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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The UBC Climate Hub is situated on UBC's Vancouver campus, located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the xwməθkwəýəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwəta?/Selilwitulh (Tsleil Waututh) Peoples. We acknowledge and recognize that Indigenous peoples have nurtured and lived on these lands since time immemorial. As a student-staff unit comprised of a diverse set of individuals with unique histories and connections to the land we now work on, we are deeply grateful for the stewardship of these territories. As future ancestors, we responsibilities recognise our continuing the practice of stewardship and commit to striving for a better future in which climate justice and Indigenous justice become envisioned realities.

For the past six years, we have upheld the practice of land acknowledgements at the beginning of our reporting, in the resources we create and at events. This practice serves as an important step in recognising our own complicity in the history and ongoing violence of settlercolonialism and as an invitation to our audience to consider their own histories and relationships with the lands they live on. Based on Dr. Patrick Wolfe's research, settler-colonialism is commonly defined as "an ongoing system of power that perpetuates the genocide and repression of [I]ndigenous peoples and cultures" (Cox, 2017). While UBC is known as an institution for learning, research and innovation, it is also complicit in settler

colonialism. Examples include, but are not limited to, the institution's occupation of lands that were never given away by the original inhabitants and the exclusion of Indigenous ways of knowing from educational curricula.

Our mission as an organisation is to connect and empower university and community stakeholders to take bold climate action for a future. Marginalised communities, iust especially Indigenous peoples, disproportionately affected by the climate crisis (Natural Resources Canada, 2024). Hence, Climate Hub commits to fighting for a just future that entails creating a future of climate justice that cannot be separated from Indigenous justice and to supporting the 2020 UBC Indigenous Strategic Plan. We invite you to reflect on what it means to be on the lands that you are currently on and actively engage in the reconciliation process. While not an exhaustive list of ways to meaningfully engage in reconciliation, here are some ways you can choose to do so:

- Learn about whose lands you are on by visiting native-land.ca
- On September 30, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, join intergenerational marches and events to honour residential school survivors and remember the children who never returned home
- Consider learning about and supporting the work of organizations such as <u>Raven</u> <u>Trust</u>, <u>TWN Sacred Trust</u>, <u>Kilalaleum</u>, <u>Reciprocity Trusts</u>, and <u>Gidimt'en</u> <u>Checkpoint Land Defenders</u>

ABOUT US

We are a student-staff unit housed within the Sustainability Hub, funded by the UBC Administration and supported by a wide array of offices and initiatives at UBC. We believe in the power of youth, hope, community and storytelling to inspire hope and action to address the looming global threat of climate change and advocate for climate justice within the institution and beyond. Our programming is founded and led by students, motivated by the prevailing need to hold space for and amplify student voices and student-driven action.

To learn more about Climate Hub's story, click here.

VISION

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

MISSION

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

Connect with us!

Website ubcclimatehub.ca

Address
Centre for Interactive Research on Sustainability
(CIRS)
2260 West Mall,
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Email climate.hub@ubc.ca

Instagram @ubcclimatehub



LETTER OF gratifude

This academic year has been a year of challenges and uncertainty for Climate Hub's future. We began with substantial funding from the President's Office under Santa Ono, which allowed us to engage with thousands of students and support student-led initiatives rooted in climate justice. As our funds started dwindling, however, we turned to our community to support our petition to request funds to sustain the Climate Hub. With your support, we received and accepted a one-time transitional fund of \$100,000, which has been crucial in preventing our closure this summer.

Reflecting on our sixth year, we are deeply moved by the overwhelming support shown through our Save Climate Hub petition, which garnered nearly 3,400 signatures. None of this would have been possible without your unwavering support. We are profoundly grateful for the love and deep care you have shown us. Your heartfelt messages about your experiences with the Climate Hub and the letters of support have been instrumental in strengthening our case for the importance of student-driven climate justice programming. Outpouring support from students, alumni, faculty, and the broader community demonstrates how essential the Climate Hub is in advancing climate justice, empowering student leadership, and fostering climate education.

The recognition of the Hub as a beacon of hope and action in post-secondary education inspires us to keep moving forward. We are committed to nurturing the collaborative, justice-focused, and care-driven work that defines our mission. However, we are not entirely out of the woods yet. While the one-time funding we received will sustain us through the next academic year and the summer, we are actively working to ensure Climate Hub's sustainability. Should we ultimately have to close, we are committed to ensuring that our projects will be preserved by other organisations that are willing to take them on and steward them. Simultaneously, we have been engaging with the student body to better center student leadership in our governance model. As important decisions will be made for Climate Hub's future, we invite you to read the <u>Student Governance section</u> to gain an insight into some of our key findings from the student engagement we conducted.

Despite what the future may hold for the Climate Hub, the movement for fighting for climate justice must go on. Throughout our journey, we have embraced principles of messy hope, joyful community building and love for the earth that sustains us all. As we navigate this continued period of uncertainty, we are also excited to share the next academic year with you all and create meaningful spaces for engaging in climate justice!

Wit<mark>h deep gratitud</mark>e, Climate Hub @UBC

COLLABORATORS & PARTNERS

We are immensely grateful for the opportunity to nurture deep relationships with various units and organisations, without whom the projects we have worked on would not have been possible. Here is a list of this past year's collaborators and partners:

Universities & Institutions

- Alma Mater Society of UBC (AMS)
- Simon Fraser University (SFU) Initiatives:
- SFU Sustainability
- Simon Fraser Community-Engaged Research Initiative (SFU CERi)
- Simon Fraser Public Interest Research Group (SFPIRG)
- UBC Initiatives:
- UBC Campus and Community Planning (C+CP)
- UBC Campus Vision 2050
- · UBC Centre for Climate Justice
- UBC Centre for Community and Engaged Learning (CCEL)
- UBC Emergency Management | Safety & Risk Services
- UBC Film Society
- UBC Geography Department
- UBC Indigenous Research Support Initiative
- UBC Journal for Climate Justice
- UBC Seeds Sustainability Program
- UBC Sustainability Ambassadors
- UBC Sustainability Hub
- UBC Wellbeing
- UBC Wellness Centre
- University Neighbourhood Association

Environmental & Climate-Focused Organizations

- Apathy is Boring
- BC Parks
- Be The Change Earth Alliance (BTCEA)
- Break the Divide
- CityHive
- Climate Emergency Response Team
- Climate Justice UBC (CJUBC)
- Climate Recentered
- Embark Sustainability Society
- · Environmental Youth Alliance
- ICLEI Canada
- Science World
- · Sierra Club BC
- Stop the Sweeps Coalition
- Tsawwassen First Nation
- Youth Climate Lab

Arts, Media & Culture

- Hatch Art Gallery
- Exposure UBC
- The Only Animal Theatre Society
- Ubyssey
- Vancouver Black Library

Health & Wellbeing

- UBC Emergency Management | Safety & Risk Services
- Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU)

PROJECTS

CLIMATE JUSTICE TRESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

The Climate Justice Research Collaborative (CJRC), led by Maddy Laurendeau, fosters collaboration, reflective learning, and interdisciplinary climate research. CJRC offers a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to engage in self-directed climate justice research projects alongside community partners, earning course credit in the process. These projects are designed to support community partners' initiatives in advancing climate justice and holding institutions accountable for their climate actions or inactions.

In 2023/24, 14 students worked on projects with Tsawwassen First Nation, Environmental Youth Alliance, Sierra Club BC, and Break the Divide. Students in this year's cohort described the CJRC as a valuable experience that deepened their understanding of climate justice, Indigenous reconciliation, and sustainability efforts. The opportunity to work closely with community partners allowed them to balance academic research with community needs, providing a more nuanced and practical understanding of climate justice.

Check out this year's CJRC reports:

- Tools to Break The Divide: A toolkit created to foster relational climate change dialogues
- Indigenous Protected & Conserved Areas: What is Wrong, and How They Are the Future
- Integrating Host Nations' Values with Environmental Stewardship
- Gathering Information for the Tsawwassen First Nation Sustainability Charter

"Working with the community partner enriched my ability to work with multiple perspectives in community-based research by balancing my supervisors' advice with the community partner's needs. I also got a better sense of how research can be made more accessible to meet the needs of a community partner rather than solely producing research that will exist in an academic vacuum."

- Undergraduate student

CLIMATE TEACHING CONNECTOR

The Climate Teaching Connector (CTC), led by Charlotte Taylor and Maddy Laurendeau, is a visionary and unique student-created and led climate education model that can flexibly integrate climate-related content into undergraduate classes by connecting UBC course instructors with climate change and climate justice graduate student experts from the UBC community. The CTC program creates an important bridge for UBC students seeking more climate-focused content in their courses, addressing ongoing gaps in institutional mobilization of climate-informed curriculum. Additionally, the CTC offers meaningful climate job opportunities for graduate students and nurtures new relationships and networks for crossdepartment collaboration on climate change issues rooted in principles of climate justice.

14
lectures
600+
students
13
departments

REIMAGINING CLIMATE RESILIENCE initiative ©

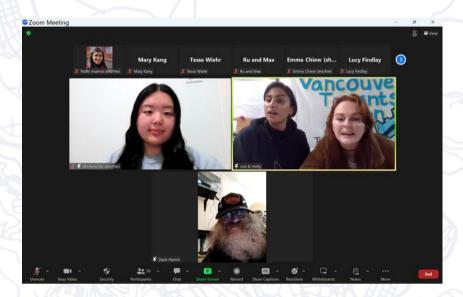
The Reimagining Climate Resilience Initiative was created and led by Michelle Xie to advance climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, while addressing loss & damages, through anti-oppressive, arts-based, and care-centred lenses. Over the past year, the Climate Hub has provided opportunities to dream of the more just & livable worlds we know are possible and embody alternative ways of being in relation to each other! As abolitionist community lawyer Talila A. Lewis writes: "When we create space for ourselves and others to dream, we embody recurring hope, active love, critical resistance, and radical change. We are reminded that those who came before us dreamed of that which no one thought could exist—that their dreams are the reasons that we now are living the impossible."

(continued on pgs. 9-10)

Stop the Sweeps

In January 2024, we hosted a documentary screening of Stop the Sweeps, followed by a community dialogue about the connections between climate justice and safety for our unhoused neighbours! The film followed the work of advocates in bringing an end to street sweeps—the practice of city workers and police displacing unhoused people from public spaces, often leaving them without their belongings or suitable shelter. We were grateful to be joined by Zoe & Molly from the Stop the Sweeps Coalition, Dave from the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU), and over 50 attendees.





Capacity-Building Workshops

In recognition of the essential role education plays in building collective capacities around responding to the climate crisis, the Climate Hub has continued to offer workshops to students & organizations on and off-campus. 8 workshops were delivered to groups such as the <u>Journal for Climate Justice</u>, <u>Sustainability Ambassadors Program</u>, and <u>Climate Justice UBC</u>.

- The Building Climate Resilient Communities workshop explores approaches to climate adaptation & mitigation that range from mutual aid and coalition building, to bold climate policy and co-ops.
- The Anti-Oppression & Climate Justice
 workshop takes a systems thinking approach to
 exploring histories of Western
 environmentalism using key concepts of
 intersectionality, climate (in)justice, and settler
 colonialism.

Institutional Climate Policy and Planning

The Climate Resilience Lead helped shape key goals, actions, and targets for Campus + Community Planning's (C+CP) Neighbourhood Climate Action Plan and represented student perspectives at the Climate Adaptation Vulnerability and Risk Assessment Workshop led by ICLEI Canada, Safety & Risk Services, and C+CP. These two institutional projects aimed to co-create climate resilient communities by identifying impacts of climate change to campus and providing critical information about the adaptations needed to ensure resources are allocated to those most affected by climate impacts.

Liberatory Art-Making

Arts-based community interventions are an accessible pathway for political participation, radical imagination, and collective creativity. As part of the RCR initiative's liberatory art-making endeavours, a radical zine-making workshop was developed & facilitated for Climate Justice UBC and forged connections with the Hatch Art Gallery to co-create a series of events—Climate Slamposium, Climate Justice Art + Action Panel, IBPOC Care Circle, Embodying Climate Resilience & Resistance Art Workshop—in celebration of their Climate Catharsis exhibit (see: Key Collaborations & Events for details). The Climate Resilience Lead also represented the Climate Hub as a speaker for a Climate Justice Traveling Table Topic hosted by Apathy is Boring and as a panelist for Youth Climate Lab's Art for Climate Justice webinar!



Extreme Heat Mutual Aid Distro

As temperatures rose in July 2024, the Climate Hub distributed free supplies (water, ice trays, hats, and ice packs) to support folks on-campus in coping with extreme heat! We collaborated with organizers from Climate Justice UBC to hand out over 50 cold beverages, alongside tips for how to stay cool.



The Youth Climate Ambassadors Project (YCAP), led by Aku Limbanga, is a workshop designed in a peer-to-peer model with the intention of addressing climate anxiety amongst the youth. Now in its sixth year, the project was designed to address climate fears born from negative discourse surrounding climate change and action. These free workshops are offered across schools in Metro-Vancouver and occasionally online to the rest of British Columbia when requested!

Moreover, YCAP emphasizes the power of stories in helping youth explore climate emotions and influencing communities to take collective action. The YCAP facilitators are all UBC students as they are typically only a few years older than the participating students. With their experience in climate action, they can serve as relatable role models.

24 workshops 500+ participants



Science World Workshop

On the 23rd February, the Youth Climate Ambassadors Project (YCAP) had the opportunity to host a Teen Climate Café at Science World in Vancouver. This event was a collaborative effort with the Be The Change Earth Alliance, Science World and the UBC Climate Hub with the intention to provide a unique space for youth to engage in meaningful conversations about our climate crisis. The Teen Climate Café was an empowering workshop aimed at providing hope in a doom and gloom atmosphere as much of today's climate discourse is often bleak. The event encouraged open dialogue and expression both between other youth, the facilitators and the older adults in the room to address any climate-related anxiety and fears they might be experiencing. The event concluded with attendees pledging their calls to action in fighting climate change as well as receiving resources and materials on pathways to get involved in climate action.



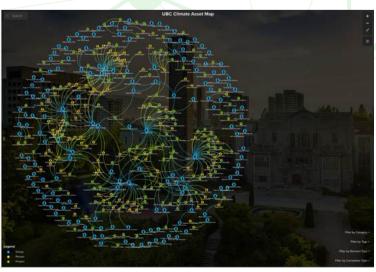
The **UBC Climate Asset Map**, led by Maya Fong, is a living, interactive database of key groups, projects, and individuals leading on climate at UBC's Vancouver Campus. Its driving purpose is to help users connect to and navigate climate-focused initiatives to build a collaborative, interactive, interdisciplinary and actively impactful climate community at UBC.

The project has received ongoing support from partners throughout the UBC community since it began in 2018, including UBC Code The Change and Centre for Climate Justice. Climate Hub has been on a journey to renew the Asset Map since 2022. It has journeyed from a prototype iteration hosted on the Climate Hub website, courtesy of UBC Code The Change, to a new platform called Kumu where it continues to grow. In partnership with the Simon K. Y. Lee Global Lounge and Resource Centre in November 2022, the Climate Community Connector event was held, where Climate Hub was able to showcase the new Map to the student community for the first time.

This past year was focused on collecting data, refining the tag list and holding consultation meetings with on-campus organizations to attain feedback and ensure the proper representation of organizations. We had multiple meetings with on-campus Indigenous groups, Sustainability Hub and Centre for Climate Justice to curate and refine a tag list in an effor to decolonize the map and represent the projects in a more efficient manner.

During the summer of 2024, consultation meetings were held with multiple groups to confirm accurate representation of their groups, and gain feedback on usability and aesthetics. Today, 140 groups, 90 individuals, and 115 projects live on the Asset Map, forming a total of 225 connections between them. Curating the Map and its data, as well as continuing to implement community-focused features, would not be possible without the support of dedicated groups and volunteers. The Asset Map continues to expand with continued research and outreach meetings. The goal is to have the asset map available to the UBC community in September of 2024 and attain more feedback from students through surveys.

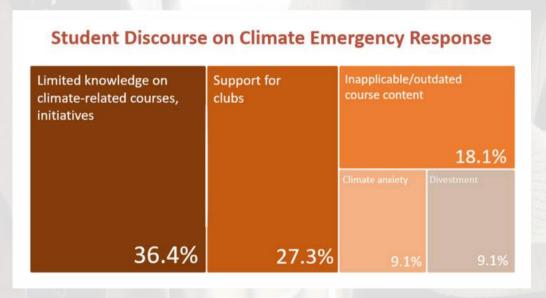




Student Engagement: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework

In collaboration between the Sustainability Hub's Climate Emergency Response Team and Climate Hub, Rhea Dinesh conducted focus group interviews, surveys and booths to gain insights into students' experiences working towards climate action in light of UBC's Climate Emergency Response Declaration in 2019. This initiative aimed to inform the Sustainability Hub's development of the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework, designed to track the University's progress in its Climate Emergency Response using a set of indicators and targets as a baseline.

Focus group interviews and surveys were conducted, involving 60 students across 20 disciplines at UBC. While 65% of the sample size had heard of the Climate Emergency Declaration through social media and newsletters, few students had an understanding of what the Climate Emergency entailed at UBC. After discussing the history of UBC's Climate Emergency Response and the University's endorsed priorities and recommendations, students were invited to discuss their opinions on how supported students felt in conducting climate action work. The top five distinct themes that emerged during discussions about UBC's Climate Emergency Response was limited knowledge on climate-related courses and initiatives, lack of support for clubs, inapplicable/outdated course content, climate anxiety and divestment.



Some key recommendations that students proposed were:

- Continue to reach students with information on climate and sustainability-related courses and initiatives
- Implement department-wide initiatives to make course content more applicable (e.g. project-based learning)
- Communicate what UBC is doing to mitigate effects on extreme weather events with students
- Provide more accessible financial support for student clubs to implement projects

KEY EVENTS & COLLABORATIONS

This year, UBC Climate Hub took part in <u>Climate Emergency Week 2024</u>! This week-long annual event spotlights the critical importance of climate action and justice. From engaging interactive activities to insightful panel discussions, units across UBC and beyond organized events to invite community members to contemplate the realities of the climate crisis and the proactive steps we can take in response. Below are the events Climate Hub helped co-organize:

Climate Slamposium & Climate Catharsis Exhibit Opening

The 3rd Annual Climate Slamposium was the opening event for the 2024 Climate Emergency Week and Hatch Art Gallery's Climate Catharsis Exhibition. The event was organized in collaboration with the Hatch Art Gallery, Sustainability Ambassadors Program, SEEDS Sustainability Program, and AMS Sustainability. The student organizing team included Isabel Chen, Naomi Leung, Sagorika Haque, Ryan Chiu, and Michelle Xie.

Combining elements of slam poetry and symposiums, the Climate Slamposium featured student researchers, activists, artists, and community members to share their work in interactive and creative ways. Students showcased visual art, stand up comedy, and updates on student-led climate justice campaigns. The event had over 65 attendees!

Slamposium was featured in the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition's Meet Our Coalition video!



Check out or event recap <u>graphic notes</u> by Emilija Harrison & Michelle Xie!





গল্প - Golpo: "story; conversation" an IBPOC Community & Justice Care Circle

In collaboration with the Asha Collective, Hatch Art Gallery, and UBC Climate Emergency Week, we organized an IBPOC care circle. The interdisciplinary dialogue created space for IBPOC students and community members to collectively discuss the complexities, challenges, barriers, and lessons of navigating experiences of racialization across the Global North and South. Speakers from <u>Climate Recentered</u> shared their experiences organizing for climate justice and mutual aid in Surrey. The event focused on care, community building, art-making, dialogue, and destressing. The event had about 35-40 attendees.



Climate Justice, Art and Action Panel

This panel centred community connection, solidarity building, and conversation featuring guest speakers from <u>The Only Animal Theatre Society</u>, <u>Vancouver Black Library</u>, Asha Collective, and Palestinian student organizers. Throughout the evening, we discussed art as public commentary in an era of climate crisis/injustice/emergency and as a liberatory practice for place-making, documentation and interpretation of the world & our experiences.





Embodying Climate Resilience and Resistance Art Workshop

An evening of collective art-making, generative discussion, and building climate community that convened 18 participants in using collage to explore themes of climate wellbeing, storytelling, and art as a form of personal resistance and community resilience. We also introduced the practice of body mapping to foster discussions on how environmental challenges differ for IBPOC individuals. As part of Black History Month, education about the recent increased conflict in the Congo and ways to take action were provided. This workshop was co-organized alongside Exposure UBC, UBC Africa Awareness Initiative, and Asha Collective!

Check out the workshop's Climate Resilience & Resistance Community Collage Zine!

Climate Hub Governance and Structure: Centering Student Leadership

In 2024, the Climate Hub deepened its commitment to centering student leadership by refining its governance model based on the pillars of justice, inclusivity, and diversity. This evolution was shaped through meaningful consultations with the student community, offering them a platform to share their experiences, insights, and aspirations. These engagements played a crucial role in shaping the Hub's future direction, and the key findings from these consultations were organized into several categories that reflect the priorities and values of our community:

By and For Students

The community strongly emphasized the importance of keeping the Climate Hub student-led, where students see themselves as "capable" and "active" leaders. This affirmation reinforces the commitment to maintaining an environment where student leadership is at the core of everything the Hub does.

Support and Compensation

A recurring theme was the need for more robust support structures. Students expressed a desire for fair compensation, recognizing the time, energy, and passion they contribute to the Hub. Ensuring that students have the necessary resources and financial support is crucial for empowering them to continue leading without risking burnout or feeling exploited.

Climate Hub Structure and Governance

Transparency and accountability emerged as essential pillars, with students calling for more clarity in decision-making processes and a stronger emphasis on open communication. The desire for regular town halls and open meetings reflects the collective commitment to ongoing dialogue and inclusive decision-making.

Regular Town Halls and Open Meetings

The community called for regular town halls and open meetings, valuing these forums as opportunities for deeper engagement, ensuring that student voices are not just heard but integrated into the Hub's governance.

Interest in Advisory Board, Committees, and Regular Drop-In Discussions

Students showed strong interest in forming advisory boards and committees to provide ongoing oversight and input. Regular drop-in discussions were also suggested as a means to keep communication lines open, ensuring that the Hub remains responsive to the evolving needs and aspirations of the community.

Student Representatives from Different Student Clubs and Groups

Diversity in representation was another key area of focus. The community advocated for having representatives from different clubs and groups to ensure a wide range of perspectives within the Hub's governance. This approach will help maintain connections to the broader student body and foster a more inclusive environment.

Programs and Priorities: Ways to Improve and Grow

The community shared a collective vision for the future of the Climate Hub, highlighting areas where it can continue to grow and improve. Increasing visibility on campus, making UBC processes easier to navigate, and creating clear pathways for meaningful involvement were identified as critical steps forward. There was also a strong desire to connect with more students and bring new voices into the fold, ensuring that the Hub remains a dynamic and inclusive space for all.

These reflections and insights will directly inform the Climate Hub's strategic planning and operational decisions moving forward. By integrating the feedback gathered, the Hub will reinforce its commitment to student leadership by ensuring that students are central to all decision-making processes, from governance to program development. Additionally, the Hub will prioritize the creation of transparent and inclusive governance structures, such as the establishment of advisory boards and regular town halls, to continuously adapt and respond to the evolving needs and aspirations of the student community.

Organizations, Departments, and Student Groups Showing Unwavering Solidarities for the Climate Hub, Rooted in Trust, Justice, and Care

- Asian Studies
- Be the Change Earth Alliance
- CAP-E working group
- CiTR & Discorder Magazine
- Citizens for Public Justice
- Clean Energy Research Center (CERC)
- Climate Justice UBC
- Common Energy UBC
- Community Service Learning Program
- Council of Canadians Terrace Chapter
- Cowichan Climate Hub
- CUPE 2278
- Department of Materials Engineering
- Environmental Science Students Association
- Facilities Management Okanagan campus
- Faculty of Forestry
- Faculty of Forestry and Land and Food Systems
- Faculty of Management
- Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty group BC
- Go Global
- Gridbid
- IRES
- Microbiology & Immunology Graduate Student Society
- Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy
- Okanagan Climate Hub
- · Roots on the Roof
- School of Public Policy and Global Affairs
- Sustainable Environment Network Society
- UBC Environmental Policy Association
- UBC Ocean Hub
- UBC Sustainability Ambassadors
- · UBC Sustainability Hub
- UBCO Sustainability Office, Campus Planning

Thank you

to all the units, clubs and organizations who supported the Climate Hub!



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