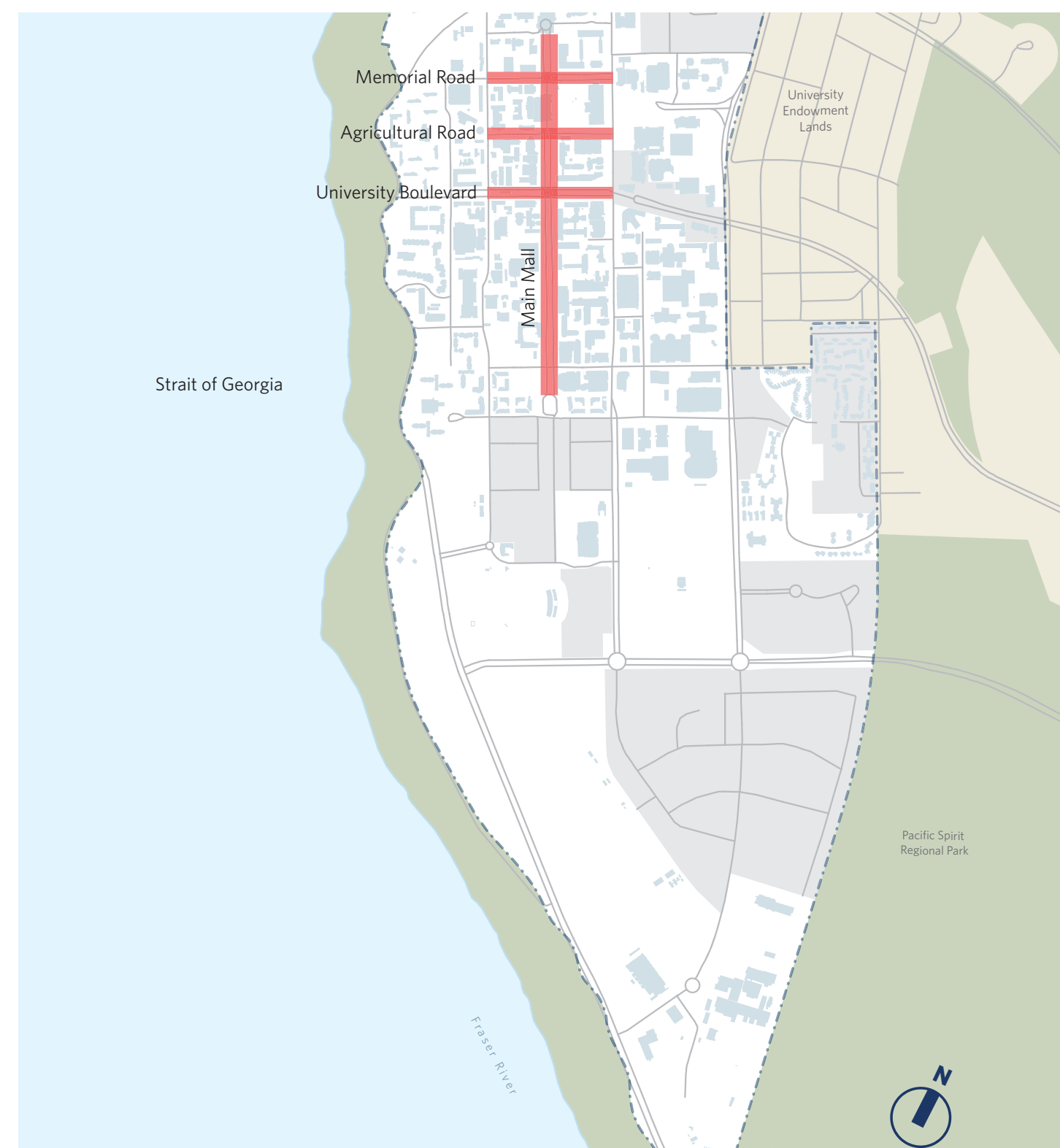
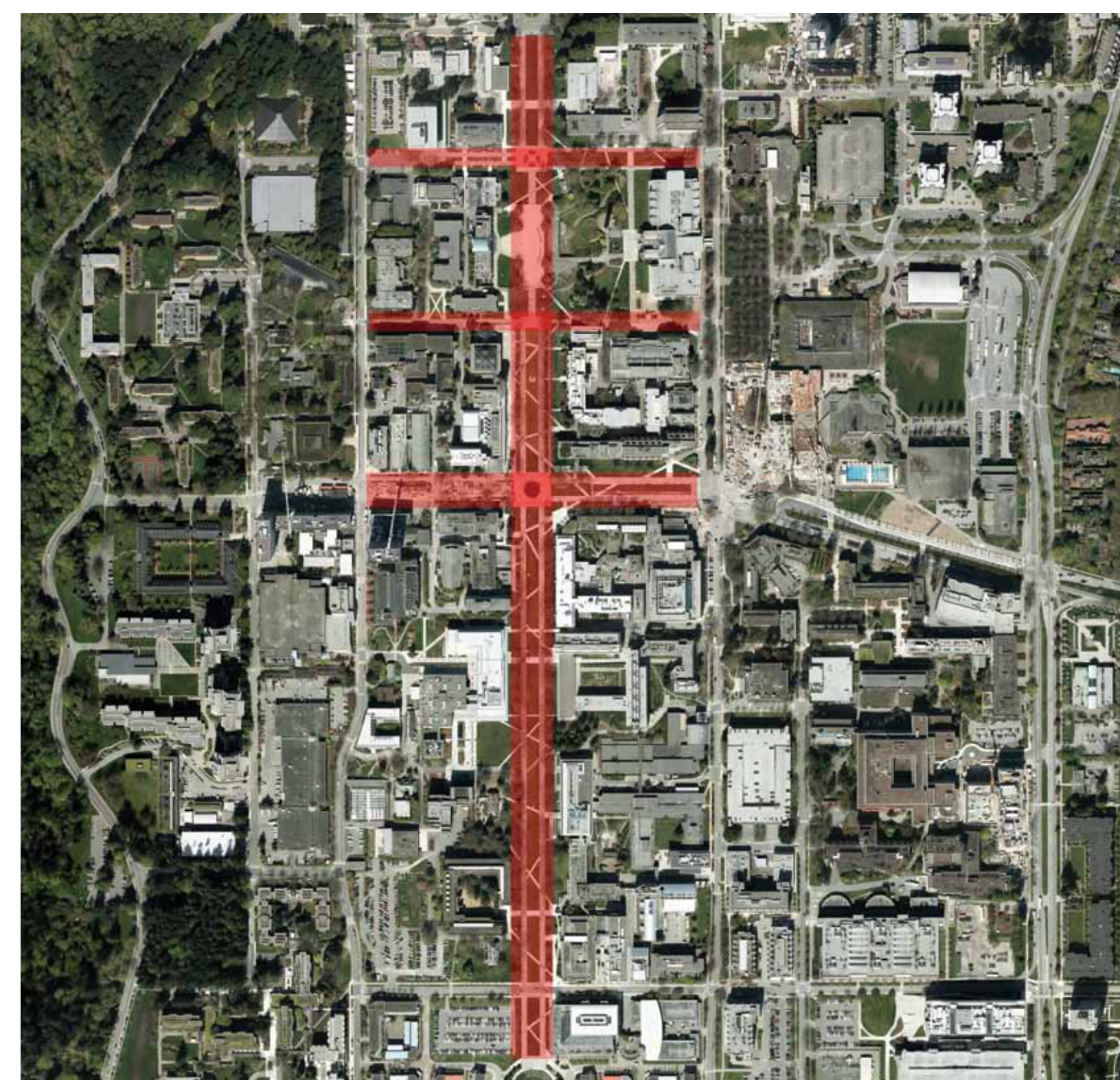


# UBC Pedestrian Campus



Campus Map | University of British Columbia

<b>Campus Population</b>	9,459 Staff; 3,305 Faculty; and 49,896 Students
<b>Project Completion Date</b>	Spring 2013
<b>Project Cost</b>	\$16.6 million
<b>Construction Cost</b>	\$14.3 million / \$13.70 per square foot
<b>Site Area Affected</b>	1,044,100 SF



Context | The 4 Spines of Campus

- Consultants**
- Karen Kiest Landscape Architects** — Landscape Architect
  - Phillips Farevaag Smallemberg** — Landscape Architect
  - Core Group** — Civil Consultant
  - Kamps Engineering** — Civil Consultant
  - Great Northern Engineering Consultants** — Electrical Consultant
  - Francis Krahe and Associates** — Lighting Designer
  - Rod Turkington Irrigation** — Irrigation Consultant
  - Aloha Pools** — Fountain Mechanical
  - Raincoast Applied Ecology** — Ecologist
  - Public Architecture and Communications** — Graphics
  - Arbortech Consulting** — Arborist
  - Synkra Construction** — Construction Management

A core goal of the University's 2010 Vancouver Campus Plan is the creation of a more vibrant campus, transformed from a single primary use (study) to a full range of uses that serve a multitude of users and needs (study, work, live and play). Key to this transformation is the \$46-million-dollar Public Realm Plan (2009), which aims to create dynamic public spaces; encourage outdoor learning; promote idea sharing and creativity; nurture physical and mental health; and instill pride and a sense of place. The Pedestrian Campus project, which revitalizes the historic axes of the academic core—Main Mall, University Boulevard, Agricultural Road and Memorial Road—is a landmark component of the Public Realm Plan.

These are the main pedestrian corridors: broad, tree-lined avenues established in the first master plan of 1914. But as the campus developed incrementally over 90 years, the grand vision was never realized. Cars and their infrastructure—roadbeds, curbs, parking—came to dominate the corridors. Additional challenges included the preservation of existing trees, stormwater management, and pedestrian traffic management during the extensive work. But the main challenge was to reveal the classic campus landscape so that students, faculty and staff would be drawn to congregate and interact there.

A working group was formed to guide the design team. It included student, faculty and staff representatives, and campus design and planning staff. The design process involved extensive consultation with the campus community. The design proceeded in stages, beginning with Agricultural Road and culminating in the transformation of Main Mall and University Boulevard. For each phase, public open houses were held and plans presented, so the whole campus community could provide input.

The four avenues were recognized as the organizational spines of UBC that form the iconic image of the campus. Given their historical significance, improvements needed to embody a sense of permanence, history, and dignity. Enhancements needed to strengthen the clarity of campus and prioritize the pedestrian by eliminating vehicles.

Special attention was paid to the provision of seating and green infrastructure for drainage. Sustainability was integrated into the design by reducing impervious surfaces and adding bioswales and specialized plantings to manage stormwater. This helped inform the selection of materials and design.

The axes would become inclusive and dynamic places that knit the campus community together and express its historical and contemporary dynamism by revealing the bones of the historic campus plan and creating contemporary usable open space.

Removing road curbs and creating walkways flush with the lawn resulted in a far more fluid and usable landscape. Suddenly these corridors functioned as contiguous green spaces rather than narrow slivers of space left once the needs of vehicles had been addressed.

The addition of a new circular fountain and seating at the intersection of Main Mall and University Boulevard transformed a rundown roundabout into the symbolic heart of the campus—a place to be seen. A second water feature composed of cascading pools, planting and seating transformed the campus's principal gateway—University Boulevard—from an asphalt parking area into a beautiful, welcoming, iconic space.

Seating was included along all four axes, so that people can sit, eat their lunch, read or chat. New lights illuminate the walkways and highlight the canopies of 90-year-old Oaks and other shade trees, making these spaces much more attractive and welcoming after dark. Seating and lighting add to the ambience, and improve sustainability, environmental quality and safety.

The landscape now provides a frame and forum for a range of engaging and transformative experiences. It unifies the campus, giving it an integrated appearance and timeless dignity.

