



# FACULTY OF EDUCATION

## THE EDUCATION CENTRE AT PONDEROSA COMMONS

Imagine a vibrant place where UBC Faculty of Education students can live, learn, and interact. A place for groundbreaking educational research about how teachers teach and students learn. A place that helps catalyze innovative ideas linked closely to local, national, and international educational concerns and movements for change.



Currently, a dynamic space like this does not exist; however, the University of British Columbia plans to resolve this by creating **the Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons**, designed to combine research with living, learning, and socializing space in a way that will enrich the university experience for students, faculty, and community members. This distinct Faculty of Education space within the Ponderosa Commons live-work-learn community will become a facility from which educational initiatives, international research, and local educational expertise can be resourced. This hub will bring together great minds within the field of educational research, creating a global centre for education in British Columbia.

In order to finalize this vital space for our newest educators, the primary influencers in Canada's classrooms, UBC is seeking support from individuals, organizations, and others who recognize the value of education and innovative learning in British Columbia and beyond. **Imagine being part of something that will shape the future of education.**

### Preparing the Future Leaders in Education

The future of society begins in the classroom. With new technology, emerging research, and global influences, the education landscape is constantly changing, and educators are at the forefront of what and how we learn. Bold growth and innovation are not only necessary for teachers in tomorrow's classrooms, but for the way universities teach next-generation educators.

In an age where teaching and learning extend beyond the pure delivery and intake of information and society is in a state of rapid change, education students and stakeholders need a place to collaborate, share ideas, and discuss solutions to crucial issues in education; universities need a space for innovative teaching, training, and research that creates exceptional opportunities for the learning experiences of tomorrow.

In order to train the next era of decision-makers in education and bring the latest innovations into our children's classrooms, the Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons will:

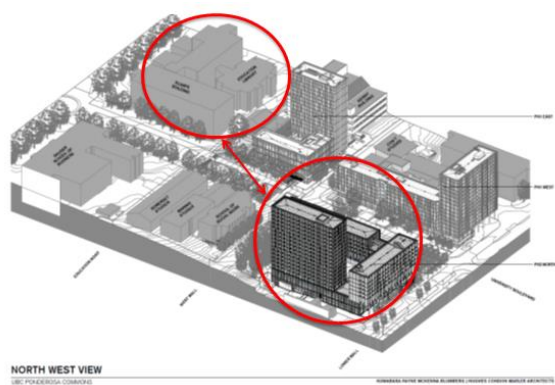
- facilitate groundbreaking research,
- provide leadership in technology-enhanced education,
- become a hub of lifelong learning for educators,
- bring together the greatest minds in education,
- strengthen Indigenous education,
- shape tomorrow's educators,
- and continue to improve education outcomes and competencies for an even brighter future.



## A New Home for Educators

As part of the first new live-work-learn community on UBC's campus, the Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons will meet the challenges of changing education by offering a unique mix of living and academic space that redefines campus life. Centrally located on UBC's Vancouver campus, the centre will be part of a dynamic Ponderosa Commons community, which will house 1,100 students by 2015 and provide students with the strong academic and social benefits associated with living on campus.

Two Faculty of Education academic departments, Educational Studies (EDST) and Language and Literacy Education (LLED), will be located in the Education Centre. The faculty will prioritize collaboration between the space and the faculty's home in the Neville Scarfe building, its primary space for teacher education. The centre will provide students from around the world with a space to interact on a social and professional level, share knowledge and contacts, and build global awareness and understanding. State-of-the-art teaching and learning spaces will showcase the merging of our academic mandate with innovation, allowing UBC to enhance its leadership role in these crucial areas:



### Research Excellence

A fundamental part of the Education Centre is building an innovative research commons. Building on UBC and the Faculty of Education's research strengths, teams pursuing key questions about learning and how to help students better succeed will have access to dedicated, flexible space to seek answers.

### International Engagement

The faculty also seeks to conduct research and build partnerships that reflect the global diversity of learning and advance intercultural understanding. In support of this, the new space has the videoconferencing capacity and "Connect" classroom to expand the Graduate Program in Adult Learning and Global Change and other programs, improving the quality of global partnerships with post-secondary institutions in Australia, Europe, Africa, and beyond.



## Technology-Enhanced Learning

Evolving technologies are creating exciting possibilities for teaching and learning, and the Faculty of Education is committed to being a leader in technology-supported training. In addition to a videoconferencing facility to better support faculty and students' international work and research collaborations, the Education Centre's purpose-built "Connect" classroom will be fully equipped to capture the complete range of instruction and peer discussion happening live in the classroom.

Responding to student needs throughout the province and internationally, the faculty has pioneered several graduate programs for online or blended delivery in early childhood education, human ecology and learning, museum education, environmental education, and more. The faculty is also adapting course design and delivery that encourages collaboration, innovation, and communication, and makes education available throughout British Columbia and beyond.

## Lifelong Learning for Educators

The Education Centre will make UBC a leader in lifelong learning for teachers, principals and vice-principals, superintendents, and policy- and decision-makers. The centre will provide space to host educational leadership meetings, professional development seminars, summer institutes, and more for education stakeholders working to improve education. With UBC alumni joining the ranks of education and community workers, these enduring learning opportunities will influence the changing educational landscape.

## World-class networking and events

With executive suites in the Ponderosa Commons residential tower, UBC's Faculty of Education will have attractive hosting capabilities for international scholars, policy experts, and community leaders. The dedicated event space will allow the faculty to host international conferences such as the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) Education Conference, and many other esteemed global academic conferences. The centre makes possible unique hosting and partnership opportunities for alumni, emeriti, professional associations, and community organizations. These events will provide invaluable networking opportunities and bring the best minds in education to UBC.

## Indigenous Education

UBC is recognized as a leader in Indigenous Education, with venerated programs in teacher education, graduate research, and facilities such as the neighbouring Longhouse. In the new Education Centre, space for mentorship, intergenerational transfer of knowledge, visiting scholars, and collaborative writing retreats will strengthen UBC's reputation for quality Indigenous Education.

### UBC Faculty of Education

One of the leading faculties of education in the world, UBC's Faculty of Education prepares professionals for practice in a wide range of education-related fields, from preschool through adulthood.

- Faculty of Education created in 1956
- Neville Scarfe Building opened in 1962
- 3,524 students, including more than 1,800 graduate students
- 346 Faculty members
- Nearly 50,000 Faculty of Education alumni
- More than 650 undergraduate students and 430 master's and PhD students graduate from the Faculty of Education each year.



## The Opportunity

UBC and the Faculty of Education are seeking the remaining \$5 million of this \$57 million initiative needed to open the doors of the Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons. Your support will help the university launch a transformation in education.

A number of highly-visible naming and recognition opportunities are available:

- The Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons
- Main Atrium and Grand Steps (this space will feature a community donor wall)
- Multi-use, indoor outdoor courtyard and event space
- Research cluster rooms and video conferencing room
- “Connect” technology classroom
- Large classrooms, seminar rooms and study rooms

These spaces all provide significant exposure to students, faculty, and other university community members. Upon completion, the Education Centre at Ponderosa Commons will be used by thousands of UBC students, faculty, and community members as a social, teaching and learning, and research space. In addition, hundreds of Faculty of Arts students living nearby, a number of international students, and visiting members of the education community are expected to regularly engage with the space.

## Help Create the Future of Education

We invite you to partner with UBC and the Faculty of Education in bringing to life this vision that will influence future education decision makers and shape our children’s classrooms, mobilizing knowledge to improve the education system.

UBC would be pleased to work with you to ensure that your generosity is recognized in a manner that is meaningful to you.

For more information on this initiative, please contact:

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