

## TEAM SNAPSHOT

# Vancouver, B.C. (UBC)



## LISA COLBY *team lead*

DIRECTOR, POLICY PLANNING, CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PLANNING, UNIVERSITY OF BC

*Neighborhood development experience* 25+ years as professional planner (residential, commercial, institutional, industrial); currently responsible for long range land-use planning on UBC campus

*I want to learn about* the latest innovations in planning and delivering sustainable neighborhoods.

*One challenge I'd like to address* is how to keep the sustainability vision on track as future generations take the reins.



## KERA McARTHUR

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY PLANNING, UNIVERSITY OF BC

*Neighborhood development experience* Managed consultation on land use, including Land Use Plan amendment and neighborhood planning processes; spent six years on the board of Think City, a non-profit organization focusing on civic engagement in Vancouver

*I want to learn about* innovative public process that engages residents in the development of EcoDistricts.

*One challenge I'd like to address* is building public acceptance for densification as a sustainability practice.



## ANDREW PARR

MANAGING DIRECTOR, STUDENT HOUSING AND HOSPITALITY SERVICES, UNIVERSITY OF BC

*Neighborhood development experience* Managed operations of over 9,000 student residence beds over two campuses; worked on the Campus Master Plan and Acadia Park and Gage South Neighborhood plans.

*I want to learn about* creative, sustainable, diverse and highly liveable neighborhood developments.

*One challenge I'd like to address* is marrying highly sustainable neighborhoods with livability—combining all of the elements of a sustainable environment with balanced with financial viability and the development of a highly desirable living environment to a diverse population.



## SIU TSE

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES PLANNING, CAMPUS & COMMUNITY PLANNING, UNIVERSITY OF BC

*Neighborhood development experience* Develops utility master servicing plans and growth-related infrastructure programs; reviews Stormwater Management Plan and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for numerous construction projects; helped develop neighborhood plans and the Official Community Plan

*I want to learn about* how to encourage developers to provide “cost effective” developments in an EcoDistrict.

*One challenge I'd like to address* is convincing developers to finance sustainable features, which are often perceived as a high-cost luxury requests.



## PAUL YOUNG

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & DESIGN, UBC PROPERTIES TRUST

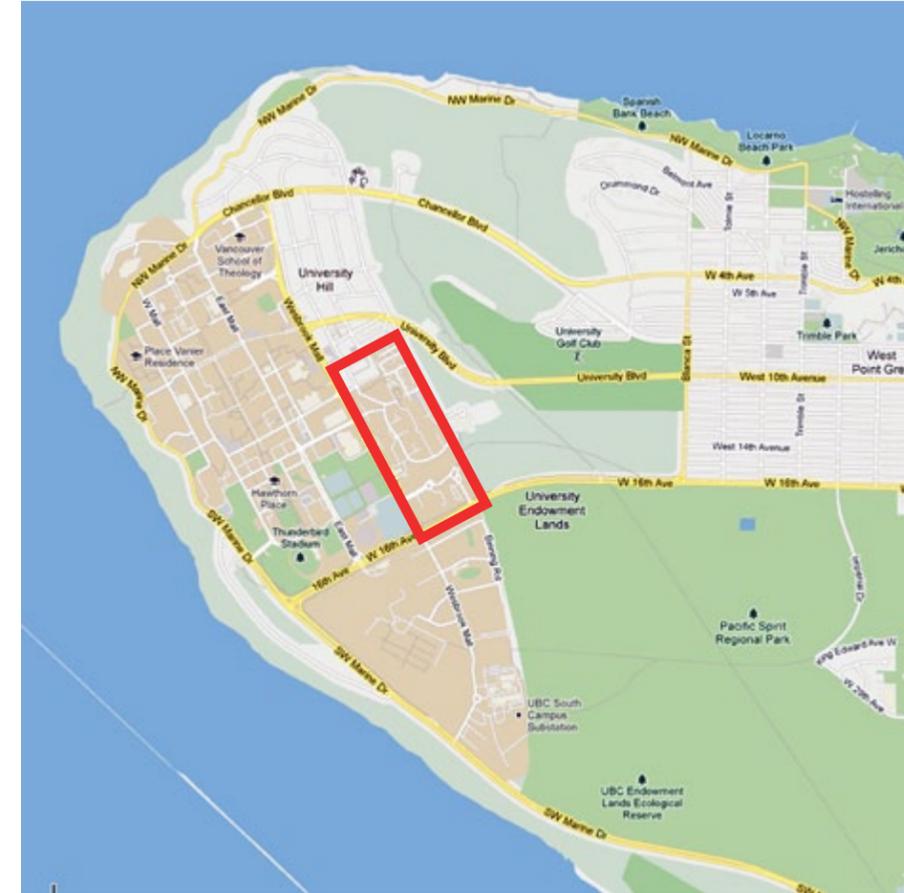
*Neighborhood development experience* 30+ years of planning and implementing large-scale neighborhood and community development projects; created and implemented detailed plans for BC's Lower Mainland metropolitan area; designs and implements initiatives for a sustainable community of 25,000 residents at UBC

*I want to learn about* aspects of building sustainable communities that maximize ecological and community benefits without driving up development costs or creating overly-complex building systems.

*One challenge I'd like to address* keeping the goals of sustainable living environments simple, affordable and robust; homebuyers are already willing to “go green”, but inherently distrust complex building systems and open-ended cost implications for maintaining those systems.

## PROJECT SNAPSHOT

# Acadia Neighborhood



Acadia Neighborhood is one of seven residential neighborhoods University of British Columbia (UBC) is developing for faculty, staff, students and the general public. Through the creation of this residential community on our campus, UBC is building a more complete campus community with a good range of shops, services, transit and amenities.

With less commuting and more proximate living, our faculty and students will enjoy better engagement with the campus and academic success while lessen their impact on our neighbors and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The Acadia neighborhood is the oldest neighborhood on campus with aging low-density housing stock due for replacement in the coming years. UBC will seek to redevelop it as a model sustainable neighborhood, consistent with the vibrant university community vision and sustainable community growth objectives of the recent Vancouver Campus Plan and UBC Land Use Plan. It will be developed at a higher density than today—possibly up to a net floor space ratio of 3.5.

## Why this neighborhood?

Acadia is an ideal location for a pilot EcoDistrict from a timing, scale, mission and innovation perspective. The area's anticipated whole-scale renewal and planned change presents a unique opportunity for UBC to advance sustainability across all systems at a neighborhood scale, using the EcoDistrict framework. We hope to begin the neighborhood planning process over the next year, and to stay abreast of the latest expertise on sustainable community building and to better understand the EcoDistrict framework. We are committed to assuming a responsible leadership role in sustainable development in our own operations.

## top 3 Neighborhood PRIORITIES:

1. Establishing a shared vision for Acadia founded on strong technical analysis and meaningful community input.
2. Implementing truly innovative, effective, and 'Living Lab' approaches to sustainable community design where we can test, research and teach about sustainability at the same time.
3. Fostering a sense of community and social cohesion among the diverse population planned to live in this neighborhood, including staff, faculty, students and members of the general public.

## top 3 Neighborhood CHALLENGES:

1. Phasing and engagement of this new development will be important so that the community sees the change as positive. Balancing the different needs/expectations of a diverse community composed of students, staff, faculty and the public
2. Adding significant density while maintaining livability and a family-friendly environment is extremely important
3. Helping people be a part of the innovation along the way so we gain their support and commitment, which will hopefully encourage them to sustain it as they assume control in strata corporations and local governance organizations