

The UVic-Community Mapping Collaboratory Supporting collaboration, innovation and placemaking

What are we?: The UVic CMC is a community-campus co-learning, action-based incubator and facilitator for students, faculty and citizens to engage in planning, sustainability and place-making using the process of asset and place mapping. Having evolved from the Common Ground Community Mapping Project begun in 1997, the CMC Vision is the empowerment of citizens to co-create healthy, vibrant and sustainable communities. Over the past 10 years the UVic CMCo-Lab engaged a wide array of students and citizens from the broader public –locally, nationally and globally - in classroom and community classes, courses and workshops; hired 20+ student and community interns, published numerous scholarly articles, presented and facilitated workshops at 15+ provincial, national and global conferences, and supported or co-led field programs on Vancouver Island, Cascadia, Europe, India and B.C. The UVic CMC has also raised over \$400,000 in funding and from 1997-2007 the CG Mapping Project raised \$450,000.

Who are we? : The CMC is guided by a steering committee with representatives from community organizations and NGOs, First Nations, government, and UVic Faculty and staff. The UVic CMC Co-Chairs are John Lutz (UVIC Chair of History) and Eric Nahser Ringer (CRD Aboriginal Relations office.) Staff co-directors are Ken Josephson and Maeve Lydon. Rhianna Nagel is CMC liaison to the Faculty of Social Sciences in her role as the Faculty's Community Engaged Learning Coordinator. Daniel Brendle-Mozuk and Lisa Goddard are the UVic Library liaisons. There have been 10 paid interns over the past three years and many volunteers.

Where are we?: The UVic Community Mapping Collaboratory's website is <http://mapping.uvic.ca> The CMC Lab is located in the Geography Department B209A in the David Turpin Building with computer access, maps and reports available for campus (students, faculty and staff) and community use. The UVic Library has two on-line community and green map collections <http://contentdm.library.uvic.ca/cdm/search/collection/collection28> and <http://contentdm.library.uvic.ca/cdm/search/collection/collection17>

CMC Network /Global Community of Practice: The CMC is also the secretariat for the new Common Ground Community Mapping Network, which involves other campus-community partners /co-labs (USask, Memorial U, Concordia U, UBrighton, UBC, ESRI, Green Map, Carleton U) and is focused on sharing resources and facilitating collaboration using a common platform. <http://cgcmc.geog.uvic.ca>. The Common Ground Community Mapping Network is closely aligned with the global Green Map (www.greenmap.org) network which has engaged 900 communities in 65 countries in green mapping. Common Ground co-hosted the National Community Mapping Summit in Montreal in 2015 with Concordia University.

Guiding Values: (see CGNetworks' Guiding Values)

Funders: The UVic CMC has been funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, MITACS, the Intercultural Association, Van City, Vancouver Foundation, United Way of Greater Victoria, Victoria Foundation, CRD, the City of Victoria and fee for service grants from diverse campus, local government and community partners.

Community Impact

The Collaboratory has had **significant impact** on the UVic community, our region and beyond through community action and place-based research projects that include the production of over 20 regional and neighbourhood maps, interactive platforms and learning resources used worldwide. Neighborhood mapping / visions projects and maps undertaken and completed in the Capital Region include: Fernwood, Oak Bay, South Jubilee, North Park, Oaklands, Marigold, Port Renfrew, Brentwood, Colwood, James Bay, Fairfield, Victoria West, Esquimalt and thematic projects have included the GitGa'at Mapping and Placenames project, the WSÁNEĆ Saltwater People's project, the Peninsula Play Spaces Project and others. On a larger scale the UVic CMC has led and co-designed major regional planning projects such as the **City of Victoria Greenways Plan** (2003-2004), the **United Way of Greater Victoria's Community Tables: Engaging Neighbours Project** (2011-2015) the Municipality of Saanich's **Shelbourne Valley Visions Project** (2012-2015), City of Victoria (2008) and the Municipality of Saanich (2009) **Arts and Culture Strategies**; the **Port Renfrew Community Visions and Mapping project** (2004-2005), the Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable (CRFAIR) / Municipality of North Saanich's **Vision Sandown Project** (2015-2016) and the Inter-Cultural Association (ICA) of **Greater Victoria Local Immigration Partnership (GVLIP) Asset Mapping and Visioning project** (2015-present)

UVic Community Mapping Collaboratory – Plans for 2017 and Beyond!

The Collaboratory continues to work – in four main areas and with a joint university-community steering committee. These include:

1. Project Design and Facilitation

Facilitate and create community mapping and sustainability projects within and between community and campuses

* Leadership to support the UVic Oak Bay-Lekwungen Living Lab project with campus and regional school educators, indigenous and community partners; ongoing support for the Intercultural Association Local Immigrant Partnership and Newcomer Program and other projects as requested

* Ongoing course and field program support in a number of Faculties, regionally and globally (e.g. Digital Storytelling CED Project (Writing), Cascadia and North European Sustainability Field Schools, Ethnobotany, Ethnoecology, Coastal Communities, Dispute Resolution, MA Community Development...)

* Continue to build existing and potential project funds and partners – CRD Community Green Map, CRD Health Mapping, City Studio, NSERC Living Lab, Community Living BC

2. Community of Practice and Capacity Development

Support faculty to integrate community mapping into classroom learning and community-based action research projects. Create community and campus courses, training and resource tools.

(Put in major points from CEL Course application)

3. Innovation Co-Lab and Resource Support

Provide technical and community lab support to students, community and faculty via CMC Mapping lab, web platforms and Library

*Continued development of the open-source, participatory, interactive [StoriedMaps](#) Drupal distribution mapping platform and websites based on that platform: the [CRD](#) and [UVic Community Green Maps](#), the [UVic CMC](#), [Geography's sustainability field school](#), [Common Ground Community Mapping Network](#)

* Provision of drop-in Community Mapping Lab and Resource Centre for UVic and Community for curriculum and project support

*Continued collaboration with UVic Library to provide on-line, digital archive of historical and Community Green Maps and resources

4. Place-based Research and Public Engagement

Collaborate on, promote and advance the theory and practice of community-based mapping and placemaking locally, nationally and globally.

*Indigenous and Community Mapping capacity building and training - regionally (CRD) and nationally. Specific support for the W̱SÁNEĆ and Songhees First Nations for their traditional use and place-names mapping, education and land use projects.

* Host a Community Mapping Fair at UVic's IDEAFEST 2017

*Coordination of the Common Ground Community Mapping Network to support national and global community of practice and staff, student and faculty exchanges. Create Winter Webinar Series for 2017.

*Continue partnership with global Green Map, explore National Projects (e.g. Canada's 150th) and a Community Mapping Workshop / Exhibit at CUExPO 2017 at SFU (May 1-5, 2017.)

* Continue development and dissemination of academic and practitioners tools and resources