



a place of mind  
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## The new UBC Aquatic Centre construction project reaches major milestone with completion of the roof; one year countdown is on.

*January marks a significant milestone for the new UBC Aquatic Centre project as the new facility's roof is now complete. This benchmark is a key date as the project continues to be on track for completion for late fall 2016.*

The rich culture and history of aquatic sport and recreation is about to be greatly enriched with the construction of a new UBC Aquatic Centre given its amenities. UBC staff and athletes took time out this week to acknowledge the work of the construction crew, some of whom have been working on-site since the start of the \$39-million project in August 2014.

"This new aquatic facility will not only be the home of the UBC Thunderbirds varsity swimming programs, as well as be a great amenity for students, but will also better service the needs of residents and the growing UBC community," shared Kavie Toor, Director Facilities & Business Development with UBC Athletics & Recreation.

The new UBC Aquatic Centre will feature a 10-lane 50m 'FINA certified' competition pool, an 8-lane 25m pool with accessible ramp and diving boards, a leisure pool including an accessible ramp, lazy river, along with other key water features. Additional amenities in the new UBC Aquatic Centre are 30-person hot tub, a food and beverage kiosk, and viewing areas at both deck and mezzanine levels. Additionally, the facility is also being outfitted for sauna and steam room capabilities to be completed at a future date.

UBC has long been associated with aquatic excellence. As home to successful varsity swimming programs and many of Canada's national swim team through Swimming Canada's High Performance Centre, UBC holds rights to 34 Canadian Interuniversity Sport titles and is credited as being home of 40 Olympian alumni swimmers.

With both CIS national swimming championships and the Canadian Olympic and Para-swimming Trials (qualifiers for the Rio 2016 Summer Games) on the horizon over the coming weeks, athletes were keenly excited to participate in the sneak-peak of the new facility. "It so motivating to see this building literally coming out of the ground in front of us", said Olympian and UBC student-athlete Tera Van Beilen. "We are so thankful for the work being done as this pool will be a game changer for us and the entire UBC community."

In an effort to ensure the new UBC Aquatic Centre provides aquatic opportunities for the entire community, UBC Aquatic Centre staff are engaging with the aquatic community, pool users and the public as part of the process of developing programming and services levels for the new facility. The next opportunity to actively engage in the process and share ideas is at a UBC Athletics & Recreation Open House scheduled for Friday February 19th (4-6pm).

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