



PHASE 1 CONSULTATION SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 2016

*This document has been prepared by DIALOG for Brandon University
as part of the Campus Master Planning Process.*



**BRANDON
UNIVERSITY**

DIALOG™



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Pop-up Open House, September 16, 2016

BACKGROUND

INTRODUCTION

In 2016, Brandon University has embarked on an exciting journey to develop a Campus Master Plan that sets a direction for its future growth and development over the coming decades. Looking ahead, the Campus Master Plan will be a critical guide to: the placement and character of new buildings, building renovations, and expansions; the use, location, and character of campus open spaces; and, the hierarchy, character, and role of streets and paths in recognition of the academic and community engagement direction of the University.

Brandon University has retained DIALOG Inc. to lead the consultant team, providing master planning, design and public engagement expertise. DIALOG is working with Resource Planning Group Inc. (RPG), who are providing spatial planning analysis and expertise.

PROJECT PROCESS

The diagram below outlines the project phases, including the evolution of the Campus Master Plan from an initial Vision to Concept Plan and supporting policies.



PHASE 1 CONSULTATION EVENTS

The following consultation events were held as part of Phase 1:

- Pop-up Open House #1, held on September 16, 2016.
- Workshop #1, held on September 16, 2016.
- Stakeholder Interviews, held on September 15, 2016 and October 12, 2016.
- Rotating Pop-up Open Houses, held from September to October 2016 at:
 - Dr. James and Lucille Brown Health Studies Complex
 - Education Building
 - Queen Elizabeth II Music Building
 - Harvest Hall
 - Knowles Douglas Student Union Building
 - Physical Plant Building
 - John R. Brodie Science Centre
 - John E. Robbins Library
 - Healthy Living Centre (homecoming weekend)

PHASE 1 CONSULTATION SUMMARY

This document provides a summary of outcomes from Phase 1 engagement events and contains the following information:

- **Draft Vision and Planning Principles** – the Vision and Planning Principles were developed during Workshop #1, and subsequently refined by the consultant team in order to reflect input from the stakeholders and Pop-up Open Houses.
- **Emerging Themes** – these capture recurring ideas, aspirations, and objectives for the campus that were expressed by participants during engagement events. These themes help to provide direction to the consultant team in preparing the Campus Master Plan.
- **Detailed Outcomes** – this section includes a detailed summary of input provided during the engagement events. It is from this input that the emerging themes, and draft Vision and Planning Principles are derived.

This information will form part of the Campus Master Plan that is being prepared by the consultant team. The Vision, Planning Principles, and Emerging Themes may be refined based on feedback from engagement events held over the course of the project. This information will inform the Master Plan concept development and frameworks.

SUMMARY EVENT OUTCOMES

The following Draft Vision and Planning Principles were developed in collaboration with the University community during Workshop #1, they have been refined and expanded upon based on input gathered during the Pop-up Open Houses and Stakeholder Interviews.

DRAFT VISION

This Vision will help to inspire and guide decision-making as Brandon University looks ahead to the future of its campus.

Brandon University's campus should be a student-centred environment that provides a unique, dynamic, and enriching place for learning, innovation, recreation, and research. It should be a welcoming and community-oriented place where diversity and culture is embraced and celebrated. The campus will become a high-quality environment with state-of-the-art facilities that support Brandon University in nurturing and inspiring people, forging new approaches to learning and research, and supporting community wellbeing. It will become a destination and a jewel within the city that adds value to the broader community and enriches its members' quality of life.

DRAFT PLANNING PRINCIPLES

The following Draft Planning Principles provide a foundation for design work, policies, and related recommendations in the Campus Master Plan, and are the basis for the development of the Concept Plan and Plan Frameworks.

A. Cultivate and showcase Brandon University's unique identity, sense of place, and commitment to innovative student-centred pedagogy.

All aspects of the campus, from buildings, to open spaces, paths, and interior spaces, will convey a unique, and high-quality, sense of place. The campus design and character will reflect BU's ambition to continue to strive for excellence as a student-centred institution of choice, while supporting its growth as a centre for innovative research and creative activity.

B. Create an inclusive, accessible, and welcoming campus that is integrated with the community around it.

BU will design the campus to break down physical, social, economic, and cultural walls and facilitate pathways to a university education and community engagement. This includes creating a physically accessible campus with welcoming frontages to all surrounding areas, as well as providing the spaces and services to support people from a diversity of social, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

C. Support a safe and inviting campus environment.

BU will be a leader in providing a safe and inviting campus environment. Its physical design will include safe and well-illuminated pedestrian pathways, with clear sight-lines, intuitive wayfinding, and attractive open spaces and gathering areas.

D. Strengthen relationships and explore new opportunities to connect with, and be supportive of, the broader community.

BU will continue to find ways to engage and connect with the broader community, including individuals living in Brandon, and local businesses, leaders, artists, and community groups. Stronger relationships with other institutions and organizations will provide an opportunity to position BU as a hub of activity and catalyst for positive change in Brandon.

E. Provide a range of spaces, places, and amenities to support a vibrant and animated campus environment at different times of the day and year.

BU will create a diverse range of places, amenities, and services that meet a variety of needs for different users, and that help to sustain a sense of activity, excitement, and energy on campus throughout the day, evening, and at all times of the year, especially during the winter. This may include spaces specifically designed to support Indigenous culture, including ceremonies as may be appropriate.

F. Foster a campus environment that supports individual and community wellbeing and healthy, active living.

BU will take steps to support the overall health and wellbeing of members of the campus community through the design and provision of spaces, programming, and amenities. This may include initiatives such as providing spaces to host ceremonial events in keeping with Indigenous peoples' tradition and supporting active living.

G. Design a walkable environment that implements a sustainable approach to campus development and growth.

BU will guide the continued physical evolution of the campus in a compact manner that supports walking by creating attractive pedestrian-friendly spaces with short travel distances between buildings. Potential satellite expansions, or partnership facilities with other institutions/organizations, will be connected to the campus through a multi-modal transportation strategy that promotes active transportation and environmentally-friendly options such as walking, cycling, University shuttle service, or public transportation.

H. Implement sustainable practices and design initiatives on campus.

The design of buildings, open spaces, and movement networks should implement sustainable design strategies and approaches that reduce waste and energy use. Other sustainable practices, strategies, and programs that have a positive influence on day-to-day life should also be promoted on campus.

EMERGING THEMES

A series of recurring ideas and themes emerged from input people provided during the consultation events. These emerging themes, as well as the Vision and Planning Principles, will guide the design of the Campus Master Plan.

A UNIVERSITY DISTRICT

- Support the growth of a complete University District that is integrated with the surrounding community, serving as an anchor and hub of activity and animation within the city.
- Maintain and support the campus' small-scale and close-knit environment, intimacy and campus community.

INVITING AND ACCESSIBLE

- Take down physical barriers that keep the University from being visible and accessible by the surrounding community.
- Redefine the campus entrance to make it more prominent.
- Enhance pedestrian safety by defining crossings at key intersections, and limiting vehicular access on opportune pedestrian-only streets.
- Improve internal and external connectivity between campus buildings and to the surrounding community.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- Find new ways to engage the community and encourage their use and enjoyment of the campus and enhance the University's role in community growth and engagement.
- Forge new partnerships with private and public sector entities to create new programs, spaces, activities, and opportunities for students.

INDIGENIZATION OF THE CAMPUS

- Celebrate Indigenous history and culture on campus in programs and events, and through the design of open spaces and buildings.
- Support the Indigenous community by creating welcoming and inclusive space on campus.
- Create opportunities to strengthen the Indigenous presence within the University body.

PLACES FOR SOCIAL GATHERING

- Enhance student life and encourage student activity on campus, especially after hours, by providing more indoor and outdoor spaces for informal study, social interaction, and passive recreation.

24/7 CAMPUS

- Create a safe, animated, and transparent environment on campus by facilitating student and community activity at all hours of the day, throughout the year.

A WALKABLE AND ACTIVE CAMPUS

- Prioritize walkability on campus and support active living and healthy lifestyles.
- Improve wayfinding and make it easier for visitors and newcomers to the campus to find their way around.
- Provide alternate options of parking and travel for commuters that travel by car.

A CENTRAL SPINE

- Re-establish the north-south and east-west pedestrian corridors that run through the original campus.
- Centralize and define open spaces to make it pedestrian-friendly.

CAMPUS DESIGN AND IDENTITY

- Enhance the aesthetic appeal of Brandon University's campus through engaging architecture and open spaces.
- Create a stronger sense of place and arrival on campus.

OPTIMIZING CAMPUS RESOURCES

- Optimize the use of existing campus lands and buildings.
- Create spaces that are flexible and can respond to various forms of teaching and collaboration.

SUPPORTING HEALTHY CHOICES

- Diversify the selection of food services to offer healthy and nutritious options.
- Continue to provide recreation, housing, and health service options on campus that will facilitate people's overall wellness.

HOUSING SUPPLY

- Create more housing options, both on and off campus, to accommodate a variety of community groups.
- Enhance existing student residences to build student life and community.

RESILIENCE AND ADAPTABILITY

- Plan for a long-term sustainable campus from a multi-faceted approach that accommodates future growth and is resilient; recognizing the importance of financial, environmental, and social considerations.

ONGOING ENGAGEMENT

- Appreciate a process that is inclusive of a diversity of voices and hosts a meaningful conversation.



Workshop #1, September 16, 2016

DETAILED EVENT OUTCOMES

POP-UP OPEN HOUSES

The following are a summary of the input provided on each of the interactive panels displayed during a rotating series of Pop-up Open Houses held from September to October 2016 at Brandon University.

WELCOME PANEL

Comments:

- Large auditorium to also accommodate for banquet food service needs.
- Connectivity between buildings needs improvement.
- Western Centennial Auditorium needs better connection to campus. A new auditorium that can be transformed into smaller breakout rooms is desired for programs such fine arts or performing arts or student clubs.
- Improve walkway over street from Darroch Hall.

POLICY CONTEXT

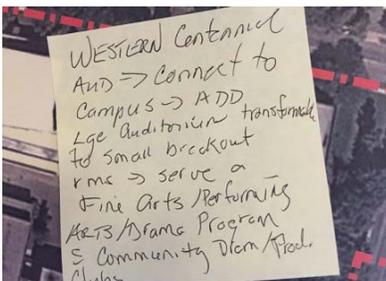
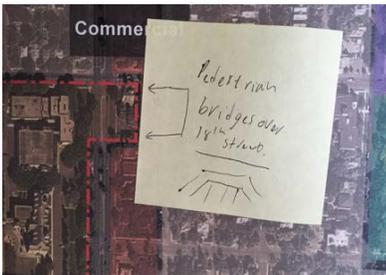
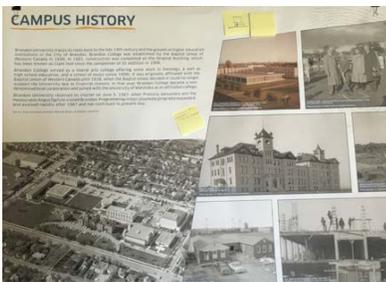
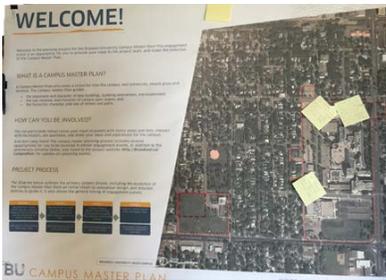
Comments:

- Residences with parking are desired on the west side of campus, where parking lots currently exist.
- A pedestrian bridge over 18th Street is suggested.

CAMPUS HISTORY

Comments:

- Historical design elements should follow design standards.

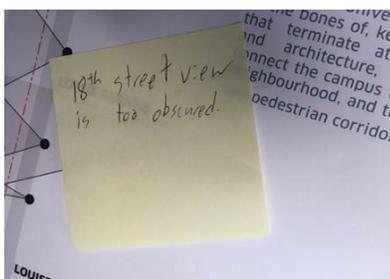
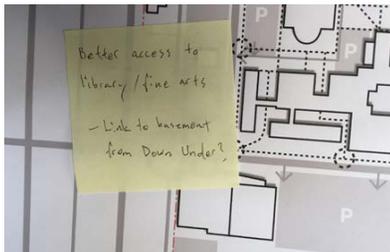
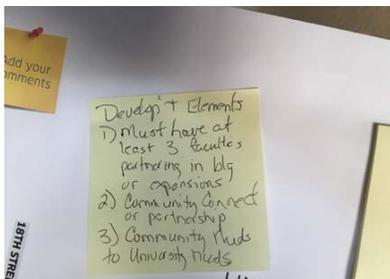


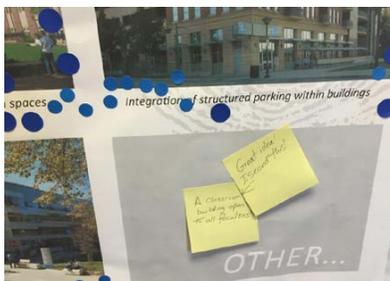
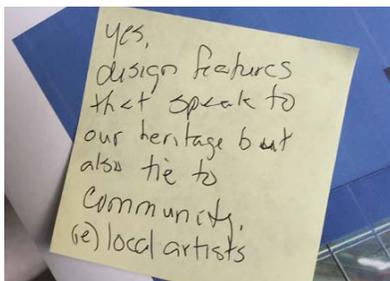
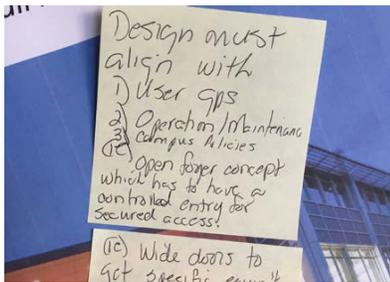
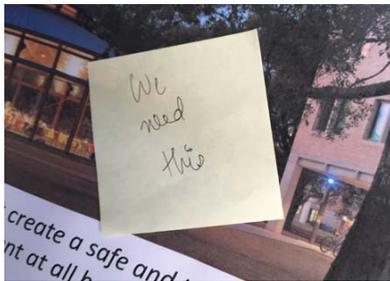


ANALYSIS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Comments:

- Access between campus buildings needs improvement, such as between the library and fine arts.
- Access between the campus and the community needs improvement. For example, a pedestrian link to downtown from Lorne Avenue is proposed.
- It is suggested that Brandon University's campus expand north of the Assiniboine River.
- It is suggested that developments have 3 faculties partnering with the new builds or expansions, community connections or partnership, and cater to both community and university needs.
- There are opportunities to build on unused exterior lots. Currently, the view into campus from 18th Street is obscured from fences/hedges, making it not welcoming.
- The corner at 18th Street and Victoria Street presents opportunities for beautification and to make a lasting impression as a gateway to campus, through the use of environmental design.





BUILT FORM

The following summarizes the outcomes and responses to future built form on campus.

Q: What resonates with you?

High Interest

- Buildings that would create a safe and transparent environment at all hours of the day
- Adaptable and flexible interior spaces
- Animated internal gathering spaces
- Maintaining heritage

Medium Interest

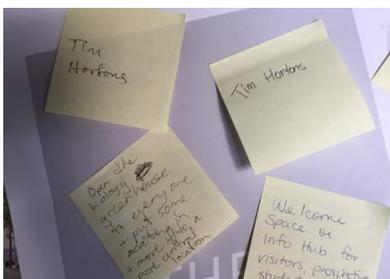
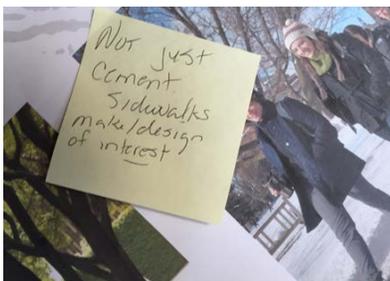
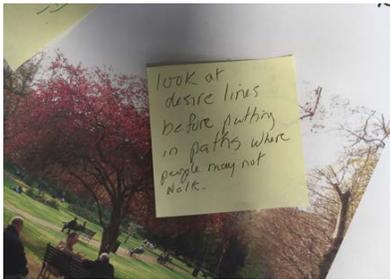
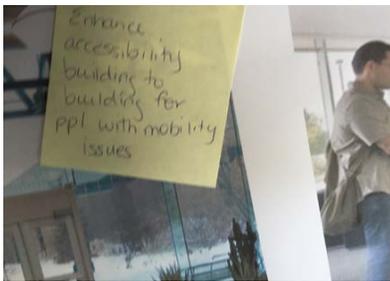
- High-quality architectural design
- Buildings that frame public spaces
- Compact, walkable campus
- Integration of structured parking within buildings
- Student services and amenities

Moderate Interest

- Different building typologies for student residences
- Buildings defining the identity of space

Comments:

- Design must align with user needs, operation/maintenance, and campus policies.
- Open foyers with controlled access for security are suggested.
- New builds should not just tie into heritage but also the community, such as through the involvement of local artists.
- The campus needs improvement in overall transparency of buildings so as to be more inviting; both internally and externally with the community.
- Wayfinding needs to be improved through high quality architecture.
- There is a great desire for more comfortable places to work, with much more natural lighting.
- More commercial amenities, such as banks or coffee shop with good atmosphere, are desired on campus. There are multiple requests for a Tim Horton's or Starbucks.
- Flexible and adaptable spaces would be useful.
- Students suggested that the campus build an indoor pool to be used as part of their campus gym facilities.



OPEN SPACE

The following summarizes the outcomes and responses to future open space on campus.

Q: What open spaces would you like to see on campus?

High Interest

Outdoor places to socialize

- Informal study spaces
- Recreational spaces
- Places for lounging
- Informal open lawn spaces

Medium Interest

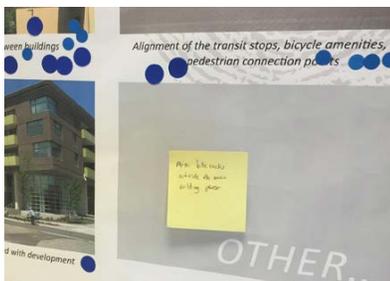
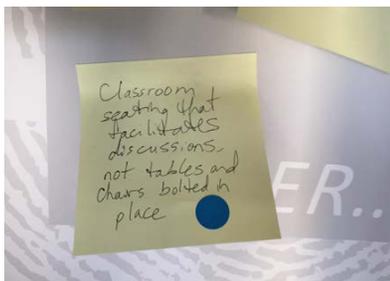
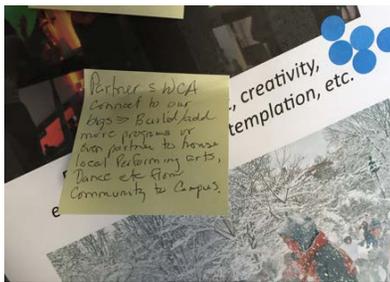
- Plaza open spaces
- Places for contemplation
- Internal space connections

Moderate Interest

- Recreational programming
- Sacred or ceremonial spaces
- External open space corridors
- Learning environments outside of the classroom

Comments:

- Outdoor courtyards should function as gathering spaces and not simply circulation routes.
- Outdoor paths should follow desire lines.
- It is suggested that the Biology department's greenhouse be opened to all students, include seating, and be moved to a more central location so as to act as a social space.
- A welcome space or information hub for visitors and prospective students would be beneficial to the University.
- Sidewalks should not just be concrete, but have design interest.
- There is an interest in creating community gardens.
- Buildings need to be fully accessible for people with mobility issues.
- There is a need for more outdoor winter programming, so that there is more activity through the months of December to February.
- Operation and maintenance should be considered in having formal outdoor spaces.



CAMPUS AMENITIES

The following summarizes the outcomes and responses to future amenities on campus.

Q: What would you like to see on your campus?

High Interest

- Retail and food options
- Flexible spaces for art, creativity, exhibition, events and contemplation
- Places for study
- Sports facilities

Medium Interest

- Social gathering spaces
- Beautiful open spaces
- Bike parking amenities
- Student residences
- Winter activity spaces

Moderate Interest

- Community facilities and amenities
- Enhanced transit service
- Places to connect with the community

Comments:

- There are opportunities to partner with local performing arts, dance and other school or community programs, and Assiniboine Community College to utilize enhanced amenities/buildings.
- Additional sports facilities could include a pool, rugby and indoor soccer facilities.
- There was an overwhelming desire to adding retail and food options as students felt it to be sorely lacking. New retail and food amenities should have options in regards to healthier foods, diets (e.g. gluten-free, vegetarian), wider variety, eating areas, local produce, and access to coffee.
- Other amenities heavily endorsed by students include better science theatres, larger classrooms with two projectors and more leg room and walkways, enhanced classroom seating that could be adapted to facilitate discussions (as opposed to tables and chairs bolted in place), spaces, and for lounging.
- Simple additions like water filling stations can add to the school's overall sustainability and lifestyle.



SUSTAINABILITY

The following summarizes the outcomes and responses to future sustainability on campus.

Q: How sustainable should the campus be?

High Interest

- Day lighting - natural light for internal lighting
- Renewable energy sources
- Local food served and sold on campus

Medium Interest

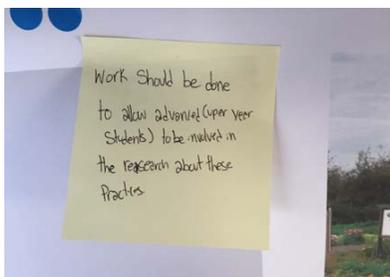
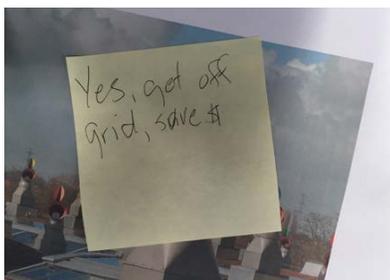
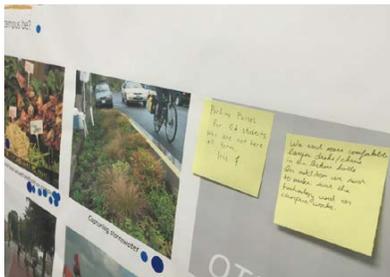
- A substantive canopy of mature trees
- An efficient and convenient transit system
- Storm water retention
- Inconspicuous parkades in place of surface parking
- Community gardens

Moderate Interest

- A more compact, walkable environment
- Less reliance on the vehicle
- "Green" parking lots
- LEED-worthy architecture

Comments:

- Sustainable strategies/business models would allow the University to become independent of external power and save money in the long run. Opportunities include installing solar panels on current empty flat roofs, and effective water-saving fixtures.
- There are opportunities to involve advanced upper year students in the research of sustainability.





MOBILITY

The following summarizes the outcomes and responses to future mobility on campus.

Q: What resonates with you?

High Interest

- A walkable campus
- External greenways
- Climate controlled links between buildings
- Structured parking integrated with development

Medium Interest

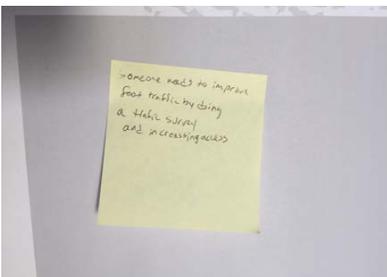
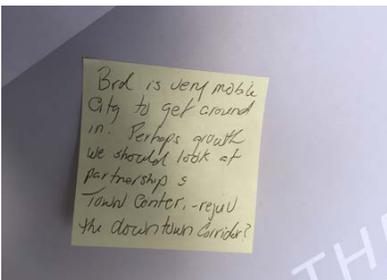
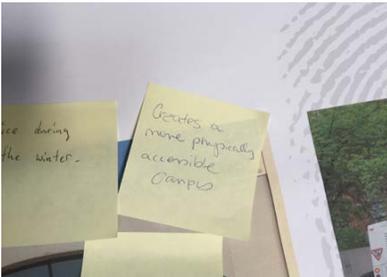
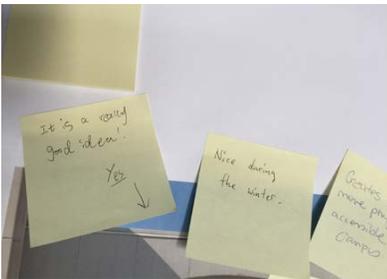
- Alignment of transit stops, bicycle amenities, and pedestrian connection points

Moderate Interest

- Transit
- Small "pocket" parking lots
- Carpooling
- Additional transit hubs
- Transportation demand management

Comments:

- The idea of having more overhead pedestrian bridges (e.g. between the Clark building and the Library) was well received by students, as they found it to be good for the winter climate, more physically accessible, and that it created a greater sense of safety when travelling between buildings.
- Foot traffic throughout the campus needs improvement. A traffic survey is recommended and to increase access.
- The general consensus is that in terms of mobility, Brandon as a city is quite accessible. For future growth it is recommended that the University look into partnerships with the Town Centre in efforts of rejuvenating the downtown corridor.



TELL US ABOUT YOUR CAMPUS

As part of the interactive panels, participants were asked to place a dot on their favourite places, least favourite places, and to identify the "heart" of the campus on a campus map. The following is a summary of the responses.

Favourite Places on Campus

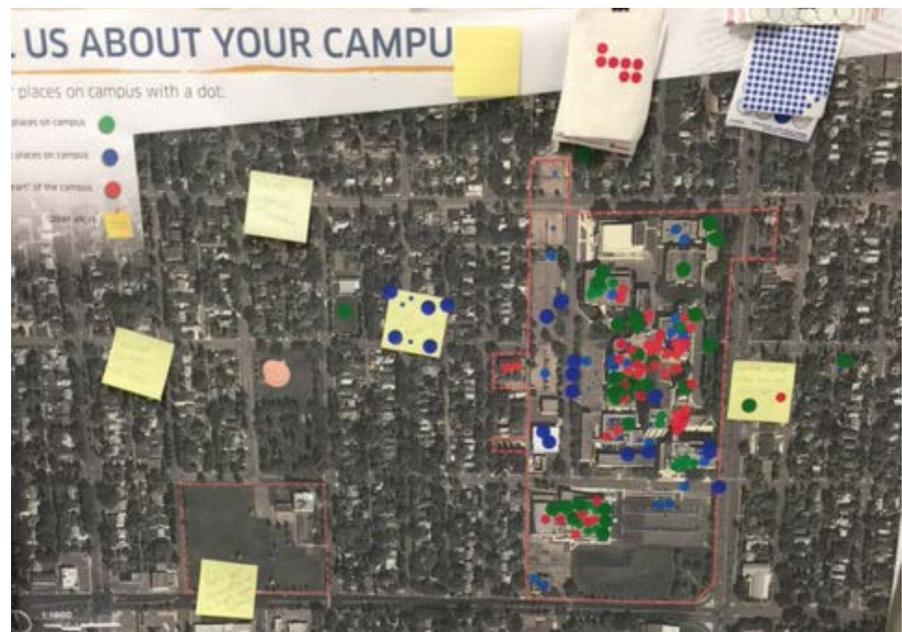
- Queen Elizabeth II Music Building
- John E. Robbins Library
- McMaster Hall
- John R. Brodie Science Centre
- Healthy Living Centre

Least Favourite Places on Campus

- Dr. James & Lucille Brown Health Sciences Complex
- Clark Hall
- Glen. P. Sutherland Gallery of Art
- Parking Lots

"Heart" of the Campus

- Clark Hall
- Knowles Douglas Building



WHERE DO YOU TRAVEL FROM?

As part of the interactive panels, participants were asked to place a dot on their method of transportation and starting point of travel to Brandon University on a city-wide map. The following is a summary of the responses.

Mark Your Starting Point with Dot

Starting points ranged from every direction, with the majority falling within a 30 minute walking radius of the campus (5 minutes equates to 400m). A large number of participants also come from outside of Brandon, such as Souris or Killarney, Manitoba. These participants expressed a need for a commuter-friendly space on campus, that would provide amenities such as coffee and microwaves.

How do You Travel to Campus?

In terms of methods of transportation, the majority of participants drive to campus. The next most popular mode of transport is walking. Much fewer participants ride their bicycles to school. Finally, transit is used the least to get to the University.



WORKSHOP #1: VISION AND PRINCIPLES

WHEN

September 16, 2016

WHO ATTENDED

- Brandon University Students, Faculty, and Staff
- Brandon University Senior Management
- Brandon Community Elders
- City of Brandon Staff
- City of Brandon Police and Fire Departments
- Brandon Chamber of Commerce
- Renaissance Brandon
- Southwest Manitoba School Division Superintendents
- Assiniboine Community College
- General Community Members

WORKSHOP FORMAT

On September 16, 2016, key stakeholders, including BU faculty and staff, Indigenous leaders, City of Brandon staff, as well as members of the community, gathered to have a series of round-table discussions to define the Vision and Planning Principles, and to discuss opportunities and constraints for Brandon University's Campus Master Plan. Summarized below are the key outcomes of this workshop, including the preliminary Vision and Planning Principles and a summary of key opportunities and constraints.

EMERGING VISION

Brandon University is to become a key destination for the City of Brandon, based on its academic excellence, openness, vibrancy, and public engagement. It is to celebrate its heritage and Indigenous culture, while directing the University towards ambitious future growth. Brandon University will become a renown institution that provides state-of-the-art amenities for work, study, rest, and play at all hours of the day. It will become a public jewel that adds value to the City of Brandon and the quality of life of its neighbouring communities.

EMERGING PLANNING PRINCIPLES

- **Vibrant and Inviting:** Take down the "walls" of the campus to be more open and permeable to the community.
- **Public Engagement:** Keep people active and on campus by providing attractive spaces that are open to the public.
- **Identity:** Turn Brandon University into a centre for excellence in teaching and research, building its identity as a research and graduate-oriented school.
- **Student Life:** Prioritize student life by providing more amenities and considering human comfort on campus.
- **Wayfinding:** Create better and more visible wayfinding.
- **Safety:** Create a safe and accessible campus for all hours and seasons.
- **Celebrate Indigenous Heritage:** Celebrate the history and indigenous background of the campus while announcing Brandon University's unique presence.
- **Prepare for future growth:** Maximize the use of available space and invest in satellite campuses.
- **Inclusive campus:** Inclusive to local, Indigenous members and international students alike.
- **Built Form:** Reflect a collection of quality architecture.
- **Open Space:** Improve upon landscaping to make the campus inviting and beautiful.
- **Mobility:** Enhance accessible mobility options to and within campus.



OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS

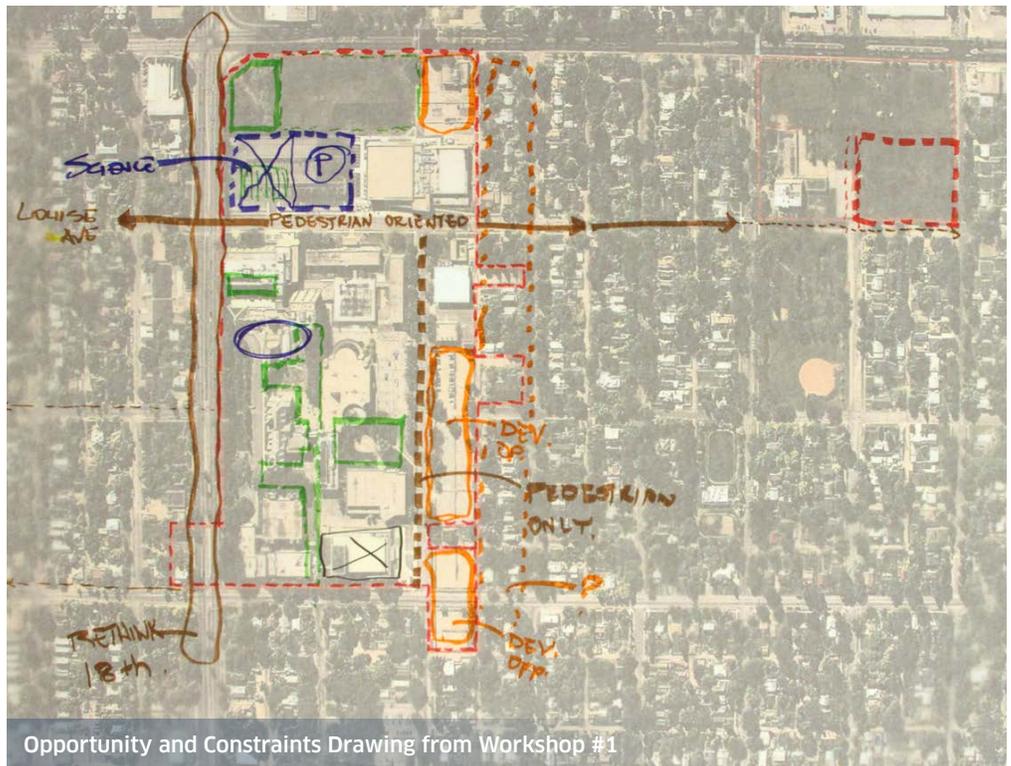
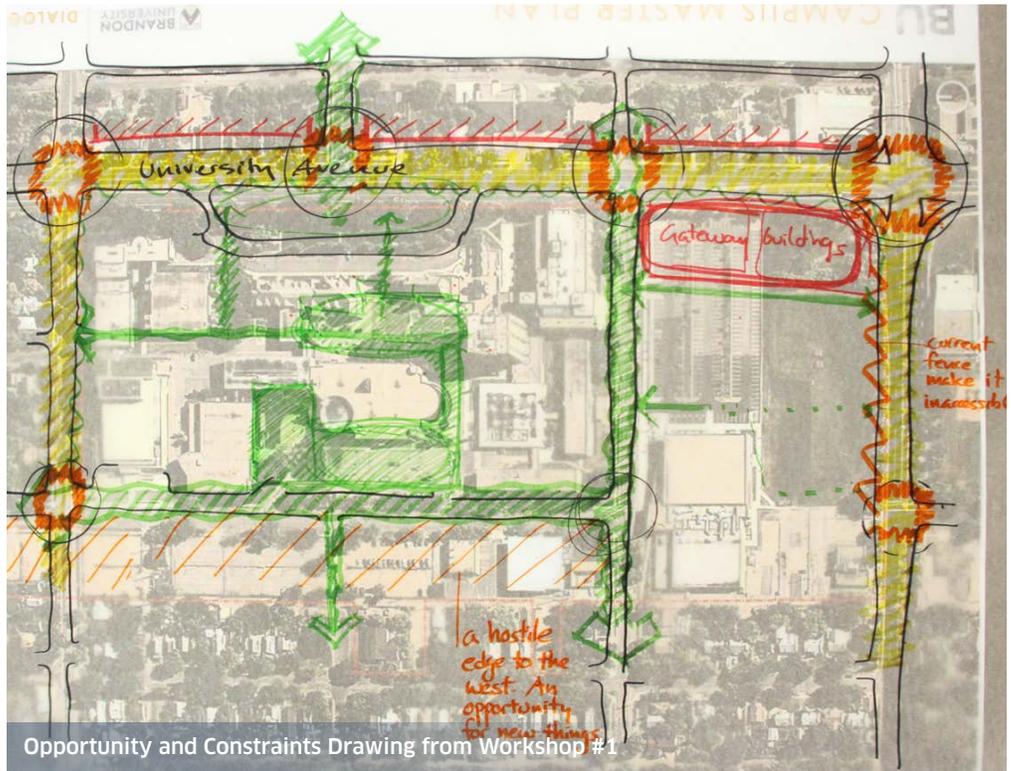
Opportunities:

- **Improve Accessibility:**
 - Redefine the campus entrance to make it more prominent.
 - Easier crossings on 18th Street.
 - Create physical connections to new buildings from existing ones.
 - Turn opportune streets into pedestrian-only corridors, such as 20th Street.
 - Create better signage at campus edges.
- **Create a more Prominent University Presence:**
 - Expand graduate studies and research programs.
 - Facilitate for more tactile-based learning.
- **Maximize Available Space on Campus:**
 - Reduce the need for expansion by reconfiguring parking/adding structured parking.
 - Transform the field into a multi-use space with artificial surface.
 - Define new open spaces and enhance key open spaces.
 - Prepare to accommodate 5000 students within future growth.
- **Capitalize on New Build Opportunities:**
 - A new Student Union Building is envisioned for the campus centre where Lot 1 currently exists.
- **Enhance the Central Spine:**
 - Re-establish the north-south and east-west pedestrian corridors through the centre of the campus.
 - Centralize space and make it pedestrian-friendly.
 - Build on the structure of the existing campus.
- **Partner with the Community:**
 - Partnership opportunities exist with the WMCA, Earl Oxford School, BSD or the ACC.
 - Create a permanent space for special exhibits that does not simply acts as a gallery but encourages community interaction.
 - Take advantage of Brandon University's proximity to downtown to build a special relationship with it.
 - Work with city-building initiatives and partnerships.

- **Create Flexible and Collaborative Learning Environments:**
 - Flexibility in teaching spaces and classroom arrangements.
 - Create large spaces for collaboration.
 - Create a diversity of spaces for teaching and working. For example, ensuring the library has both large open spaces and small working rooms.
- **Enhance Student Life and Wellness:**
 - Welcome food truck culture on campus and create a gathering area for it.
 - Enhance existing campus amenities such as by providing more electrical outlets, storage spaces.
 - Providing wellness services such as a Medical Centre to serve the University (like a small village) as well as the neighbourhood at large.
 - Create new gathering spaces.
 - Enhance food services.
- **Increase Housing Options:**
 - Create more housing options, including hotel-type accommodations and family housing.
 - More and better student residences would build student community.
 - Add mixed-use buildings.
- **Increase Mobility Options to Campus:**
 - Bring transit onto campus that routes into downtown Brandon and other key destinations.

Constraints:

- **Geography:** Rural student base, cold winters means people rely heavily on cars and parking.
- **City Policy:** Cannot rely on public transit improvements that may not be feasible.
- **Funding:** Funding for new builds and technology is an issue.
- **Lack of Permeability:** Poor pedestrian flow into and through the campus from all directions.
- **Land-Locked:** Main campus property is isolated from the community and fairly limited in land. Expanding the campus footprint to satellite sites makes it difficult to build sense of community.



STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

WHEN

September 15, 2016 / October 12, 2016

WHO WAS INTERVIEWED

- Brandon University Students, Faculty, and Staff
- Brandon University Senior Management
- Brandon Community Elders
- City of Brandon Staff
- Brandon Chamber of Commerce
- Southwest Manitoba School Division Superintendents
- Assiniboine Community College

INTERVIEW FORMAT

Various key stakeholders were invited to meet the project team and participate in informal interviews on September 15th and October 12, 2016 at Brandon University. The interviews consisted of 1 hour sessions where participants voiced their issues and challenges from their varying perspectives, and provided opportunities and ideas toward defining a new future for the Brandon University Campus. In addition, some participants provided supportive information and materials including current and proposed initiatives, ideas and background documents.

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

Amenities:

- More basic retail, such as food vendors, a grocery store, a bank, and a clinic, need to be provided on campus.
- More choices in terms of retail and food options are in dire need.
- Existing furniture systems can be improved.
- A community kitchen is suggested for student use.
- There are not enough bicycle racks on campus.
- More child care services are needed.

Built Form:

- Increase the amount of natural light with more transparent spaces.
- Many existing spaces need to be updated and improved upon, including dark corners of the library or residences.
- There is a need for an iconic building that sparks identity in Brandon University.
- There is a desire for architectural consistency.
- New builds should utilize high quality building materials to build a lasting campus image.

Identity

- Brandon University does not have enough presence or visibility in the City of Brandon.
- Brandon University is desirable for its smaller class sizes and rural nature.
- Currently, the campus is not very inviting due to its fortified environment and lack of activity.
- Community members desire Brandon University to be the "jewel" of the community.

Indigenous Community:

- Brandon University ought to acknowledge who owns the campus land, and the Indigenous contribution and Native student presence on campus.
- Academic courses on Indigenous history and culture may add to the Indigenous presence on campus.
- An Indigenous Cultural Centre, as well as cultural centres of other people groups, have the potential to become destinations on campus for students and the broader community.
- Create a central gathering space that can be used for multiple functions and for all groups.
- There is a need for better bridging from Public to Post-secondary education for Indigenous students.
- There are opportunities to involve more Indigenous community leaders in the events and programs held at Brandon University.
- There is a need for more Indigenous student housing close to campus.

Mobility:

- Parking should be reserved for people who commute a long distance to lessen the need for parking on campus, and encourage alternate modes of transportation.
- Walkability and safety of streets on campus needs improvement.
- Walking paths should be more visually appealing.
- Outdoor paths must be designed with the winter climate in mind.
- Accessibility to transit is good, but under-utilized.
- There is an interest for a bike-share program on campus.
- The provision of a direct shuttle connection to the ACC would benefit students who use both campuses and add to the University's community engagement.

Open Space:

- Courtyards are being used for circulation rather than gathering.
- Ensure that outdoor spaces are active and inviting in the winter months as well.
- Internal courtyards framed by the residences are under-utilized. Additional seating and an enhanced public realm can fix the issue.
- The sports field is a major open space on campus but has restricted use and is not user-friendly.

Partnerships:

- The University needs to be integrated into the community and the community has to feel a sense of ownership or responsibility for the University.
- There are opportunities to partner with private businesses to enhance Brandon University's program initiatives (e.g. mentorships) and revenue.
- Collaborate more with the ACC and other community institutions.
- The incorporation of seniors on campus through senior housing would add to Brandon University's community engagement.

Safety:

- Currently the campus is very dark and feels unsafe at night. The provision of well lit, animated spaces with views throughout campus is needed to increase pedestrian safety.
- Spaces should accommodate for users all around the clock.

Space Utilization:

- There is a need for more flexible spaces that can be adapted for both group and individual student use, and be open for community use.
- There is a need for more meeting spaces.
- Classrooms should accommodate different types of learning and sizes of groups.
- Many faculties are finding their current departmental spaces to be too small and in need of expansion.

- There is a need for commuter-friendly spaces that the many students who commute from a long distance can use in between classes.
- There is a great desire for more social gathering spaces on campus.
- Under-utilized spaces should be re-purposed or enhanced.
- Reinforce Brandon University's "Positive Space Campaign" by providing gender neutral facilities.
- Provide different types of student residence on campus.
- More internationally-focused programs can enhance the appeal of Brandon University to both international students and Canadian students alike.

Student Life:

- Food choices are limited, and cost of living is currently too high on campus.
- There is a need for more coffee shops and intermediate spaces for rest or gathering.
- Residence amenities can be improved in terms of social space, technology, and food retail.
- Students need a sense of community for their part of the University e.g. Science students, Biology students, Athletes, International Students – gathering spaces and places and services to connect with like-minded people.

Wayfinding and Signage:

- Campus connections require more direct access and clarity.
- There is a lack of a "front door" when it comes to a place of arrival on campus.
- Improved wayfinding and signage and help with campus circulation.



BRANDON
UNIVERSITY