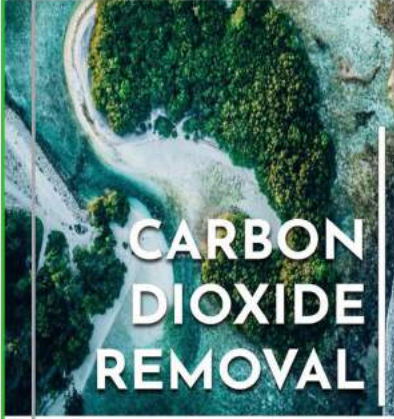
Hosted a Climate Art Exhibit along with a well attended gallery social

In total, over 400 individuals attended, with over 20 organizations working in the Lower Mainland represented



STRATEGY

As a campus connector, the UBC Climate Hub aims to support existing events and use our platform and network to enrich event planning in a collaborative way. Although we mostly play a supportive role, we have collaborated to host events aimed at seeding new conversations.



CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL  
 FANTASY OR REALITY

This event was organized after we received feedback from students from the Climate Solutions Showcase that they were interested in learning more about carbon capture and technologies that could help mitigate climate change. We realized that other student groups and clubs hadn't organized an event on this topic. As a result, the UBC Climate Hub organized a panel discussion on the topic of carbon capture, focusing on its pollution mitigation and 'myth-bust' some of the misconceptions around it. Our post-event survey shows that attendees learned from the event and feel more comfortable with this technology.

CLIMATE FRIENDLY  
 FOOD FORUM

Following a SEEDS research project on climate-friendly food, one of the ways the team wanted to mobilize knowledge and collect feedback from students at UBC was by hosting an event. This event shared the results on climate-friendly food and allowed attendees to interact and provide feedback on the research the LFS 450 students came up with. The event also catered food that fit under the climate-friendly food framework that the LFS 450 students created to demonstrate how delicious and accessible sustainable food can be. Attendees provided feedback and had the opportunity to learn from the consumer-focused tips and suggestions created.

Alongside other stakeholders, UBC Climate Hub is currently engaging with FIAT (UBC's recently-founded Food Insecurity Action Team), to increase awareness and lead action on reducing food insecurity within the UBC community, with a focus on, the income-based definition of food insecurity.

HUB  
 EVENTS



SEEDS  
 RESEARCH  
 PROJECTS

OUR PARTNERS

SEEDS SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM CAMPUS AND  
 COMMUNITY PLANNING | DEPARTMENT OF  
 GEOGRAPHY

CLIMATE ASSET MAP  
 METRO VANCOUVER

In fall 2018, the Climate Hub partnered with the SEEDs program and students from Geography 310 to scope out expanding the scale of the Hub's asset map to include Metro Vancouver. Two groups of four students reviewed the Climate Hub's asset mapping methodology, critiqued its relevance in the wider urban context and began mapping out climate assets in the public and private sectors in Metro Vancouver. In addition to collecting data, they produced two reports summarizing their efforts and findings. These reports were then used by Climate Hub staff to inform ongoing asset mapping efforts. They were also delivered to University Sustainability Initiative researchers investigating municipal climate plans in the context of UBC's commitments through the University Climate Change Coalition (UC3).

OUR PARTNERS

SEEDS SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM CAMPUS AND  
 COMMUNITY PLANNING | SUSTAINABILITY COLLECTIVE  
 | LAND AND FOOD SYSTEMS 450

CLIMATE FRIENDLY  
 FOOD FRAMEWORK

In spring 2019 partners collaboratively teamed up with SEEDS to create a project around a climate friendly food framework at UBC. The research project was taken up by 4-5 students from the Land and Food Systems 450 class. Students performed a literature review of existing resources and research to inform what a climate friendly food framework would look like at UBC. Students came up with 'tips' consumers could easily follow to incorporate more climate friendly food into their diets and they also created short term and long term suggestions on an institutional level for what UBC can do to change its food system to increase the proportion of climate friendly food.

The Climate Hub is continuing its involvement in this topic via FIAT with an emphasis on policy input. We are working towards highlighting factors such as climate change adaptation/mitigation, engagement with Musqueam, and the analysis of our food systems through an equity-focused lens.

# ONGOING PROJECTS



Photograph credits: Liam Orme

# CLIMATE ASSET MAP

## OVERVIEW

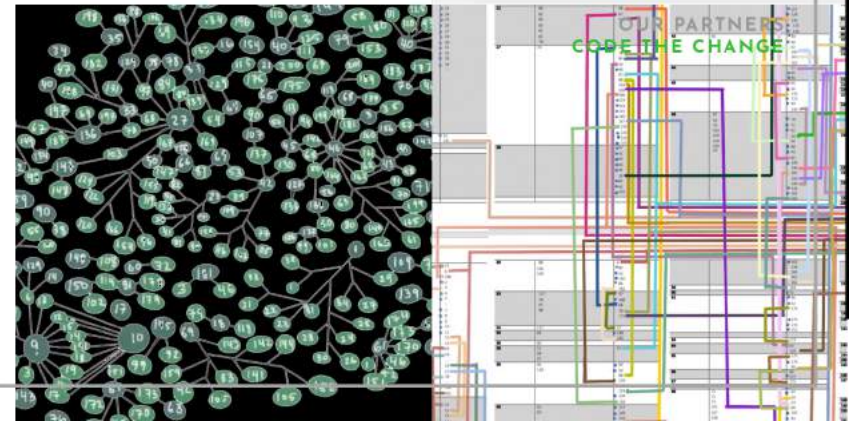
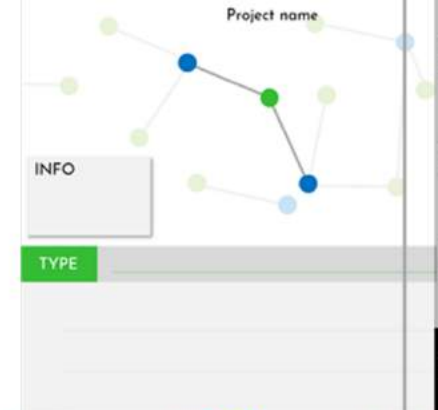
The Climate Hub Asset Map is an ongoing project to showcase connections and climate action within the UBC community. Launched as a core project of the Climate Hub in summer 2018, asset mapping is carried forward by a team of volunteers gathering to map out UBC's climate community. The Asset Map has taken shape into a visual database of the intricate ties between various groups, projects, and individuals across the UBC campus.

Our hope is that the Asset Map can serve as a reminder of the various levels of climate action taking place within our communities, as well as a resource for those seeking to connect with existing groups in order to implement new strategies and solutions.

## HIGHLIGHTS

Hosted 4 fun social meet ups focused on data collection to examine and log various assets across the UBC community

Over 150 groups, 200 individuals, and 100 projects have been logged by our volunteers to date



"Most climate change talks only focus on the negatives and all that's going wrong, rather than what we can do to stop it. This talk was a reprieve from all that gloom and overall, made me listen more."

- High School Student (TREK Program)



#### OVERVIEW

Through peer-to-peer community workshops, the Youth Climate Ambassadors Project offers an alternative perspective to doom-and-gloom narratives of climate change. The workshops highlight how leaning into the climate movement can inspire hope, community, and agency, while inviting participants to consider climate change as an issue of social justice through a lens of systems thinking. Through this program, UBC student facilitators offer one- to two-hour workshops delivered within academic, athletic, creative, social, and cultural communities. The goal: to empower youth with the knowledge, resources, and confidence to become "Climate Ambassadors" in their own communities. Facilitators tell their own climate story, highlighting how and why they became involved in the climate movement, and what it's meant to them. We believe this peer-to-peer connection is crucial for inviting more youth into the climate movement.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Engaged over 600 students during the program's pilot phase; 18 high schools students volunteered for the Climate Hub and other climate-focused organisations following initial workshops.

3 students presented to Vancouver City Council, speaking in favour of a motion to send letters to major emitters, inviting accountability for climate change impacts.

# CLIMATE AMBASSADOR WORKSHOPS



# CLIMATE COMEBACK FILM PROJECT

#### OUR PARTNERS

UBC ATHLETICS | UBC WELLBEING | SEEDS | CENTRE FOR SPORT AND SUSTAINABILITY | SUSTAINABILITY AND ENGINEERING | CAMPUS + COMMUNITY PLANNING

#### OVERVIEW

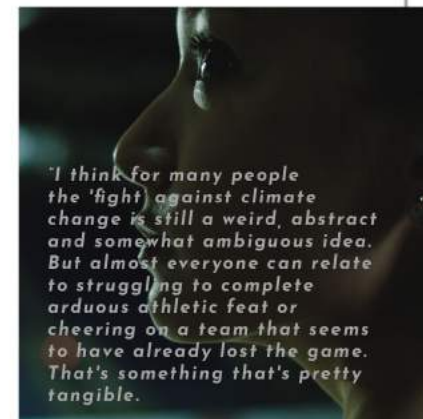
The Climate Hub has been focusing on the power of story to successfully build climate community and engage and empower broad, diverse, and new audiences to take action on climate change. We believe that UBC's varsity athletes can be valuable leaders on climate communications and engagement. As the United Nations' Sports for Climate Action recognized, sports can and should be a "unifying tool to federate and create solidarity among global citizens for climate action" (UNFCCC 'Sports for Climate Action').

The Hub is creating a film featuring UBC's student athletes telling a hopeful narrative of climate action. The video analogizes sports comebacks, those moments where the impossible became possible through sheer human will, to the potential for a "climate comeback." The film will include a call to action for community members from across UBC and the nation. We'll build on the video by convening workshops with UBC athletes to provide them with tools and information to become leaders in the climate conversation.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Presented to all UBC Varsity team captains

Interviewed 12 high profile athletes for the film



"I think for many people the 'fight' against climate change is still a weird, abstract and somewhat ambiguous idea. But almost everyone can relate to struggling to complete arduous athletic feat or cheering on a team that seems to have already lost the game. That's something that's pretty tangible."

- Aspen Ono,  
Elite Figure Skater,  
Key Production  
Assistant

#### CREDITS

GRACE NOSEK EXECUTIVE PRODUCER  
AVERY HOLIDAY PRODUCER  
JOSEPHINE ANDERSON, KATHLEEN JAYME DIRECTORS | LIV YOON PRODUCTION COORDINATOR | BRUNO MARTIN DEL CAMPO, YASMINE ROSS, ISABELLA JARAMILLO FILM CREW



CLIMATE ART INITIATIVE



CLIMATE ART EXHIBIT & SOCIAL

UBC CLIMATE HUB



HIGHLIGHTS

- Paired 5 student artist groups with researchers to translate climate solutions knowledge into creative representation.
- 2 Faculty members have collaboratively submit a Sustainability Fellowship application to create an interdisciplinary course that engages with climate justice through conflict theatre techniques

OVERVIEW

The Climate Art Initiative hosts multiple creative projects organized by the Hub. While images depicting the spread of ecological damage are important representations of reality, they are an incomplete visual landscape. Positive representations of climate solutions are also essential to making sure people feel empowered to take action. Research suggests that affect-based communication has a crucial role to play in engaging interest in the larger questions of the relations between society and nature (Bulkeley, 2000; O'Neill & Nicholson-Cole, 2009; Moser, 2014). The CAI aims to visually and creatively increase the representation of hopeful, solutions-based narratives with an emphasis on climate justice.

The first project launched was "Creative for Climate" that paired student artists with climate solutions research, resulting in creative translation and communication of hopeful futures.

CLIMATE ART INITIATIVE

CLIMATE JUSTICE RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

OUR PARTNERS

VP RESEARCH AND INNOVATION | FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCE | FACULTY OF ARTS | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION | FACULTY OF FORESTRY | FACULTY OF LAND AND FOOD SYSTEMS | SAUDER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS |

OVERVIEW

Launching in fall 2019, the Climate Justice Research Collaborative (CJRC) is an interdisciplinary undergraduate research program advancing research on climate justice topics. Funded by the UBC Vice President of Research and Innovation office, the CJRC leverages a novel program model, connecting small groups of students from different academic backgrounds with faculty supervisors from their home faculties, adding in a layer of graduate students providing additional guidance and support. Students will work to identify research questions within their home communities, or with the Climate Hub's growing list of community partners.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Received support from 6 Faculty Deans to pilot this undergraduate research program
- Over 12 faculty members will be supervising research projects in the upcoming spring term



# STRUCTURE



# PARTNERSHIPS

The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) is a research and knowledge network that gathers researchers from British Columbia (BC) and around the world to study, monitor and assess the impacts of climate change and develop mitigation and adaptation policies to be used by decision makers in BC and beyond.

Since launch, the Climate Hub has had a close relationship with PICS at UBC, with the PICS UBC Program Manager providing early support and serving as Chair of the Climate Hub Advisory Board. In summer 2019, PICS is sponsoring research examining how other schools in their network might learn from the Climate Hub's success.



UBC Wellbeing is a collaborative effort to make UBC a better place to live, work and learn through a systems-wide approach to wellbeing across our campuses. This work is guided by the Wellbeing Strategic Framework, which focuses on six main areas: Collaborative Leadership, Mental Health & Resilience, Food & Nutrition, Social Connection, Built & Natural Environments and Physical Activity. Bringing this lens to the work of the Climate Hub, UBC Wellbeing is hosting student staff working to help stakeholders see the strong connections between climate change and wellbeing as an avenue for embracing bold action.



The Social Ecological Economic Development Studies (SEEDS) Program creates partnerships between students, faculty, staff and community partners to learn together through research projects that are tested on campus, and applied in real-world settings. The Climate Hub frequently partners with SEEDS to identify and support student driven research projects using campus as a living lab. See the SEEDS projects section under projects for details on previous projects.

**UBC Campus + Community Planning**  
SEEDS Sustainability Program



In partnership with many other stakeholders, the UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI) helps integrate and enhance sustainability themes into teaching, learning, and student engagement activities; supports interdisciplinary urban research; advances regional and international engagement with sustainability partners; manage UBC's Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability, and hosts the UBC office of the Pacific Institute of Climate Solutions. Beyond being early champions of the Climate Hub, in 2019 USI committed to hosting student staff leading outreach to and engagement with community members interested in incorporating themes of climate change and climate justice into teaching and learning at UBC.

UBC's Campus + Community Planning department hosts a team of urban planners, designers, public consultation professionals, building inspectors, sustainability experts and support staff who manage programs that cover campus design and sustainability initiatives at UBC. Beyond being early champions of the Climate Hub, in 2019 the Sustainability and Engineering unit committed to hosting student staff working with UBC's Climate Action Planner to incorporate a climate lens into a policy-making efforts across campus. This staff also leads the curation of the Climate Hub's Asset Map.

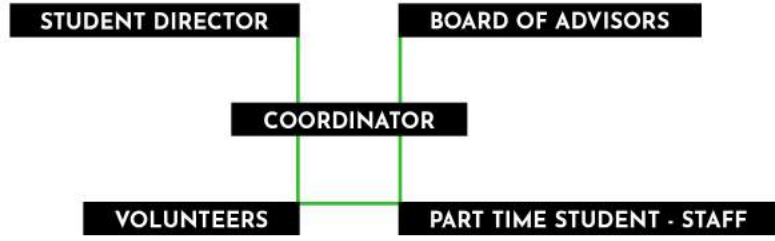


The Centre for Community Engaged Learning (CCEL) connects communities with UBC students and faculty to enhance teaching and learning processes through working on issues that impact society today. CCEL places students in immersive experiences in community settings and provides support to instructors, departments, and faculties. In 2019, CCEL committed to supporting the Climate Hub by hosting student staff supporting student-led collaborative climate action on and off campus and identifying resources from the Climate Hub, CCEL, and other departments to help students implement these ideas.

Code the Change UBC engages students to develop open-source software solutions for non-profit organizations. A team of students engaged through Code the Change UBC have been leading the technical development of the Climate Hub's digital platforms, including the website and interactive asset mapping platform.



# THE CLIMATE HUB MODEL



ADVISORY BOARD

The Climate Hub Advisory Board is drawn from a cross section of staff and students with relevant interests in climate action at UBC; a minimum of 50% of seats are held by students. The PICS UBC Program Manager serves as the chair of the Board. The Board provides advice, expertise, and support to inform the Hub's strategic direction, networking at UBC and beyond, and resource development.

STUDENT DIRECTOR

Climate Hub Student Directors collaborate with the Coordinator and part-time student staff to develop plans and strategies for the Climate Hub, ensuring that the Hub's work remains relevant and connected to the interests and needs of the student body. Beyond this internal strategic role, Student Directors represent the Hub at events and help build partnerships on and off campus.

STAFFING STRUCTURE

The Climate Hub launched with one full time coordinator and 3 part-time student staff delivering our digital platforms, projects, and events. The team has grown to 5 student staff through on-campus partnerships with the Centre for Community-Engaged Learning, UBC Wellbeing, Campus and Community Planning, the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, and the UBC Sustainability Initiative. The goal of this structure is both to support the work of the Climate Hub and to facilitate collaboration between units on climate issues.

SUPPORT

The Climate Hub is supported by a host of volunteers, staff, faculty members, community organizations, and other community members who help bring the Hub's work to fruition. We're grateful for all the in-kind support provided since we launched; without this support our work would not be possible.

## Text

### SUCCESS OF THE CLIMATE HUB'S HYBRID STUDENT-STAFF MODEL

The Climate Hub was founded by students, with ongoing programming developed by students and supported by staff.

Throughout their university experience, students engage across programs, disciplines, and communities surrounding the institution. This gives them a unique viewpoint to identify opportunities for action. They also have unique ability to convene stakeholders and engage university administration directly.

Augmenting and supporting student energy and ideas with staff capacity ensures that projects are advanced nimbly. Acknowledging students face a multitude of competing responsibilities, staff provide administrative and strategic support, leading project implementation and community-building efforts. Climate Hub staff also act as points of contact for community stakeholders at UBC and beyond.

Backing our mission to connect and empower university and community stakeholders to take bold climate action is the belief that everyone has a role to play. Throughout our programming and community-building efforts, we invite individuals to contribute their unique experience and passion. We strive to ensure that our efforts connect layers of opportunities to engage in climate action, inviting community members up the ladder of engagement. We've seen early signs that these community-oriented efforts are working: people are bringing their friends.

## HOW COULD YOU DRAW FROM OUR MODEL TO SUPPORT CLIMATE COMMUNITIES



### FUND COMMUNITY-BUILDING FELLOWSHIPS

Fund and support students to act as community connectors and to identify opportunities for collaborative action at the university.



### CONVENE STUDENT-LED TOWN HALLS

To build momentum, bring everyone together to collectively envision what climate action looks like in your context.



### ORGANIZE MENTORSHIP PROGRAMS

This program is an exciting way to build joyful community while supporting a new generation of climate leaders.



# COMMUNITY



The Climate Hub's success would not be possible without our extremely committed and capable network of community members who donate their time to a variety of roles, from organizing behind-the-scenes to speaking on stage and in classrooms. While they serve as volunteers they are so much more. They do not just assist the Climate Hub, they are the Climate Hub, an integral part of our commitment to be by and for our stakeholders.

Volunteering with Climate Hub is a dynamic and flexible commitment, with some members coming into the office multiple times per week and attending staff meetings, and others contributing on a more informal basis. Ongoing roles include the Data Jam and Climate Connector volunteers who are responsible for maintaining and leveraging the Asset Map as well as the event ambassadors who do outreach at community events. More commitment-heavy roles include the Climate Ambassador workshop development team as well as communications and newsletter content creation.

The Climate Hub invites individuals to step into roles that truly take advantage of their skills and knowledge or those that allow for them to develop their capacity. The potential for helping out includes far more than clean-up crew or event promotion. For example, volunteers were involved in the organization and delivery of the UBC Green New Deal Town Hall and the Summer Volunteer Information Night, with many taking on large responsibilities such as emceeing the event, preparing logistics and booking spaces, and writing speech content.

We have immense gratitude for those who have volunteered with us. From high school volunteers, to undergraduates, alumni, and graduate students, we will continue to welcome anyone who wants to contribute to the movement in some way.

*"The climate hub has not only changed my life but helped me find my courage and power as a teenager. The climate hub has given me hope and because of that I have done incredible things that I couldn't have ever done without the help of the climate hub. I have given my peers hope and that is such a rewarding thing and probably one of my biggest achievements. My peers adored the workshop and loved how much they can do and have been inspired just like I was. Absolutely outstanding work the UBC climate hub has done. So much energy and hope."*

**- Nina, High School Student in the TREK program**



*"I continue to volunteer with the Hub because I'm surrounded by a community of people who are both kind to me and the environment. As a volunteer, I have always felt valued for the work that I do, even if my impact is small. What is unique about this organization is that team members take on projects and tasks based on their interests! Because of this, I have been able to expand my skills and experiment with areas in which I have had little formal training. Despite that I continue to be supported and celebrated by the team for this work!"*

**- Claire, Undergraduate Student and Alumni in Arts**

*"I felt empowered working with the Climate Hub as a volunteer by meeting and working with fantastic people who share my passions for climate protection. The Climate Hub gave me the opportunity to put together and moderate a panel discussion on carbon removal, and to mentor younger students on climate related issues. I intend to continue with this group as long as I am at UBC."*

**- Narayan, Graduate Student in IRES**



# CALLS TO ACTION

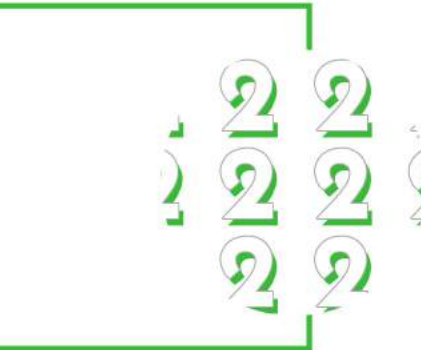
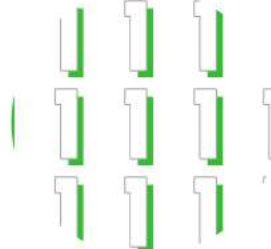
## HOW CAN YOU GET STARTED TODAY?

Individual actions can make progress towards mitigating climate change, but fully addressing the complex, interwoven impacts will require systemic collective action.

In recent years, there has been a huge surge in youth climate movements demanding that climate be a top priority for decision makers at all levels. There are plenty of opportunities to engage both at local, national, and global scales. Support your local climate initiatives!

Volunteer with a climate organization, like the UBC Climate Hub - our volunteers are a key part of our success. Bring all of your skills to the movement. We don't just need scientists and policymakers, we need everyone - the poets, musicians, storytellers, artists, and so many more!

You matter, and you are already ready to be a part of this movement! The climate movement needs your skills, passion, and experience!



Universities are powerful agents of change and as students we can leverage university resources to mobilize knowledge on climate change solutions. If you want to explore climate change in or out of the classroom, make yourself heard! We are here to support you.

In the academic sphere, students can ask professors and lecturers to include more content on climate change and climate justice in their curriculum, no matter what faculty or area of study they are in! Some options you can approach them with are to include guest lecturers (we can help you find some), to have the professor include a section of class content on climate change such as a case study, or to ask if your essay or capstone project can be on climate. We are always open to discussing ideas with you.

Students/youth can also hold universities and other institutions accountable to the commitments they have made regarding climate action. Institutional and systems-wide change is necessary in order to address the root causes of climate change. Attend open University Board meetings, approach student government to voice your concern (or even run for student government), ask your Faculty's student society to include climate justice as a focus in its academic advocacy and programming. At the UBC Vancouver campus, the AMS elections are a great platform to leverage your voice.

It also helps to voice your concern about climate change to your friends and family. It only takes a moment but is profoundly important to build the social will to act on climate.

Civic engagement is critical to preventing climate catastrophe. Climate change needs to be addressed at an institutional level, and engaging with elections is crucial in influencing urgent systemic change. We need to ask our governments at every level to take bold and just climate action.

Contact your representatives to tell them you care about climate action. Make an informed decision and vote, while also getting other friends and family members to vote with climate justice in mind.

# CONNECT WITH US

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