

GREENEST CITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM - 2014 PROJECT

Project title

Greening a heritage building, a case study

Greenest City goal(s) supported

Green Buildings (Greenest City 2020 Action Plan)

Target: Reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in existing buildings by 20% over 2007 levels

Climate Leadership

Long Term Goal: Eliminate dependence on fossil fuels

Objectives:

- Improve environmental performance of existing (in this case heritage) buildings, while achieving heritage conservation goals
- Explore potential for financing tools and incentives to encourage greening of existing (heritage) buildings
- Contribute to capacity building to achieve multiple goals of heritage conservation and environmental sustainability

Project context, scope, and value to City

To conduct a case study to review recently completed heritage conservation projects in Vancouver and assess if they achieved Green Building and other targets for existing buildings, as identified by the Greenest City 2020 Action Plan.

The sites /projects (buildings) will be identified by City staff and will exemplify typical local heritage conservation scenarios and building typologies. Consultation with owners, professionals, City staff, and some professional organizations may be required.

Help assess the performance of City's heritage conservation efforts in achieving Greenest City 2020 Action Plan targets.

Assist developing next generation of the City's Heritage Building Rehabilitation Program with incentives for heritage conservation that could incorporate achieving particular environmental goals as well. The review of the HRBP is currently in process.

Deliverables

The final result would be a report presenting:

- research methodology adopted,
- summary of the key performance and other indicators used,
- summary of assessment criteria adopted,

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The report should provide an assessment of all selected sites/projects (buildings), summarizing results. It would also assess the findings against environmental and conservation criteria to establish achieved performance level, and assess achieved performance level against Greenest City 2020 Action Plan targets.

In conclusion of the report, the findings should be elaborated and opportunities to further improve performance levels clearly identified.

Mentor department

Planning and Development Services Department

Candidate skill set/background

- Architectural or engineering background with experience in building design and construction
- Demonstrated knowledge of building systems
- Demonstrated interest in building energy efficiency performance
- Understanding of sustainability principles
- Understanding of heritage building conservation principles
- Excellent research and writing skills

Note: The Scholar must be available to complete the majority of the project by Jun 30.