

Access the UVSP's Board meeting attendance resource and expectations [here](#).



UVSP AGM, April 7th 2026

Tuesday, 4:30 - 7:30 meet in Room B028, Lekwungen Territories & on Zoom

ZOOM INFO:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://uvic.zoom.us/j/8892866303?pwd=bEF6RC9Eck16OXp2T0tSV1BYUVVDQT09>

Meeting ID: 889 286 6303

Password: 412357

One tap mobile

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Meeting start time: 4:36pm

Attendance: Amina, Lucille, Ross, Sophie, A-C, Emma, Jade, Liva, Abbey, Aila, Katia, Acorn

CHECK- IN

- **Welcome and territorial acknowledgement** (*approx. 5 minutes*) | Aila

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- Who is the UVSP & how can you get involved? (*approx. 5 minutes*) | Aila
- **Check in** (*approx. 15 minutes*) | Aila
 - Name + pronouns
 - Decolonial Moment
 - Check-in question → What was your favourite UVSP moment from this past year?

Uncolonial Recommendations:

- April 12th 10am -12pm 3185 tillicum road- PRGT defender demonstration and pancakes
 - <https://www.instagram.com/p/DW2GwVrkix-/>
- Callout to support walbran land defenders- webinar for land defenders and Bill C-5-
<https://www.instagram.com/p/DWtlvCkFHpH/>
- First They Came poem
- Nova arts hub
 - “a space for community members to explore art as a tool for wellness, cross-cultural connections, and community empowerment”
 - art exhibits and programming
- Rally to Rage Grief and Remember- April 14th at 1:00-3:30pm at the BC legislature
 - 10th anniversary of BC toxic drug overdose crisis
 - <https://oceansidecat.org/2026/03/16/april-14th-in-sadness-and-rage/>
- Green muse herbs “animist-run sanctuary for greening hearts looking to deepen their relationships with plants.”
- Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities by Rebecca Solnit- Book

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Agenda (*2 minutes*) | A-C
 - VOTE to adopt the agenda
 - Proposed by Abbey
 - Seconded by Aila
 - Passed unanimously at 4:55pm
2. Sabrina Talk and Q&A (*15 minutes*) | Sabrina
 - Masters student in environmental studies under Kara Shaw
 - Mental health and climate change focus
 - Offering more and more climate anxiety workshops
 - Was the director of the Dalhousie Student Union Sustainability Office
 - How can the UVSP be supportive of her work in climate action?
 - Departments can be very siloed
 - Education department has important work going on about climate and environment
 - UVSP can be a bridge to bring different departments together to get the word out about the climate cafes and workshops

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- The goal is getting the word out to really varied departments on campus
- Divestment movement has come back up since COVID at Dalhousie
- The field of mental health and climate change is less than 10 years old
 - Every year there is there more publications
 - Trying to shift the focus from how bad it is, to how to actually support and help people with it
 - Trying to bring in the piece of art as a response
 - People are having more emotional responses because climate change is increasingly affecting people personally
 - More people report climate anxiety because they have a word to describe it
 - This is a very affirming thing for people, that helps improve mental health
- What is the advice given to people with climate anxiety?
 - A lot of people are given individual solutions
 - Climate anxiety is a collective issue so collective solutions are the ones that work best
 - Self care practices can help somewhat, but having communities that affirm your experience and collective practices are what can have a bigger result
- How to navigate the block in people's minds with the enormous problems and continued lack of progress?
 - Impact is often not very tangible
 - Recognizing the sphere of influence
 - People can be targeting different levels, not everyone needs to be working at a really high level
 - It's better for mental health and better for the quality of work to be focused on a small enough area that you can actually make a difference
 - People need to feel it not just know it
 - Climate denial can be mapped along with the stages of grief
 - Hope in the Dark by Rebecca Solnit- people don't remember the forest that wasn't cut down- people remember the losses more than the wins that have kept things going well
 - The tragic gap: two sides of a valley, one is irrelevant idealism, the other is corrosive cynicism (everything is bad so there is no point in doing anything)
 - The struggle is about staying in the middle and recognizing that sometimes you'll be more on one side or the other
- A helpful avenue for the UVSP could be to provide more regular climate cafes
 - Traditionally they are discussion based, but also having art makes it even more impactful
 - Not generally hosted by mental health workers
- A Climate grief cafe will be happening in May
 - Different rooms to help you explore your climate emotions

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- recording room
- Art room
- reading/writing rooms
- More info from Creating Climate Resilience on instagram
<https://www.instagram.com/creatingclimateresilience/>
- Recap and highlights on what we've done this past year! (15 minutes) | A-C & Soph
 - Final report to be done during the summer
 - Continued to actively create change on campus
 - 15 events
 - 3 new initiatives
 - 7 new lending library members
- Events:
 - Farm crawl
 - BIPOC canoe clinic (SOCC and UVSP)
 - Tide pooling
 - Mending workshop (GEM and luminary designs)
 - Clothing and costume shop
 - Drop in craft day
 - Dehydrating your own backing meals workshop
 - Bake sale fundraiser for DULF (safe drug supply)
 - Winter crafts workshop
 - Upcycling workshop
 - Make your own bottle bag workshop
 - Refillery crawl
 - Ripples art night
 - Environmental roundtable
 - Trails and tides
 - Annual general meeting! (first speaker in our speaker series)
- Lending library was launched:
 - 7 members
 - 99 total books
 - 35 total items
 - 17 total uses
- Free store:
 - UVSP took on the food banks initiative
 - It's been used a lot
- Bird Safe Campus Campaign
 - Report has been written by ES students
 - Dr Blight and Krista Grout have been helping a lot!

3. Coordinating Director role elections (approx. 15 minutes) | A-C

Elections:

- Chair(s). (2)

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VOTE to make Amina a co-chair

- Proposed by Abbey
- Seconded by Sophie
- Passed unanimously at 5:35pm

VOTE to make Aila a co-chair

- Proposed by Sophie
- Seconded by Abbey
- Passed unanimously at 5:36pm

- Secretaries. (2)

VOTE to make Ella a co-secretary

- Proposed by Sophie
- Seconded by Aila
- Passed unanimously at 5:38pm

VOTE to make Lucille a co-secretary

- Proposed by Sophie
- Seconded by Aila
- Passed unanimously at 5:38pm

- Treasurer. (1)

VOTE to make Jade the treasurer

- Proposed by Abbey
- Seconded by Aila
- Passed unanimously at 5:39pm

- Fundraising Directors. (2)

- No one is interested at the moment
- we can fill this position later on if possible

- Media Directors. (3)

VOTE to make Sophie the media directors

- Proposed by Ella
- Seconded by Jade
- Passed unanimously at 5:41pm

4. Filling out the Signing Authority paperwork.

5. [Terms of Reference Edits](#) (15 minutes) | Katia

- Last year they did a big overhaul of the UVSP terms of reference
- There are still a few things that needed to be changed, Katia has gone through and made the following suggested edits:

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- UVSP meetings shall refer to both UVSP board of directors and UVSP general meetings
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by Abbey
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:47pm

- Change the wording from constitution and bylaws to terms of reference
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:48pm

- Fixing spelling and grammar
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:49pm

- Clarification on that UVSP work studies are not considered UVSS staff because they are paid for by Uvic, so they can be both staff and board members
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:50pm

- Clarification on that Board members don't need to attend three *consecutive* meetings, just three meetings in general within an academic year
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by Sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:50pm

- Clarification on If someone starts a coordinating director position later on in the year, the election for the role will still happen at the AGM
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by Sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:52pm

- Additions to the reasons for board members cessation
 - The new list of reasons is as follows:
 - Is no longer in good standing (people who have graduated)

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- If requested by the board
- **New part:** if someone has not attended a meeting in a full year
- Former directors can be voted onto the board again by coming to 3 meetings, or can stay in contact
- VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by Sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:56pm
- Clarification on that associate members cannot vote and changing the dates to current dates
 - VOTE to make this change
 - Proposed by Sophie
 - Seconded by Jade
 - Passed unanimously at 5:59pm

General notes on terms of references related things:

- Having a list of board members would be very helpful
- There is also an associate member option for people who have graduated
- List of current active members (board, active) should be added to the annual report

6. Dinner! (30 minutes)

7. UVSP 2025/2026 Financial and 2026/2027 Budget Presentation (*approx. 30 minutes*) | A-C

- Where does the UVSP's funding come from?
 - Fee collection from the UVSS student fees
 - Current fee is \$1.30 per student
 - Generates around \$26 000 in the fall semester, \$16000 in the spring semester and \$8000 in the summer
- How are the UVSPs budgets approved?
 - This year, the budget was done by Allie due to staff constraints
- Is our spending on track?
 - Last year we went over budget because of buying a computer for the office
- Is our spending on budget this year?
 - We are extremely underbudget
 - Delayed cheque reqs
 - Lack of grant program applicants
 - Staff turnover
 - We didn't have a lot of events, especially ones that use a lot of money
 - Environmental roundtable has not been accounted for yet
- Amount collected from student fees is estimated to be higher in the next year because of estimation that enrolment at UVic will be higher next year
 - This means that we are in the positives for the first time in 5 years

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- We will be building on the trust for the first time
 - See the budget for the details on the breakdown of expected costs for different categories
 - [445 UVSP Budget 2026-2027 DRAFT.xlsx](#)
 - Looking forward financially
 - Event budget is underspent, we changed last year from using staff hours for event planning to a more board member led event model
 - Our goal for the past year was to do 2-4 events per month
 - VOTE to adopt the budget
 - Proposed by Jade
 - Seconded by Katia
 - Passed unanimously at 6:55pm

- 8. New directions for the UVSP in 2025/2026 (*approx. 20 minutes*) | A-C
 - There are a few projects that we are sitting on:
 - Bee mural- having a mural somewhere is better than nowhere
 - Green Grassroots Environmental Network- environmental related groups putting their events into one place
 - Having collaboration meetings between lots of different groups
 - Haida was working on this, but when they left, it got dropped
 - Haida found a archived UVSP initiative to encourage carpooling (in conjunction with campus planning)
 - This work could be recycled
 - Spokes, which is now the bike hub, was started by the UVSS
 - Capital bikes is interested in collaborating with us
 - Some people have been advocating for a bike lane through campus
 - We could work on advocating for bike lanes on Mackenzie
 - S.T.A.C. - Sustainable Transportation on Campus
 - Soap vending machine - no longer selling them
 - We could organize pick up point at Uvic for the ZWE and other refilleries
 - The ZWE has price matching programs
 - Food campaign- more vegetarian options on campus
 - Things have improved a lot since we had the campaign
 - This campaign could be expanded to celiacs
 - What did we think of the previous new format for events?
 - This year, things got very messed up and it wasn't our fault
 - Big transitions year, a LOT of staff transition, so many board members graduated
 - We talked about doing a meeting per month on collaborative planning for events- this hasn't happened
 - looking at a calendar (physical) for loose idea building could be helpful
 - We could put a shared google calendar in the google drive
 - How do we get more people involved with the UVSP

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- Collabs are really help, but independent events strengthen our independent brand
- Mindful mending draws people in, people were asking about it and expecting it this year
- Any time after 5:30pm doesn't work well for science faculties
- Classroom talks
 - This year A-C did ES 200 panels
 - Going into a variety of classes in the beginning of the year could draw first years especially for different facilities than ES
- Kickstarter event- back to school hike?
 - Close after tabling
- Sophie's reels have been getting people interested!!
- Put some flyers in residence goodie bags
- Fun tabling activity
- First year friday
- Green space tour for first year- collab with cicada club?
- What do we want to focus on (campaigns, programs, etc)?
 - We should have internal goals about what events we want to have in the year
 - Bird campaign
 - More meetings!
 - More political action
 - Attending protests to go as a group
 - Land defense actions
 - Collab with Tadamon
 - UVSS has rules on advocating for Palestine
 - We are starting a collaboration with the CFUV to do a highlight on some specific radio shows
 - 101.9 utopia
 - Surfrider is advocating for ecoboxes in the sub- we could be a big help in this
- Graduating? Work terms? Exchange?
 - Abbey, Katia, A-C, are graduating
- Summer board meetings & events (*approx. 10 minutes*) | A-C
 - Bi-weekly meeting
 - Poll for summer meeting
 - A decent amount of people are staying for the summer
- Upcoming events (*approx. 10 minutes*) | A-C
- Closing

To dos:

- Fill out signing authority forms | A-C
- Pay the website
- Create a poll for summer meeting time

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