



Alumni, friends, and supporters of UBC Men's Hockey,

I am writing to officially inform you that I am resigning as the head coach of the UBC Thunderbirds Men's Hockey program effective August 1st.

In 14 of the past 16 years I have taken on many roles at UBC: 5 year student-athlete, president of the hockey alumni, volunteer coach, full time assistant coach, golf tournament director, donor, fundraiser, and full time head coach. I bled blue and gold. Never once did I put myself ahead of the program or my players. For better or worse, I was ALL IN.

I would like to thank Mike Coflin for bringing me to UBC in 1999 and Milan Dragicevic for bringing me back in 2006 as an assistant coach. Thank you to Ian Lampshire for taking me in my first year at UBC and treating me like family. My closest friend, Alumni president, Matt Reid for all of his hard work, dedication, and support of both the UBC men's hockey program and my coaching career. I would like to thank all the supportive alumni over the years, including but not limited to, Ricky Noonan, Warwick Reid, Tommy Lewis, Mickey McDowell, Jack Moores, Art Vertlieb, Ken Smith, Jim Vilvang, Boone Strothers, Doug Buchanen, Roy Hammond, Bill Holowaty, Jim Allison, Mark Trozduk, Kevin Hoffman, Brad MacDonald, Joe Sobotin, Dave Cannon, Brad Steiman, Pete Seraphim, Grant Cumberbirch, Trevor Alto and Mike Ikeda. Your friendship, mentorship and leadership is second to none. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to look up to as I have gone through the stages of young hockey player to coach to husband to young father. Unquestionably you have made a massive impact on my life and I am very grateful.

Thank you to all the Monday Night Hockey players for all their support. There's no better skate in the lower mainland. You truly are an amazing group of people that are proud and passionate about your UBC Thunderbird hockey. I look forward to witnessing another AH toilet bowl handed out to the last place team in Monday Night Hockey.

Thank you to my staff last year including trainers, Nate Wong, Ben Lin, and Christian Mustapich; assistant coaches, Marcus Toye, Pat Bobyn, Justin McCrae, Kevin Seibel, Adam Maglio, Jeff Battah, and Terry Bangen. I will never forget how great it was to work with such quality people. You

made my job easy. You made it the best job I could've imagined. Thank you.

Thank you to the excellent physiotherapy staff at Allan McGavin Sports Medicine Clinic. Ron Mattison you are a tremendous person and I am very grateful that you are my friend. Thank you to Scott Fraser. I have missed Rider hour in the basement of War Gym but will miss your quality of care for our student-athletes and the student training staff. You've done great work for UBC Athletics and should be very proud. You make a difference every day.

Dr. Rob Lloyd Smith, thank you for being a good listener and an exceptional sports medicine physician. Our coaches and athletes are spoiled to have your knowledge, wisdom, and dedication to keeping them healthy and recovered.

Fran Harrison, I'm quite positive you were the sole reason for my bachelor's degree. I will never forget what you did for me while I studied at UBC. From my first day to my last day you always had my back. From the bottom of my heart, thank you.

Thank you to our players! You made this the hardest decision, I've had to make. What an amazing group that personifies character, passion, work ethic, and resiliency. You accepted me as your coach last year and that means the world to me. I truly love you all and would do anything to see you succeed both on the ice and in your lives. This game will always be about the players and I can't say enough about the quality of this group. I can't remember a year that I enjoyed more than as your head coach. It was a great privilege. I learned a great deal about coaching and myself. Every day was an education. I may not have been the best coach but I strived to be the best I could for you every day. You deserved nothing less.

Thank you to the ice makers. Jeff Harley, Dean Hornstein, Gary Harvey and James Fujisawa. What a great crew. I enjoyed every minute of my time around you. Thank you for investing the time in our players and our program.

Thank you to the athletic department. Shantal Cashman, Brigitte Scholte, Steve Tuckwood, Anca Rista, Millie Chong, Allen Leong, Matt Tan, Wilson Wong, Dan Elliot, Breanne Watson, Steph Mihalatos, Leon Denefeld, Beth



Im-Jenkins, Debra Waddington, Joanna Hunter, Christina Donnelly, and Jayne Blank. You are/were the heart and soul of UBC athletics. I will always remember your passion and unrivalled spirit. It's contagious. You're overworked and underpaid. You made my job easy. Athletics at UBC runs like a machine because of you. Thank you.

Thank you Theresa Hanson. You are an amazing person and you personify leadership. Every organization needs champions. Look in the mirror because you are it. Champions need to be celebrated and one day you will have your day in the sun. I don't know if I'll ever have a boss that I appreciate more than you. You had my back. Your integrity is unmatched. Your willingness to always do the right thing will never be forgotten and I will always be grateful. Thank you doesn't seem to be enough. It may not mean much coming from a hockey coach but you're the best.

I'm now the 35th person to leave UBC Athletics in the past two years. Imagine 35 people changed at any organization in two years. Something is clearly not working. This is no longer my issue. I have fought long enough. Men's Hockey has been at UBC for 100 years. ALL Varsity Sports at UBC should be celebrated. ALL Student athletes, coaches and staff at UBC must be appreciated and supported. Nobody should be treated with such ignorance and disrespect as my hockey program, players, and staff were in the past two years. I knew being relegated to tier 3 hybrid would be a financial challenge that we could overcome. What I did not know is that we would be considered irrelevant to the university and it's absent leadership. There are few people that have created this disaster. And you know exactly who you are. It's ok, everyone makes mistakes. And I sincerely forgive you. But a simple mistake due to lack of experience, knowledge and capability, and a completely misguided agenda has transformed that mistake into a disaster of colossal proportions. It's time to man/woman up and own this mistake. It's time to stop pointing fingers. It's time to start exercising transparency. And it's time to start listening to your coaches. It's not all bad though as there is hope. There are some very important people with the power to change. I plead for you to do the right thing. It's always the correct choice.

Sincerely,

Tyler Kuntz