

**University Endowment Lands  
Community Advisory Council (CAC)**

Ministry of Public Safety and  
Solicitor General  
Honourable Mike Farnsworth  
P.O. Box 9010 Stn Provincial  
Government  
Victoria, B.C. V8W9E2  
Email: [PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and  
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Honourable Selina Robinson  
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Attorney General  
Honourable David Eby, MLA,  
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October 20, 2019

Dear Honourable Ministers:

The CAC of the UEL is writing to support the July 26, 2019 letter sent by a group of UEL community members, attached for ease of reference. Since that time, many more burglaries have occurred, and several other community members have expressed their concerns that the RCMP detachment is unable to meet the needs of the UEL and UBC communities.

The CAC has met with the RCMP and has been informed that resources at the detachment have been cut over the past few years, in spite of the increased development of UBC over the past decade. Furthermore, a disproportionate amount of the RCMP's limited resources are directed to policing the university campus and Wreck Beach, rather than serving the residents and businesses whose taxes fund them, with specific emphasis on the fact that the taxes on most homes in the area have more than double in just one year.

As stated in the attached letter, we have been advised that RCMP resources are currently being allocated according to some arcane funding formula based on full-time residents, and does not account for part-time student residents and non-resident students which together is estimated at a population of over 60,000. The result is that the RCMP has grossly inadequate funding to discharge their responsibilities in our UEL community which is 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the UBC population, estimated at 5,800 UEL residents. This critical shortage of RCMP resources comes at a time when many of our resident's property taxes have more than doubled over the past year.

We have made these concerns known to our MLA, the Honourable David Eby who also looks to your support in addressing this issue proactively.

Sincerely,



Kaity Arsoniadis-Stein LLB, LLM

President, CAC

*Attachment/ Community Letter dated July 26, 2019*

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General  
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July 26, 2019

Dear Minister Farnsworth,

We are writing to express our deep concern over the recent spate of break-ins and burglaries in the UEL and to request more RCMP resources to protect UEL residents.

We understand from speaking with the RCMP that their staffing has been cut back significantly over the past several years, in spite of the rapid pace of development of UBC over the past 10 years, to the point that our RCMP detachment is unable to meet the needs of the UEL and UBC communities. We understand that a number of factors underlie the challenges faced by our police detachment. First, they are compelled to devote a disproportionate amount of their limited resources to policing university campus and Wreck Beach related matters rather than serving the residents and businesses whose taxes fund them. Second, we understand this problem arises because funding is based on full-time residents living in non-university housing and not on the students in UBC residences and the enormous number of daily commuters to campus. We have been advised that RCMP resources are currently being allocated according to some arcane funding formula based on full – time residents, and not part-time student residents. The result is that the RCMP now have grossly inadequate funding to discharge their responsibilities in our community. And all this, notwithstanding the fact that many of our resident’s property taxes have doubled over the past year.

We would like to give you just a few examples of how brazen and physically threatening criminal activity has become in our community.

Over the past month alone, there have been three serious home invasions in Area B of the UEL. On Friday, June 14, 2019, a burglar was intercepted by a homeowner at 11 p.m. at 5590 Kingston Road. He had bashed a hole in a glass door and was attempting to open the door by unlocking the door from the inside. The burglar had thrown a rawhide bone to their dog and when the homeowner went to investigate a strange noise, the burglar calmly walked away, before the police could respond, over two hours later. The RCMP explained that it was attending a loud student house party and that the 911 call had been mis-categorized as a Code 2 call. The burglar entered the property through a neighboring empty home property, by climbing over the fence. A carpet was found draped over the fence and the fence was bent.

Two weeks later, a homeowner on 6021 Newton Wynd, had their alarmed home broken into, also through a back door whose window had been smashed. The homeowners were not at home, and their front gate was compromised and jewelry and money were stolen. The alarm company, Provident, and police were slow in responding and unfortunately, fingerprints did not match anyone in the RCMP database.

On Monday, July 22, another home on 5570 Kingston Road, reported that an unauthorised drone had been discovered flying over and photographing their property at 8:30 p.m. The homeowner photographed a black SUV retrieving the drone.

These invasions have been reported to UEL Block watch representatives, UEL Manager Jonn Braman and the RCMP. There has been a neighborhood meeting of concerned homeowners in Area B. The urgent need to address rising crime in UEL neighborhoods was discussed at the Community Advisory Council (CAC) meeting on July 15, 2019, which an RCMP representative and representative of MLA David Eby attended. There have been several follow-up meetings between CAC and RCMP. When asked to provide more RCMP resources, Manager Braman advised that his management responsibility did not include protection of community members by the RCMP and that it was your ministry that should be contacted and that he was uncertain how policing resources were allocated or even who he should contact in your ministry. The RCMP advised that homeowners should be prepared for at least a 30 minute or more delay in response time provided that the call was designated Code One and that the call came in during regular business hours. We were told that there were usually three police on duty from 9 a.m to 4 p.m. but significantly less than this in the evening hours, when most residential crimes are committed. He advised it was extremely difficult to find staff who were willing to serve the night shift. And that more resources were needed to deal with present and future expected crime. The RCMP said that their requests for more funding had not been successful. They advised that even with a doubling of their staff, meeting current demand for their services would be difficult. And that criminals know this and are taking advantage of the inadequate police protection in the UEL.

Our communities in the UEL and in the UBC residential neighbourhoods have changed significantly in recent years. There is greater density, increased population and traffic, unhealthy noise levels, as well as more empty homes and organized crime. All of these factors support the view that RCMP's resources to police the UEL are grossly inadequate.

It is past time to allocate more funding to protect the UEL's quality of life and its citizenry. We no longer feel safe or secure in our homes in the UEL. We ask that you make the provision of substantially more resources to the RCMP your "Code One" highest priority going forward.

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Christine and Raul Carvalho, 5611 Chancellor Boulevard

Julia Eng, 5516 Newton Wynd

Thomas and Amy Fung, 5700 Kingston Road

Maria Harris, 1820 Allison Road

Jaymie and Steven Ho, 5590 Kingston Rd

Diane and John Norton, 1416 Acadia Road

Ron Pears, 1892 Acadia Road

Lynne Pomfret, 1831 Acadia Road

Lisa Vogt and Chris Hodgson, 5587 Chancellor Boulevard

Marg and Bruce Stuart, 6021 Newton Wynd

Angie and Chee Thong, 5816 Newton Wynd

Carol and Cooper Walls, 5633 Chancellor

Alicia and Benjamin Yen, 1269 Acadia Road

The Zhang Family, 5655 Chancellor Boulevard