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UBC says it “will move forward with plans to build two more residence towers near Wreck Beach,” before its public input process finishes October 31 (P. S-1, “UBC to build polemic towers,” G&M, Oct. 8). No wonder UBC has earned an international black eye for arrogantly jeopardizing one of the world’s priceless legacies

UBC likes to imply this is a matter between itself and a few radicals in the Wreck Beach Preservation Society (WBPS). In fact, the opposition to this development includes Pacific Spirit Park Society (PSPS), and over 45,000 concerned citizens and visitors who have protested in writing to date. Tourism Vancouver has also protested the development in a letter to beach stewards, the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD). UBC is wrong to say that WBPS is “intractable.” Alternative locations exist for student residences, where UBC is currently developing thousands of luxury market homes for non-students. UBC is being intractable. WBPS asks UBC to stop spinning issues in order to appear reasonable. If UBC were to develop the site in a way that would respect public interest and protect the beach and park for future generations, it just might be able to restore the shine to its tarnished international reputation.

Most sincerely,

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