

Reflecting on 2024-2025 and Celebrating 10 Years of the Okanagan Charter

This past year, UBC celebrated significant milestones in its global leadership as a health-promoting university. The Okanagan Charter: An International Charter for Health Promoting University and Colleges marked its ten-year anniversary, highlighted at the 2025 International Health Promoting Campuses Conference hosted by the University of Limerick, Ireland, where UBC representatives delivered a keynote, workshops, and posters, sharing expertise with 400 participants from around the world.

Closer to home, UBC's Wellbeing Strategic Framework reached its five-year anniversary. Following extensive community engagement in 2019, our Framework set out a vision, priorities, and bold targets to embed health, equity, and sustainability into every part of campus life. As the first of its kind in Canada, it has since inspired many other institutions to develop similar approaches, further amplifying UBC's role as a leader in this work. As we reflect on the past five years, progress towards many of our population-level targets has been impacted by global challenges beyond our control, including COVID-19, affordability pressures, and climate change. Despite these circumstances, we are proud of the systems-wide initiatives UBC has advanced in response, with virtually all partner- and committee-led activities and milestones outlined for this period now completed.

This year, in addition to our UBC Wellbeing Year in Review: 2024-2025 Highlights and feature stories, we are sharing an Implementation Roadmap 5-Year Summary Report to showcase the progress and successes on these activities across each priority area, set by and made possible through the leadership and commitment of many UBC faculties, units, and supportive partners across the university. These collective efforts highlight how interconnected and foundational issues like anti-racism, decolonization, climate action, and collaborative leadership are to promoting wellbeing across UBC Vancouver, Okanagan, and our other sites across the province.

This report reflects the creativity, dedication, and collective impact of the UBC community working to nurture communities of care where people, places, and the planet can thrive. We invite you to explore highlights and stories from the UBC Wellbeing community in the full annual report at wellbeing.ubc.ca/annualreport24-25.

As we look ahead to renewing our Wellbeing Strategic Framework for the next five years, UBC remains committed to building on existing priorities while addressing emerging priorities for our community—such as digital wellbeing and the evolving needs within our teaching, learning, and workplace environments and deepening our engagement with partners to advance Indigeneity, equity and sustainability. Together, we will continue shaping campuses where wellbeing is integral to how we live, work, learn, and play, and invite our community to imagine what's next at wellbeing.ubc.ca.

Office of Wellbeing Strategy Team

