

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Fall 2020

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 sustainability across the region.

Note: Projects must be completed remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Visit the [Sustainability Scholars Program website](#) to learn [how the program works](#) and to [apply](#).
- Be sure to review the [application guide](#) to confirm your eligibility before applying.

Applications close at midnight on Sunday September 20, 2020.

Research project title: Research to produce a graphic rendering/vision of Lower Fraser River restoration priorities and projects

Sustainability Goal or Operations Plan objective

Climate Action

Specific goal area/sustainability objective: RSBC has a goal to restore 5% (1 million hectares) of the Fraser Watershed. The production of a graphic rendering/vision of a resilient Lower Fraser River will assist in achieving this goal.

Project description

Overview:

Estuaries and wetlands are some of the most productive ecosystems in the world. The mix of fresh and saltwater form a unique brackish water habitat where many animal and plant species flourish. Unfortunately, human activities have negatively impacted the health of estuaries and wetlands, including in the Fraser River Estuary - making them some of the most threatened ecosystems on the planet. Multiple organizations and agencies support efforts to address these threats, however, there is currently no cohesive plan to restore the entire Lower Fraser River region to health.

Purpose of the Project:

Research on restoration priorities and projects will be used to produce a graphic rendering/vision of the Lower Fraser River. This rendering/vision will be used to communicate the potential of restoration work and assist in achieving RSBC's goal to restore 5% (1 million hectares) of the Fraser Watershed. The rendering/vision will be used to connect with potential funders, developers, partners, and government agencies to support our work to create a resilient Lower Fraser River. It will also lay the groundwork for similar projects in the other 5 regions of the Fraser Watershed with the aim of making it the most resilient watershed in the world.

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Scope of Work:

- Work with the Rivershed Society of BC (RSBC) and its partners to research restoration priorities and projects within the Lower Fraser River region.
- Conduct interviews with experts to identify the technical requirements and limitations of identified restoration projects and priorities.
- Develop a graphic rendering/vision of identified restoration projects and priorities to present a visual story.
- Create a written report supporting the graphic rendering/vision. The written report will include details of all interviews with RSBC partners and experts (Science/Government). It will also include the stage of the restoration project, who is doing it, the location, the size/scale of the project, the type of restoration, the values it's restoring (e.g. salmon habitat, steelhead habitat), particular habitat for which species at risk, who's priority it is, how that was determined and who is working on it. It will also discuss how this process can be applied in other Regions of the Fraser Watershed.

Deliverables

The Scholar will deliver a graphic rendering/vision of their findings along with a final report containing a summary of their research.

The graphic rendering/vision and report will include:

- Lower Fraser River restoration projects and priorities.
- A visual representation of restoration projects and priorities.
- A summary of research to support the findings.
- A template to be used for similar studies in other regions of the Fraser Watershed.
- Final report for the UBC Sustainability Scholars online Project Library

Time Commitment

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between October 19, 2020 and March 12, 2021

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Project management and organizational skills
- Strong technical and drafting skills
- Demonstrated experience in graphic rendering and photoshop.
- GIS training, experience, and/or access to software.
- Familiarity with benchmarking methods and tools
- Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys
- Design and layout skills

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Applications close **midnight Sunday September 20, 2020.**

Apply here: <http://sustain.ubc.ca/scholarsapply>

Contact Karen Taylor at sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca if you have questions

Useful Resources

Below are some links to useful resources to help you with your resume and cover letter (there are many more online). Some of these resources also provide information on preparing for your interview.

Resume workshop for prospective Sustainability Scholars: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/resume-workshop-for-prospective-sustainability-scholars-tickets-117422877989>

<https://students.ubc.ca/career/career-resources/resumes-cover-letters-curricula-vitae>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/graduate-pathways-success>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/cover-letter-cv-resume-templates-ubc-career-services>