



Student Society  
of UBC Vancouver

## Submission to the UBC Board of Governors on the MacInnes Field Parkade November 22<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Dear Board of Governors,

The AMS is currently opposed to the design proposal for the MacInnes Field Parkade.

We have included our submission to the Board of Governors from last September, as well as past communications detailing our concerns with the parkade design (see appendix). We have raised our concerns repeatedly with Property's Trust and Campus and Community Planning, during and after the formal consultation. To date, no changes have been implemented that address the issues we raised in our last submission and previous communications.

In our last submission, we detailed our disappointment that the consultation was not conducive to implementing AMS feedback. We requested to collaborate with relevant University units to resolve these issues and we were grateful the Board of Governors supported this notion at their last meeting. Property's Trust has been willing to meet with the AMS to resolve these issues, however, they have not yet been willing to adjust the placement of the entrance and exit of the parkade in any form.

By refusing to change the entrance and exit of the parkade, the University fails to address the issues of student and pedestrian safety, access to the Nest, traffic build up, and emergency vehicle access. For these reasons, the AMS Board of Directors voted unanimously to inform the Board of Governors that we currently oppose the design for the MacInnes Field Parkade and we will continue to do so until the placement of the entrance and exit is resolved.

As a neighbor to the site, and supporters of parking in the proposed location, the AMS would appreciate collaborating with relevant University units to locate a different placement for the entrance and exit of the parkade. We hope the Board of Governors will continue to prioritize meaningful student consultation on all issues that affect students. This is, disappointingly, an example of where student consultation was treated as a requirement rather than a meaningful process that can impact decisions taken by the University.

We are thankful for the Board of Governors in their active support and inclusion of students to ensure that we are heard and that our voices are acted upon. With this in mind, we must prioritize the safety of our students before anything else, and therefore the AMS must oppose the current design of the project. We hope the Board of Governors will act in the interest of student safety and in the spirit of collaboration.

Sincerely,

**Alan Ehrenholz**

President

AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver

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**Max Holmes**

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AMS Student Society of UBC Vancouver

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## Appendix: Previous Submission to the UBC Board of Governors



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### Submission on the Proposed MacInnes Field Parkade

Dear Members of the Board of Governors,

The AMS is currently unable to support the design proposal for the MacInnes Field Parkade.

Based on the public open house materials provided for the parkade, there is a perception of encroachment on the AMS Student Nest (the Nest) from this project. Rather than creating an entryway which goes straight from University Boulevard into the facility, it has been situated in a curved layout that will discourage pedestrian traffic from entering the Nest. There is also concern that the proposed design potentially poses a safety hazard in what has been a high-traffic area for pedestrians.

The proposed parking facilities exits have also been laid out in a way that does not support the equitable distribution of parkade patrons to the surrounding facilities. This results from the placement of three exits on the eastern edge of the parkade, and just one on the western side, where the Nest is located.

Tangentially, the AMS is also concerned about the presence on Site D (immediately adjacent to the proposed parkade ramp) of what can only be assumed to be a fifth establishment serving alcohol in an approximately 100-metre radial zone. The AMS had been previously unaware of such an establishment being placed in this location.

In summary, there is a feeling that the consultation being undertaken in this process, as has also been seen with select recent tuition proposals, has not been conducive to implementing feedback from the AMS (which is spelled out in the Appendix). To this effect, the public open house was held just six days in advance of the joint meeting of the Board of Governors Finance and Property Committees. As a neighbor to the site, and supporters of the concept of parking in the proposed location, the AMS would appreciate collaboration with relevant University units to resolve the issues described above.

Sincerely,

Jakob H. Gattinger  
Vice President, Academic and University Affairs *pro tem*  
The Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver

Alan D. Ehrenholz  
President  
The Alma Mater Society of UBC Vancouver



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## Appendix: Previous Communication of Concerns

**From:** Michael Kingsmill  
**Sent:** August 24, 2017 12:53 PM  
**To:** John Metras ([John.Metras@ubc.ca](mailto:John.Metras@ubc.ca)) <[John.Metras@ubc.ca](mailto:John.Metras@ubc.ca)>  
**Subject:** RE: UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD PARKADE

John

I wanted to follow-up on our post JOC Friday meeting conversation regarding the new University Boulevard parkade project. I thought it would be more productive if we brought forward our concerns so that we can discuss in detail when we meet on Friday. Following are a number of our concerns:

We believe the proposed access to the parkade will introduce serious conflicts with the pedestrian pathways to this area.

We are also of the opinion that the access to the parkade by the lane behind Focus and War Memorial Gym as shown on the attached PDF is preferable. Additionally we are also of the opinion that having the entrance to the parkade further East would act as a traffic calming device

If it goes forward we are concerned about the fire truck and ambulance access to this area and the conflict with traffic to the parkade

If it goes forward we are concerned about the aesthetics of the parkade access ramp & landscaping

If it goes forward the current hard surface treatment will not withstand this additional traffic and will need to be resurfaced in a mutually acceptable way

If it goes forward we are concerned about the loss of the electrical vehicle recharging stations that are part of our LEEDS program

If it goes forward the AMS 'Shared AMS / UBC South Plaza Agreement' would need to be modified

Signing off for now and see you tomorrow

Regards,

**Michael Kingsmill**

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