# SCHOOL OF COMPUTING STRATEGIC PLAN

**2023 - 2028**
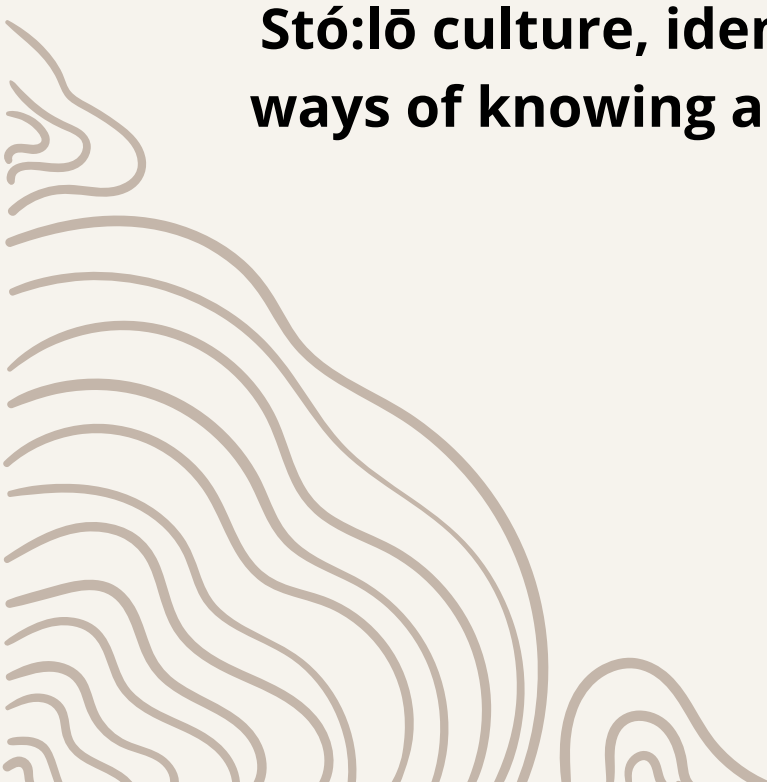
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We are grateful for the opportunity to live, learn, and work in the beautiful territory of the Stó:lō people (people of the river) who for thousands of years have inhabited and cared for the land on which UFV is located. We recognize the special relationship that the Stó:lō have with this land, both for past and for future generations. We strive to increase our understanding of Stó:lō culture, identity, and ways of knowing and being.
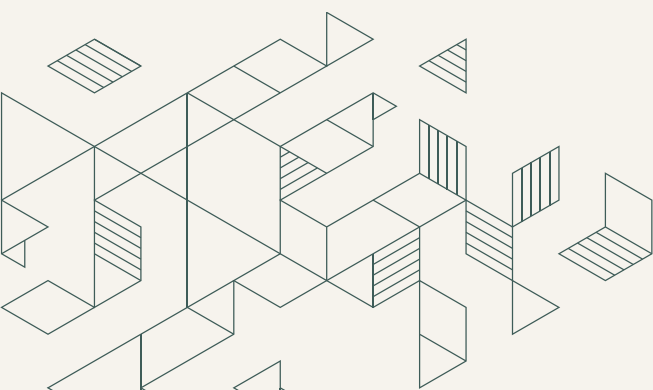
# Introduction to UFV's School of Computing

The School of Computing is housed in the Faculty of Business and Computing and offers programs in Computer Information Systems and Computing Science.

The five-year Strategic Plan for the School of Computing (April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2028) provides a framework for decision making that will enhance student success, foster collaboration with our communities and strengthen the School of Computing capabilities and resources. The plan takes its direction from and is aligned with the UFV Integrated Strategic Plan.

A working group was established in January 2022 to lead the planning process. Faculty, staff and students from the School of Computing along with industry professionals were consulted for their feedback and recommendations with respect to the plan. The period from January to September 2022 was used to develop a comprehensive Situation Assessment. This included:

- Reviewing and determining how the SOC strategic plan would align with the strategic imperatives outlined in the UFV Integrated Strategic Plan.
- Identifying implications arising out of the UFV Strategic Enrolment Plan
- Conducting a comparative analysis of the SOC program with similar programs from selected universities to identify gaps in our program
- Reviewing academic and technological trends in higher education to enhance the design and delivery of our programs
- Reviewing projected 5-year enrolment and graduation rates to ensure the SOC has the capabilities and resources to meet the implied future demands
- Conducting an analysis of the SOC strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in order to identify critical strategic issues
- An extensive industry survey examining current IT position descriptions and the required qualifications for these positions. The purpose being to better align our programs and curriculum with industry needs.

# VISION & MISSION

## VISION ‹‹‹‹‹

We aspire to be recognized for our excellence in teaching, service and research that advances the economic strength of our region and beyond.

## MISSION ‹‹‹‹‹

- Provide high quality instruction to our students and equip them with the state-of-the-art knowledge and computing skills that they will need to take up real-world challenges as global citizens.
- Offer programs and conduct scholarly activities to enrich the lives of those in our communities and our region.
- Enhance the School of Computing instructional, technological and research capabilities to serve our students and communities more effectively.

# OUR VALUES

## INTEGRITY

We act honestly and ethically, upholding these values and ensuring our mission is delivered consistently.

## INCLUSIVITY

We welcome everyone, showing consideration and respect for all experiences and ideas.

## COMMUNITY

We cultivate strong relationships, acting as a hub where all kinds of communities — educational, scholarly, local, global, and cultural — connect and grow.

## EXCELLENCE

We pursue our highest standard in everything we do, with determination and heart.
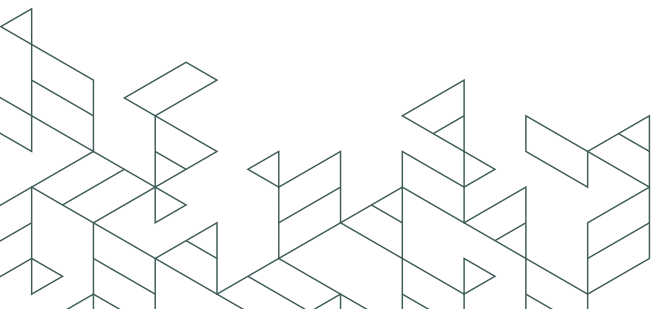
# OUR GOALS

**Enhance student academic and professional success** through improvements to our programs, curriculum, and delivery methods. It is our mission to provide high quality instruction to our students and equip them with the state-of-the-art knowledge and computing skills that they will need to take up real-world challenges as global citizens.

**Contribute to the social innovation, economic development, and environmental sustainability of our communities** by developing and implementing meaningful partnerships and action-oriented projects. It is our mission to offer programs and conduct scholarly activities to enrich the lives of those in our communities and our region.

**Strengthen the capabilities and resources within the School of Computing** by developing and implementing a faculty and staff development program, strong recognition culture and improved workflows. It is our mission to enhance the School of Computing instructional, technological and research capabilities to serve our students and communities more effectively.

# OUR STRATEGIES FOR
# ENHANCING STUDENT ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS

Align programs and curriculum with industry needs

Support life-long and flexible learning

Develop a robust co-op program

Enhance student learning by strengthening curriculum delivery

Foster interdisciplinary and integrated forms of engagement

Support student engagement in research

Develop and implement cohesive specialized programs with opportunities for connections with other disciplines.

Support pathways that lead to the attainment and recognition of students' educational goals

Integrate consultation with Indigenous educational experts into the program and course design process

## OUR STRATEGIES FOR
# CONTRIBUTING TO THE SOCIAL INNOVATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Learn, share, and create an environment where Indigenous knowledge enriches

Offer programs and conduct scholarly activities that enrich the lives of those in the Fraser Valley

Develop meaningful community partnerships

Improve community access to UFV's programs

Build lasting and meaningful relationships with our external stakeholders

Include a service-oriented dimension in our programs

## OUR STRATEGIES FOR
# STRENGTHING THE CAPABILITIES AND RESOURCES WITHIN THE SCHOOL OF COMPUTING

Integrate equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) into all aspects of our school culture

Increase our knowledge and understanding of Indigenous pedagogies and epistemologies

Build and establish brand awareness for our programs

Build a recognition culture that celebrates student and faculty activities.

Create an environment where everyone is welcome and celebrated

Recruit more tenure-track faculty with expertise in emerging technologies

Encourage faculty engagement across students, campus, and community

Support faculty and staff professional development

Build and plan for sustainable long-term growth

Responsibly and effectively use advanced technologies to address challenges in teaching, learning and learner success