

## Summer 2021 Sustainability Scholars Program Internship Opportunity

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.

- 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 January 31, 2021.**

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### **Research project title**

Exploring the feasibility of innovative water saving opportunities applicable to healthcare facilities

### **Project description**

Minimizing water consumption through implementation of efficiency measures and water-conserving infrastructure is one of the key sustainability goals at the Lower Mainland health care organizations. The Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) has established water goals to lower environmental impacts without compromising patient care or employee comfort. To reach its 2030 water utilization intensity target, PHSA is continually looking for opportunities to reduce water use from healthcare operations.

The proposed project aims to explore innovative water saving opportunities applicable to healthcare settings and assess their feasibility for implementation at PHSA healthcare facilities.

The scope of work for this project includes the following:

- Conduct a literature review to identify innovative water saving technologies, measures and infrastructure applicable to healthcare setting
- Contact a number of healthcare organizations that have implemented the identified water saving technologies and ask for their experience with regard to their operational effectiveness and challenges
- Conduct five to seven interviews with members of the Facilities Maintenance and Operations (FMO) team at PHSA to capture challenges with existing water conservations infrastructure and opportunities for improvement
- Complete a comparative analysis to determine which of the identified innovative water saving technologies could be applicable to PHSA facilities and what needs to be done to facilitate their successful operation
- Present the results of the feasibility assessment to FMO and other stakeholders at PHSA and elicit their experts' opinion

## Deliverables

The scholar will deliver a final report containing a summary of their completed work complemented by a final presentation to key stakeholders at PHSA. The report should include:

- A list of innovative water saving technologies, measures and infrastructure applicable to healthcare settings based on the literature review
- A summary of the experiences of healthcare organizations that have implemented the identified water saving technologies
- Findings from the interviews with the FMO team regarding their experience with the existing water saving infrastructure and opportunities for improvement
- The results of the comparative analysis summarizing the feasibility of implementing the identified water saving technologies at PHSA facilities
- Synthesize stakeholder and expert opinions with regard to the feasibility assessment results
- A list of recommendations for facilitating successful implementation and operation of the identified water saving technologies at PHSA facilities

## Time Commitment

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between **May 3 and August 13**.
- The scholar is to complete hours between **9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday**, approximately **20** hours per week.

## Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Experience conducting stakeholder engagement events, including facilitation skills, is an asset
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Familiarity conducting focus group research
- Ability to work independently
- Project management and organizational skills
- Demonstrated experience in building water use management and research
- Familiarity preparing feasibility studies
- It would be an asset if the candidate has experience or familiarity with sustainability related (e.g., energy efficiency, water efficiency, etc.) new innovations and technologies in buildings and analysing their performance to understand what challenges building designers, contractors, and operators face when they want to use new technologies and innovative designs in buildings.

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 31, 2021**

Apply here: [Click here to apply](#)

Contact Karen Taylor at [sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca](mailto:sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca) if you have questions

## Useful Resources

We are holding a special **resume preparation workshop for prospective Scholars** on January 19. [Click here for details and to register.](#)

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.

<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>