

## UBC Sustainability Scholars Program 2019

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:**

Jericho Lands: Global sustainability and major development best practices

### **Greenest City Goal or Green Operations Plan objective**

2) Climate Leadership

- Long Term Goal: Eliminate dependence on fossil fuels.

### **Outline scope of project and why it is of value to City and describe how and when the scholar's work will be actionable**

The Jericho Lands are a 90-acre site located on Vancouver's west side, near Jericho Beach Park. The Jericho Lands are co-owned by the MST Development Corporation (comprised of the three local nations: Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh) and the Canada Lands Corporation (CLC). In July 2018, City Council approved undertaking a policy statement to guide the redevelopment of this major site.

Vancouver strives to be the world's greenest city, as elaborated upon in the City's *Greenest City Action Plan* and a number of other policies. The Jericho Lands offers a unique opportunity to pursue sustainability best practices on a large scale. It also offers an opportunity to examine global precedents (e.g. Vauban – Freiburg, Royal Seaport – Stockholm and others) and to better utilize best practices in both policy and implementation. This work will build on previous assessments of 15 case studies, which include assessment criteria, partial project data, and sustainability measurements.

### **Scope of work:**

- Undertake a review of the best practice case studies in global peer cities on large-site redevelopment and sustainability. The focus should include:
  - 1) Vancouver policy gaps;

- 2) identification of innovative and inspirational global precedents to be used as part of the public engagement process;
  - 3) reconciliation opportunities through development; and
  - 4) exploration of on-going implementation methods for best practices.
- The ultimate number of case studies will be determined in discussion with the Scholar. The final number may be between 5 and 12.
  - Develop topic-based criteria to select and compare global peer city major projects.
  - Review recent major site redevelopments in Vancouver, catalogue policies, implementation and lessons learned.
  - Review all existing City policy related to sustainability and compare with international practices in order to identify gaps and opportunities for improvements.
  - Conduct phone interviews with selected cities to identify which approaches have been most successful according to staff, and to document “lessons learned”.
  - Create a ‘best practices’ toolkit and provide recommendations for the Jericho Lands site and for City policy/ongoing implementation.

Why this work is of value:

- The City, in partnership with MST/CLC, is undertaking planning work to produce a policy statement for the Jericho Lands, a 90-acre site on Vancouver’s west side. The Jericho Lands are a unique opportunity for a sustainable community of significant scale, with scope for innovation and community development.
- A survey of global peer cities places sustainability in the conversation both at the staff and public levels. It may shape directions on the ultimate policy statement for the Jericho Lands and further the City’s GCAP goals.
- Providing inspirational and exciting examples of global sustainability precedents on large sites should inspire a deeper and more effective conversation with public through the engagement process.

### **Deliverables**

The Greenest City Scholar will deliver a final report containing a summary of their completed work with recommendations, complemented by a final presentation to key stakeholders. The report should include:

- Research summary, including peer city developments, assessment criteria and findings, City policy assessment, and recommendations to enhance sustainability policy and practices.
- Materials (photos, statistics, quotes) to deepen and enhance public engagement on sustainability issues.
- Recommendations specific to the Jericho Lands.
- Identification of gaps in City policy relative to peer cities, and provision of recommendations to enhance City policies and practices.

### **Time Commitment**

- This project will take 250 hours to complete.
- This project should be completed between May 1 and July 31.
- The scholar is to complete hours between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, approximately 20 hours per week.

- Scholar should be available for some staff and public meetings, including some that may take place outside of normal work hours.

**Skill set/background required/preferred**

- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Good understanding and demonstrated interest in sustainability, public engagement and large site redevelopment.
- Communication skills, both written and visual, would be deemed an asset.
- Suitable for a SCARP student, particularly with a background in sustainability
- Familiarity with urban design principles
- Familiarity with indigenous worldviews as they pertain to urban planning (not necessary, but an asset)

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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.