

UBC Learning Exchange Strategic Plan

VISION

The Learning Exchange is core to UBC’s Downtown Eastside campus, a dynamic place for new approaches to learning for local residents, students, faculty and organizations. Together, extraordinary community and University resources create lasting change.

MISSION

Engage, inspire, and lead the UBC community and the DTES community to work and learn together. Pursue sustainable positive change in the community and support the University’s academic mission. To build both University and community capacity, the Learning Exchange will:

- Facilitate UBC collaboration in the DTES.
- Build awareness of what the DTES and UBC can offer each other.
- Advance UBC’s ability to partner with marginalized communities on research that helps build better lives.
- Facilitate experiential student learning opportunities on issues relevant to the DTES.
- Welcome and facilitate DTES residents’ lifelong learning.

VALUES

Inclusion	We welcome all individuals and groups in everything we do. We engage and empower members of the local community and the UBC community to exchange ideas and knowledge.
Collaboration	We develop productive relationships and partnerships that are mutually beneficial. We inspire innovation and change by bringing together people with different perspectives.
Celebration	We recognize it takes courage to overcome the risks of learning. We celebrate and support every step, large or small, that leads to greater awareness, understanding, and action.
Learning	We honour all kinds of knowledge and expertise including lived experience. We foster lifelong learning through reciprocal and experiential opportunities.

Pragmatism	We are flexible in creating an environment for people to make concrete, useful differences in their learning and lives.
Sustainability	We take a long-term approach to relationships and operations — building capacity for the future while meeting the needs of the present.

COMMITMENTS

- Expand and diversify sustainable, transformative student learning opportunities as part of the DTES campus.
- Provide guidance on promising practices for community-based participatory research in the DTES.
- Foster and maintain strong relationships with UBC stakeholders involved in community engagement in the DTES. Support the development of a dispersed DTES campus.
- Continue to provide and develop peer-led programming to support literacy (language, computer and other life skills), and ignite residents' enthusiasm for lifelong learning.
- Expand and diversify opportunities for residents to contribute to the DTES community and UBC.
- Lower the real and perceived barriers to DTES residents' ability to access post-secondary programs.
- Secure funding and steward resources to achieve a balanced budget.
- Promote UBC's credibility and reputation in the DTES by providing learning space for local residents, students and faculty.
- Explore and create more activities to strengthen DTES-UBC engagement and support UBC's Place and Promise plan.

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