

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: Developing Case Studies on the Winning Projects of the CleanBC Net Zero Energy Ready Design Challenge

Sustainability Goal or Operations Plan objective

Sustainable Cities and Communities

Specific goal area/sustainability objective: Showcase leading examples of innovative, energy efficient, low carbon design for New Construction projects (multi-family, commercial buildings)

Climate Action

Specific goal area/sustainability objective: Accelerate implementation of Net-Zero Energy-Ready New Construction (multi-family, commercial buildings), reduce new construction building emissions

Project Overview

The [Clean BC Net-Zero Energy-Ready Challenge](#) is a provincial incentive program and juried competition designed to support, promote, and celebrate the design and construction of net-zero energy-ready buildings. The program provides incentives to builders and developers of multi-family, commercial, and institutional buildings that are designed to achieve the top tier of the [BC Energy Step Code](#) or [Passive House](#). Successful applicants are celebrated as leaders in innovative building design in British Columbia and showcased to their industry peers and the public as best practices in energy efficient design. Vancouver's Zero Emissions Building Exchange ([ZEBx](#)), a centre of excellence for high performance buildings, is developing case studies of the 11 winning projects to increase awareness, knowledge, and enthusiasm for low-carbon solutions and buildings across BC.

Purpose of the Project

Developing case studies on the winning projects will leverage the knowledge from the winners' designs and experiences to raise awareness and provide applicable and timely education and information on

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current industry trends and barriers. Through the lens of BC's most recently celebrated projects that are achieving the highest levels of the BC Energy Step Code and beyond (including Passive House, Canada Green Building Council's (CaGBC) Zero Carbon Building Standard, LEED, and City of Vancouver Rezoning) the Scholar will gather and analyze information from leading experts across the local construction industry to create design case studies that will allow industry practitioners to more rapidly advance solutions for zero emission buildings.

Scope of Work

- Collect and review project documentation, including drawings, energy models, budgets, project renderings.
- Conduct interviews with selected project team members from the winning projects to review documentation and collect additional data as required.
- Develop about 5 commercial/multi-family residential design case studies ranging in length from 2 to 3 pages. This will involve:
 - Working with ZEBx team members, create and design a case study template.
 - Summarizing the collected information for each project as per the template.
 - Getting feedback on the case study drafts from relevant Subject Matter Experts.
- Summarize solutions and barriers identified during the project documentation review and consolidate them in a short report or executive summary for the UBC Sustainability Scholar online project library.

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 (March 12, 2021). The deliverable will be archived in the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).

- Database of categorized data and findings from review of project information and interviews
- Case study template design
- Interim short report or presentations on the project status including identified solutions and barriers resulting from data review and interviews
- About 5 commercial/multi-family residential design case studies ranging in length from 2 to 3 pages.
- Summary of solutions and barriers in a consolidated short report or executive summary, complemented by a final presentation to key stakeholders (report or executive summary to also serve as final UBC Project Library report)

Time Commitment

The program runs for 22 weeks from October 19, 2020 to March 12, 2021, during which students work an average of 12 hours per week for a total of 250 hours.

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between October 19, 2020 and March 12, 2021
- Scholar schedule is flexible, though it is expected that at least half of the time will be spent during ZEBx office operating hours (9 am - 5pm Monday to Friday), approximately 12 hours per week.

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Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Project management and organizational skills
- Strong technical and drafting skills
- Demonstrated experience in building science
- Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys/interviews

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>