

## 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 September 31, 2021.**

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### Research project title

Communicating the benefits of a circular economy in health care in an accessible and persuasive way

### Project description

The Energy & Environmental Sustainability (EES) team supporting the Lower Mainland Health Organizations (Fraser Health, Providence Health Care, Provincial Health Services Authority, Vancouver Coastal Health) has a Zero Waste focus area with targets to increase waste diversion and decrease waste intensity. Within the last year, EES has started researching how a circular economy framework can help move the health organizations toward those targets. Circular economy is a relatively new concept in general, and completely new within the health care sector. While it is a valuable framework on which to structure the waste reduction work happening within the Lower Mainland Health Organizations, its multiple benefits can be difficult to properly explain to key stakeholders, including frontline health care staff and health care senior leadership.

### Purpose:

This project will create a circular economy communication framework and content that is based on best practice research in environmental sustainability communications in order to develop a briefing note, PowerPoint slides, and a short video that will explain circular economy within health care in a simple, engaging, and persuasive way.

### Scope of Work:

- Conduct a desktop research scan of good circular economy communications, paying special attention to examples related to health care
- Conduct interviews with staff and key stakeholders to understand the barriers to understanding circular economy and test content
- Create a briefing note with simple and persuasive content that makes the case for using a circular economy framework in health care.

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- Design and create PowerPoint slides on this topic aimed at an audience of senior health organization leadership
- Create a short video that summarizes the case for circular economy that is visually engaging. The candidate may use a preferred video making software, or a licence to one will be provided such as Biteable <https://biteable.com/>
- Write a summary report of circular economy communications best practices
- Write a final report containing a summary of completed work with recommendations, complemented by a final presentation to the EES team

## Deliverables

- Short 1-3 page briefing note
- PowerPoint slides communicating the case for circular economy
- Short 2-3 minute video with visuals and voiceover
- Summary report of communications best practices
- Final report of completed work with recommendations, and a final presentation to EES

## Time Commitment

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between **May 3 and August 13, 2021.**
- The scholar is to complete hours between **9am-5pm, Monday-Friday,** approximately **16** hours per week.

## Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Previous experience in communications and copywriting
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- Familiarity conducting focus group research
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys
- Design and layout skills
- Previous design and multimedia experience an asset (alternatively you should bring a strong desire to learn these skills quickly)

## Additional information UBC should know to help find a suitable candidate for this project.

*(e.g., UBC departments/faculty, reminder about what worked well in the past, etc.)*

A suitable candidate has a strong communications background and either previous design and multimedia experience, or a strong desire to learn these skills quickly on the job. They do not necessarily need previous sustainability experience as part of the project will involve

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

background reading on the subject, however at least a strong interest and general familiarity with sustainability would be desirable.

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>