

## UBC SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

### Summer 2019 Project Proposal

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The UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI) is pleased to offer current UBC graduate students the opportunity to work on funded sustainability internship projects. Successful candidates work under the mentorship of a partner organization, and are immersed in real world learning where they can apply their research skills and contribute to advancing organizational sustainability goals.

For more information about the Sustainability Scholars Program and to apply to work on this project, please visit the [Student Opportunities](#) page.

Please review the application guide (PDF) before applying.

Applications close **midnight Monday February 25, 2019.**

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#### **Research project title**

Developing a measurement framework to evaluate the impact of recreational and park facilities on community wellness in New Westminster

#### **Sustainability Goal or Operations Plan objective**

Community Wellness and Equity

Long Term Goal: Create widespread access to safe, enjoyable, accessible and sustainable recreation, parks, and other community facilities throughout New Westminster

#### **Outline scope of project and why it is of value to your organization. Describe how and when the Scholar's work will be actionable.**

- Lead the development of a measurement framework through which the City of New Westminster can count and track the impact of its recreational and parks facilities on the health, wellness, equity, and security of its population
- Lead the development, with assistance from Parks and Recreation staff and the Public Engagement Office, of a community-wide surveying process to understand the existing baseline impact of the City's facilities on a representative sample group of city residents.
- Assist in the creation of a mid-term strategy to replicate this work after a relevant time period, to ensure the City can monitor the impact of new facilities, particularly the proposed New Westminster Aquatic and Community Centre (NWACC), over time.

#### **Deliverables**

*Note that a final deliverable (either a full report or, if the report contains confidential information, an executive summary) is required by the end of the program (August 12, 2019). The deliverable will be archived in the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).*

- A final report, containing a summary of the proposed measurement framework, a background chapter on other existing reporting systems, a summary of the results of the community survey, and a detailed appendix of the full results of the survey with demographic and other statistical breakdowns
- Summary of community wellness monitoring, measurement, and tracking systems in other jurisdictions and best practices.

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- Survey work-plan, including methodology
- Summary of survey results
- A final report [or Executive Summary] for the UBC Sustainability Scholars online project library.

#### Time Commitment

*Please indicate the total numbers of hours your Scholar will need to complete the project, the completion period (between April 29 and August 12), any critical dates for the project, and the optimal schedule for your Scholar's work.*

- This project will take **250\*** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between April 29 and August 12
- The Scholar is to complete hours between 8:30-4:30pm, Mon-Fri, approximately **10-15** hours per week.
- One evening meeting per month may be involved for possible presentation to committees

#### Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Experience conducting stakeholder engagement events, including facilitation skills, is an asset
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Statistical analysis
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- Community engagement experience
- Strong analytical skills
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Familiarity with benchmarking methods and tools
- Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys

Applications close **midnight Monday February 25.**

Apply here:

<https://sustain.ubc.ca/student-opportunities>

To learn more about the program here:

<https://sustain.ubc.ca/ubc-sustainability-scholars-program>

Read the application guidelines to confirm your eligibility to participate in the program here:

<https://sustain.ubc.ca/student-opportunities>

Contact Karen Taylor at [sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca](mailto:sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca) if you have questions.