

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH

UVic and the community

The University of Victoria is strongly committed to civic engagement and to partnering with communities to develop collaborative solutions to some of the most challenging issues of our times. The university offers an unrivalled combination of: one of Canada's broadest and most active sets of community-based research initiatives, one of the country's largest experiential learning programs providing real-life experiences for its students, and an extensive and innovative continuing education program.

This dynamic combination of community-based activities includes:

- more than 2,700 co-operative education placements for its students each year, as well as additional practicum placements and internships in schools, hospitals and community organizations
- collaborative community-based research through the activities of UVic's interdisciplinary teaching and research centres, such as those on: aging, addictions research, youth and society, and health promotion; interdisciplinary initiatives such as the Coasts Under Stress project; and the efforts of individual researchers and research teams
- more than two dozen certificate and diploma programs, in everything from Aboriginal language revitalization and the restoration of natural systems to business administration, restorative justice, and heritage conservation as well as lectures and educational programs that serve more than 17,000 individuals each year.

A new initiative to build even stronger partnerships

UVic is establishing an Office of Community-Based Research that will build on the university's existing strengths in civic engagement by co-coordinating and encouraging research partnerships with the community that will:

- create new opportunities for collaborative research on issues that matter to our communities
- provide strong evidence-based recommendations for public policies, programs and practices to meet community needs
- enhance the quality of life and the economic, environmental and social well-being of communities.

The new office will open in early 2007, under the direction of Dr. Budd Hall, an internationally recognized leader in university-community research collaboration. Its offices and meeting space will be located in the Continuing Studies Building.

A 12-person steering committee co-chaired by a community leader and UVic's vice-president research, and composed equally of university and community partners, will determine the overall direction of the office.

An external advisory committee of national and international experts and practitioners will provide advice and support on the Canadian and international dimensions of the office's research activities.

The work plan for the office will be developed in consultation with university and community members.

What is community-based research?

Community-based research is the joint creation of knowledge, often about critical issues of the day, between community and university partners. It aims to promote change that will have a positive impact on both communities and society in general.

Your advice and support will help us move forward together

What advice or suggestions do you have for us as we move forward?

Please contact:

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