

## 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

Energy Labelling for new Part 3 Multi-family Buildings

### Goal or Operations Plan objective

Evaluate the feasibility of Energy Star and other energy labelling programs to support market transformation to low-energy multi-family homes.

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

The new BC Energy Step Code is being implemented at UBC and in many BC communities, ensuring that new multifamily buildings will meet energy performance targets. However, building energy performance is not transparent to condo purchasers and likely does not factor into purchase decisions, limiting market transformation towards energy efficient, low emission buildings.

While an energy labelling program exists for new single family homes (EnerGuide), no such program exists for Part 3 multi-family residential buildings in BC. An opportunity exists to explore Energy Star as a potential energy certification for new MURB construction, building on a pilot certification program for new residential buildings in Ontario. This program has potential to provide a consumer visible energy labelling program in BC.

The scholar project will explore the feasibility of implementing Energy Star certification for buildings constructed under the Energy Step Code, and, if feasible, evaluate the cost and logistics required to establish a pilot program at UBC, and other interested BC local governments. The scholar would also explore alternative labelling programs and compare and contrast them with the Energy Star certification program.

This project will include background research and stakeholder interviews. Key stakeholders from local, provincial, federal governments and utilities along with topic experts will be identified for interviews.

This project has the potential to support the development and implantation of an energy labelling program that could be adopted across British Columbia, so is a great opportunity for a student interested in building energy policy.

## **Deliverables**

- A final report, containing a summary of completed work with recommendations, complemented by a final presentation to key stakeholders.
- Executive Summary for the UBC Sustainability Scholars online project library.

## ***Please indicate the optimal schedule for your scholar's work.***

We would like the scholar to complete 250 hours during May – August 2019. The scholar would be expected to schedule regular working hours at the UBC Sustainability and Engineering office, and spend some time working remotely. The specific schedule will be coordinated with the scholar.

## **Skill set/background required/preferred**

*This section will be used by UBC to match students with your project. Please be as specific as possible in describing the skillsets, which will be used by UBC in shortlisting applications.*

- Excellent research and writing skills.
- Education background in energy policy
- Basic understanding of the BC Energy Step Code and building energy labelling programs is an asset.
- Basic understanding of building energy performance, benchmarking, energy modelling is an asset.
- Experience conducting qualitative interviews.

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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.