

UBC CLIMATE HUB

Change

Collishaw Point

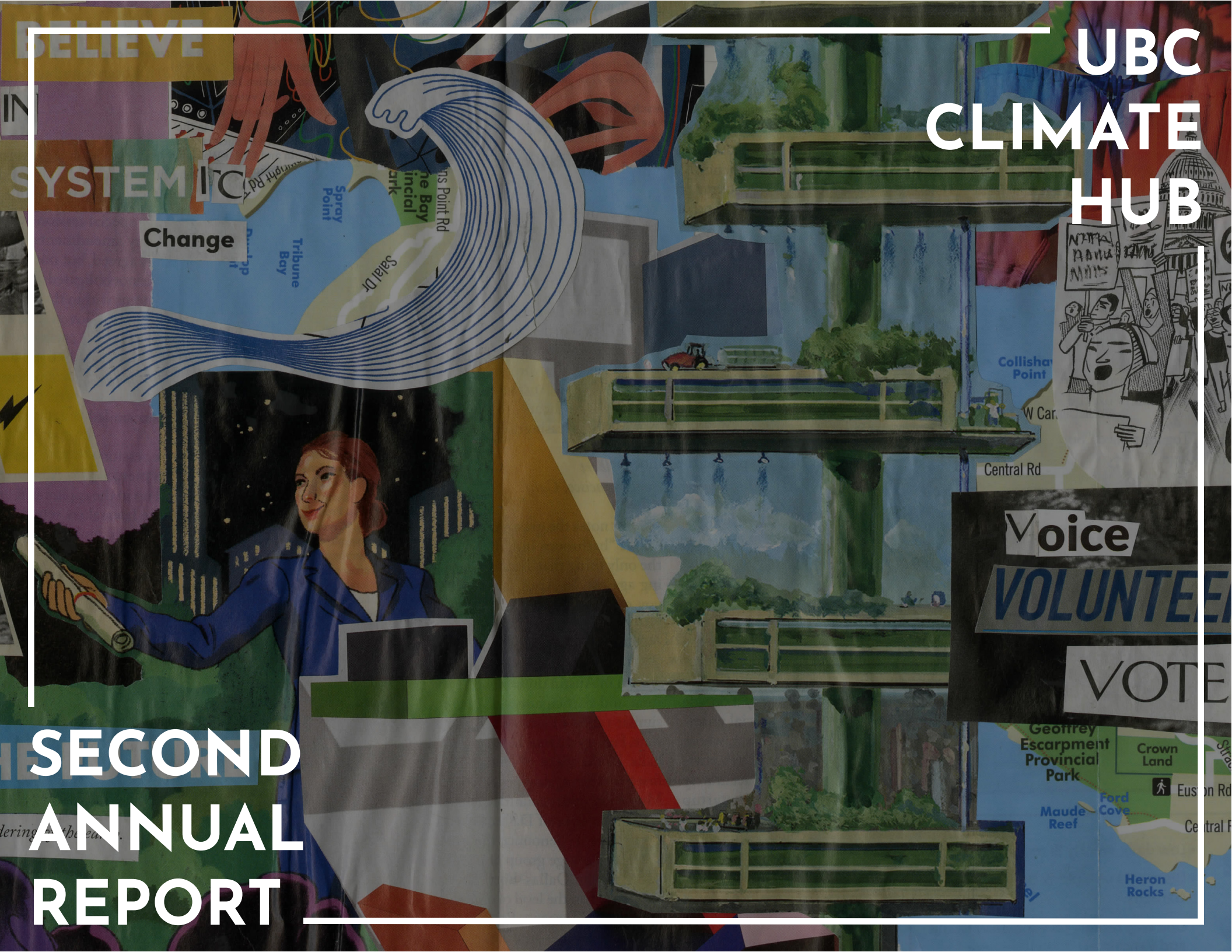
Central Rd

Voice

VOLUNTEER

VOTE

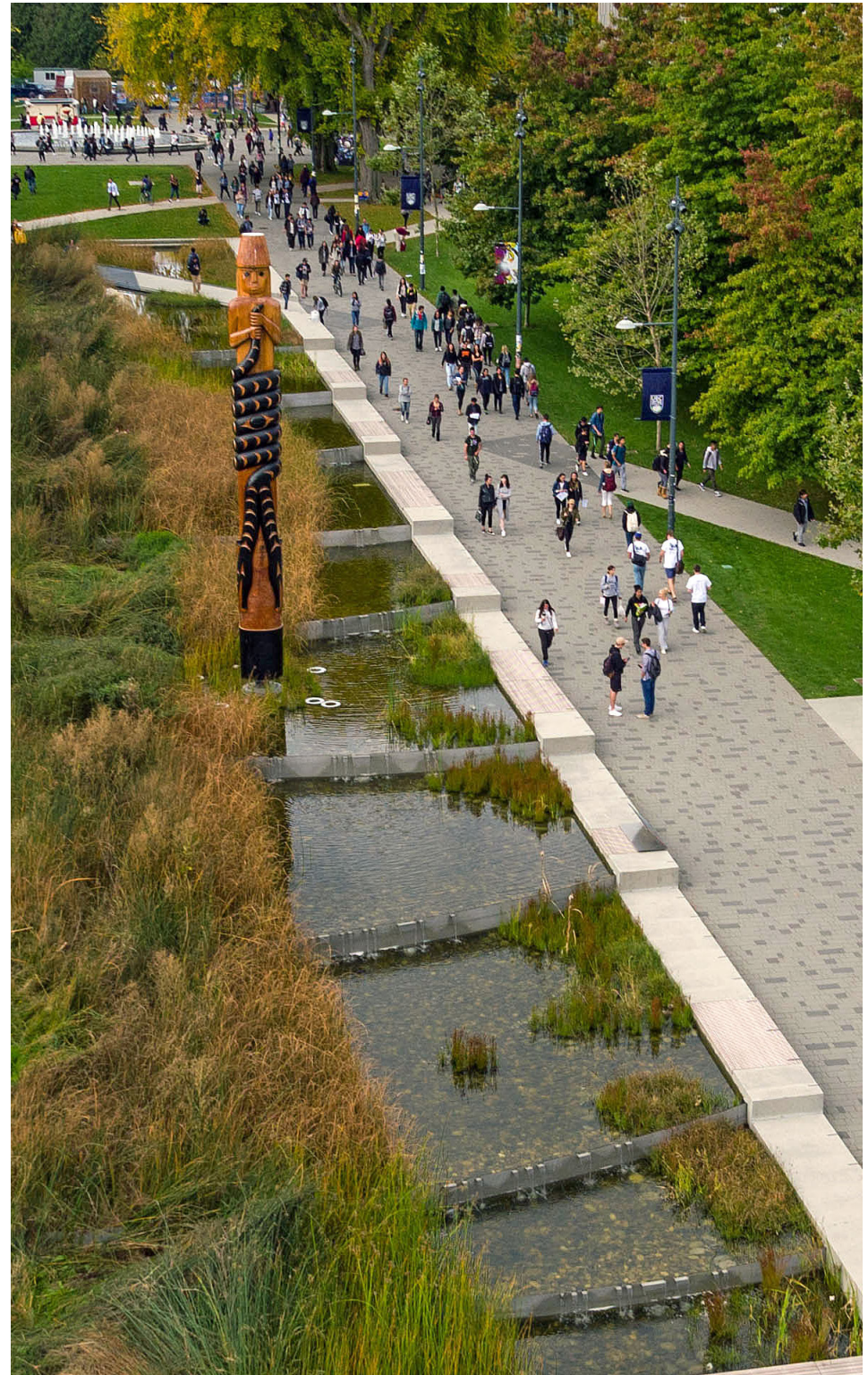
SECOND ANNUAL REPORT



GRATITUDE FOR THE LAND

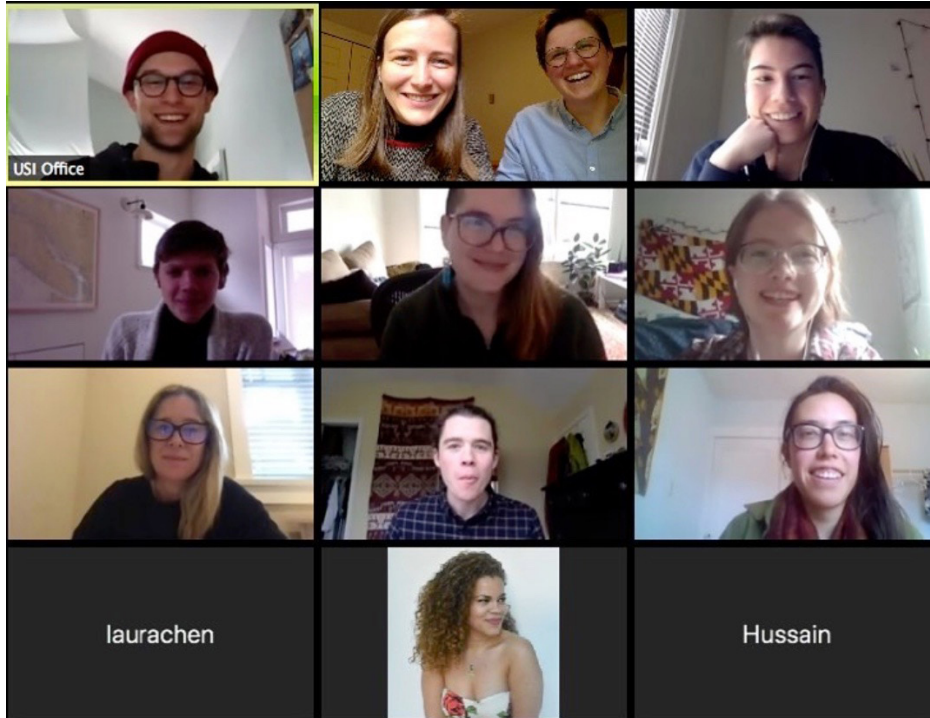
Climate change has been called the biggest threat to human rights in the twenty-first century (UNEP, 2015). The communities who have least contributed to climate change are the ones who will bear the heaviest burden. We are constantly humbled and inspired by the resilience that Indigenous peoples have 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 Climate Hub organizes on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territory of the x^wməθk^wəy̓əm (Musqueam) people. For the 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 territories, 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 Climate Hub acknowledges that any conversation is incomplete without centring the voices of marginalized communities, especially Indigenous communities. We are always eager to engage in critical conversations and meaningfully weave in feedback. As a young organization, the Climate Hub is working on thoughtfully and consistently unlearning colonial ideologies and practices while embedding more justice-centred principles into our work.



CLIMATE HUB: YEAR 2

MAY 2019 - JUNE 2020



Climate Hub team meeting, March 24, 2020.

We have an increasingly narrow window to address the climate crisis, the impacts of which are already being felt both globally and locally. The Climate Hub models a vision of community empowerment in which every person can bring their individual talents, passions, and backgrounds to collectively face this challenge. We continue to position ourselves as a key node in a wider network: connecting and empowering university and community stakeholders to take bold action towards a just future. The Climate Hub envisions a thriving community where individuals contribute their unique identities and skills towards collective climate action. In doing so, the Climate Hub seeks to demonstrate the value of the university as a vital institution responding to the systemic challenges we currently face.

Between May 2019 and June 2020, the Climate Hub collaborated with over 50 initiatives & organizations across UBC and in communities beyond. These included students, faculty, and staff units based at UBC, as well as youth groups, community non-profits, and members of local government in the wider community. The range of these collaborations includes everything from co-organizing events to developing major programs and seeking joint funding, from research projects, social media, and coordinated communications, to speak engagements, and more. In the process, we grew from a team of one full-time staff and 5 part-time student staff members in May 2019, to a core team of two full-time and ten part-time student staff members by winter 2020. In February 2020, an additional three staff members supporting the UBC Climate Emergency community engagement process were also embedded within the Climate Hub.

"Over the last year, the care and community support I've gained through the Hub has enabled me to create, lead, and organize in ways I never thought I'd be confident enough to do. Having the opportunity to develop hopeful climate content and mobilize other youth through vulnerable conversation has shaped and strengthened the hopes I have for a more just future."

Climate Hub community member

Following the onset of the COVID-19 public health emergency in March 2020, we redoubled efforts to support community wellbeing while creatively adapting our initiatives for online delivery. Following numerous community calls to action to support Indigenous Sovereignty, address systemic racism, and advance racial justice, we are called to reflect and renew our commitments to act. The importance of addressing compounding societal crises makes it clear: we must avoid compartmentalizing our efforts towards justice into racial justice and climate justice and instead tackle the parallel root causes.

EVENTS

Climate Creatives Workshop + Party

August 22, 2019 | Over 200 Attendees

The Climate Creatives Workshop + Party was hosted in partnership with Gen Why Media, the David Suzuki Foundation, and Patagonia Vancouver. The event shared the climate ambassador model with musicians, artists, designers, filmmakers, writers, actors and other creative influencers. The event included a workshop on making climate-related messages salient to broad audiences and a party celebrating the vibrant creative community that is stepping up to address the climate crisis.

Climate Solutions Showcase

September 26, 2019 | Over 400 Attendees | 15 guest speakers

The 2019 Climate Solutions Showcase was centred around a theme of 'civic engagement as a climate solution.' The day-long event featured a keynote presentation from Georgia Lloyd-Smith from West Coast Environmental Law, and a series of interactive sessions featuring presenters & partners including the UBC Collaborative for Advanced Landscape Planning, West Coast Environmental Law, CityHive, the Hua Foundation, the City of Vancouver, The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, the AMS, UBC Public Scholars, The BC Council for International Cooperation, the Climate Migrants and Refugees Project, David Suzuki Foundation, Our Time, representatives from Vancouver City Council, and The Wilderness Committee.

Urban Climate Justice Workshop

January 23, 2020 | Over 75 attendees

This event, co-hosted with the SEEDS program, helped kick-start CJRC research projects, and engaged an additional 50 participants from the wider community. Together, participants were supported in exploring and mapping the dimensions of climate justice present in campus planning decisions.

Environmental Racism in Canada

February 13, 2020 | Over 70 attendees

Hosted in collaboration with the UBC Black Students Union and the Centre for Community Engaged Learning in honour of Black History Month, this event featured keynote speaker Louise Delisle, a renowned community organizer and environmental justice advocate from Nova Scotia. The event also featured plant-based catering from Kula foods.



Photo Credit: Liv Yoon; Climate Creatives Workshop + Party.



Photo credit: Delu Maduekwe; 2019 Climate Solutions Showcase.

PROJECTS

Climate Hub Summer Kick-off & Volunteer Information Event.

JUNE 2019

Climate Hub supports IRES students, Our Time, UBC C350, UBC Social Justice Centre, UBC IdeasXChange in hosting Green New Deal Town Hall.

JUNE 2019

Climate Hub presents to representatives of 20 North American universities at the UC3 Summit.

JULY 2019



Get Out the Vote & Climate Voter Campaigns engage thousands of students through classroom announcements and social media, in partnership with the AMS and Future Majority.

FALL 2019

Climate Justice Research Collaborative (CJRC) launch and first information session.

NOV 2019

Student members of the Climate Hub support a fundraiser and film screening of Invasion, along with other UBC student climate groups.

NOV 2019

Climate Hub staff help facilitate and promote 'You, Me, & CleanBC' event hosted by PICS and the BC Government.

NOV 2019

CJRC student researchers host "Invested In Action" Webinar, presenting the outcomes of their divestment research.

APR 2020

Climate Justice Research Collaborative (CJRC)

20 students conducted 8 interdisciplinary research projects |

9 faculty supervisors & 4 graduate student mentors | 5 faculties engaged

The CJRC is an interdisciplinary undergraduate program that advances collaborative research on climate justice topics. We launched the program in fall 2019, funded for 2 years by the Program for Undergraduate Research Experience. This year, the program's first cohort connected 20 undergraduate students from different academic backgrounds to work collaboratively with graduate student mentors, faculty supervisors and local partners to create community-engaged research projects. Students in the program strengthened their research skills by conducting literature reviews, identifying community research goals and gaps, applying for ethics approval, conducting research and presenting their findings. In doing so, they worked with a variety of partners including: Mountain Protectors, The Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives, the Kainai Nation, UBC Faculty of Forestry, UBC Psychology, UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC Faculty of Arts, and other student groups. All eight undergraduate research groups had positive feedback for the CJRC.

Climate Asset Map

Over 280 initiatives catalogued | UX design phase complete

The Asset Map is an emerging visualized database of climate action projects and groups located at UBC's Vancouver campus. The purpose of the map is to showcase the breadth and scope of climate leadership within our community, and to highlight collaboration. Working with student members of Code the Change, this year the Climate Hub finalized the visual design and functionality of the Climate Asset Map, including user interface, capabilities for keyword searching, tag-based filtering, and information cards. This collaboration with Code the Change also serves to demonstrate how students involved in computer science, graphic design, and related fields can contribute their technical skills towards climate leadership. After testing the tool in summer 2020, we are now double-checking data points to verify assets before public launch.

Youth Climate Ambassadors Project (YCAP)

28 workshops delivered | Over 400 high school students reached | 13 trained facilitators |

YCAP provides peer-to-peer workshops that empower young people with the tools to mobilize their communities to take climate action, grounded in climate justice, social science and hopeful storytelling. Workshops support participants in translating climate-related concerns and emotions into narratives, and narratives into action. This empowers high school students by a) letting them express their worries about the future and the environment while b) translating these emotions into compelling personal narratives that can drive hopeful change. This program enriches the experiences of the student facilitators as well by reflecting on their own climate story, messaging skills, and connecting them as mentors to the next generation.

This year, after solidifying a partnership with Be The Change Earth Alliance, securing funding from Vancity Credit Union and the UBC Community University Engagement Support (CUES) Fund, the YCAP team delivered workshops in 15 high school classes and 13 community groups. The program reached more than 400 students over a period of 6 months, with the team suspending 35 additional workshop requests for March and April due to COVID-19. YCAP resources were also shared with sustainability teachers and educators at the Classrooms to Communities 2019 Conference, the Cross Border Social Justice Educators' Conference, and over 12 other partners across Canada and beyond. Finding Your Climate Community, a short film about YCAP produced by the David Suzuki Foundation, also connected the project with a wider audience (over 20k views).

Climate Comeback Short Film

Over 17,000 video views | 60+ workshop attendees | 12 high-profile athletes interviewed | Presented to the Varsity Council

Starting in Spring 2019, Climate Hub Student Director Grace Nosek began developing a short film connecting the idea of a sports comeback, moments where the impossible becomes possible through sheer human will, to the potential of a 'climate comeback,' featuring the stories of UBC athletes and Olympians. The Climate Hub supported project coordination, film launch, and an accompanying workshop showcasing how athletes can serve as climate ambassadors to their teams and sports communities, working with the Center for Sport & Sustainability, UBC Wellbeing, UBC SEEDS program, and UBC Athletics. Both the workshop and film closely tie climate leadership into one of the most visible and popular aspects of campus life, demonstrating how everyone on our campus has a pathway to take hopeful action in addressing climate change collectively.



June 27, 2019: Student Director Grace Nosek supports YCAP high school students Nina and Uma after they decide to speak at City Hall.



Photo credit: Avery Holliday from the the David Suzuki Foundation's "Finding Your Climate Community."



Photo credit: Avery Holliday. Film Credits:
Executive Producer: **Grace Nosek**; Producer: **Avery Holliday**; Directors: **Josephine Anderson, Kathleen Jayme**; Production Coordinator: **Liv Yoon**; Film Crew: **Bruno Martin Del Campo, Yasmine Ross, Isabella Jaramillo**

UBC CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Starting in Summer 2019, the Climate Hub helped connect students, staff, and faculty leading the climate strike from across the Vancouver campus. Following the climate strike, representatives of the Climate Hub and student organizing groups met with President Ono and other members of UBC leadership. This group then formed an informal advisory to President Ono, which supported the development of UBC's climate emergency declaration launched December 5, 2019.

Following UBC's declaration of the climate emergency on December 5, 2019, the Climate Hub supported UBC leadership in establishing the Climate Emergency Task Force and designing and launching a community engagement process aimed at assembling a collective response to the climate emergency. In February, UBC funded additional staff positions embedded within the Hub, scaling our ability to support this process. Climate Hub staff supported the creation of a web portal, online surveys, communications campaigns, in-person events across UBC Vancouver and Okanagan campuses.

With the onset of COVID-19 and the suspension of all in-person events, Climate Hub staff quickly pivoted to lead online engagement. Community dialogues embedded in academic departments, staff units, and student initiatives, were revisited as a series of ten virtual dialogues. In total, the climate emergency community engagement process received input from over 4000 members of the UBC community.

Over summer 2020, the Climate Hub team provided coordination support for the Climate Emergency Task Force and five working groups of students, staff, and faculty translating community input into recommended actions. The Hub team then assembled 24 emerging recommendations into a draft report, to be reviewed by the Task Force and subsequently presented to UBC governing bodies in early 2021.

"The climate emergency process has been incredibly inspiring; it shows that with perseverance and dedication, we can actualize the just future we all know is possible. I'm immensely thankful for the tireless efforts of everyone involved."

Community member feedback



Photo credit: Christopher Ma. UBC Climate Strike, September 27, 2019.

JOIN OUR COMMUNITY!

None of this work is possible without the Climate Hub's growing, collaborative community of leaders, supporters, and partners.

Over the last year, Climate Hub volunteers and student staff continued to go the extra mile to drive our strategic direction, mobilize their peers, organize events, create and facilitate workshops, test new ideas, deliver core projects, and develop new initiatives. We seek to empower community members to contribute their unique skills and experience towards advancing climate justice—we are consistently overwhelmed by the depth and diversity of giving that helps our community and our work thrive.

Our collaborations with initiatives at UBC and beyond have been similarly pivotal. Our 5 core campus partners & advisors—including the UBC Sustainability Initiative, the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions, Campus & Community Planning, the Centre for Community Engaged Learning, and UBC Wellbeing—have provided us with the space, encouragement, knowledge, mentorship and collaboration to anchor ourselves within the constellation of campus climate and sustainability initiatives.

Additionally, this year we further developed or deepened relationships with:

- Over 12 on-campus student groups, including UBC Alma Mater Society (AMS), UBC C350, UBC Black Students Union, Code the Change UBC, and more;
- Over 10 on-campus partners, including the UBC Office of Regional and International Engagement (ORICE), SEEDS program, and faculty members across 5 faculties;
- Over 20 off-campus organizations and initiatives, including Be the Change Earth Alliance, the David Suzuki Foundation, Sustainabiliteens, Vancity Credit Union, and others, who helped us reach new communities; supported our work as project partners, funders, and guest speakers; and consistently amplified our work.

Throughout these community-building efforts, we seek to build relationships that embody trust, reciprocity, and empowerment.

**IT TAKES A COMMUNITY
THANK YOU!**

Connect with the Climate Hub

Website: ubcclimathub.ca

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook: [@ubcclimathub](https://www.instagram.com/ubcclimathub)

email (general inquiries): climate.hub@ubc.ca

address:

**Climate Hub | UBC Sustainability Initiative
Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability (CIRS)
2260 West Mall
Vancouver, BC
V6T 1Z4**

donate: <https://support.ubc.ca/projects/ubc-climate-hub/>



Artwork credit: Bryn Gerson, 2020. Created as part of a project with the Climate Justice Research collaborative.