

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.

Research project title

Exploring the development of a regional carbon budget for Metro Vancouver to support climate action towards carbon neutrality

Project description

In order to limit global warming below 1.5°C, Metro Vancouver has set out a target for our region to be carbon neutral by 2050. However, emission targets do not necessarily consider the total amount of carbon dioxide emitted between now and 2050, which is ultimately the determinant for how much actual warming the globe will experience. A carbon budget is a valuable tool to bridge this gap. Simply put, a carbon budget quantifies how much carbon dioxide can be emitted in order to limit global warming below a certain threshold. Currently, carbon budgeting is not widely used, however the City of Edmonton and City of Oslo have integrated carbon budgeting within their climate action plans.

Purpose of the Project:

When strategically utilized, carbon budgeting can help support climate action. Metro Vancouver would like to learn more about the use of carbon budgeting to support climate action and the experience other jurisdictions have had with carbon budgeting. The outcome of this project is to develop a preliminary carbon budget with recommendations on how this tool could be used to support regional climate action within Metro Vancouver.

Deliverables

The Scholar will deliver a final report containing a summary of their completed work, an excel tool to calculate the carbon budget and a final presentation to key stakeholders.

The report should include:

- A description of carbon budgeting and a literature scan regarding how carbon budgeting can be used to support climate action
- Case studies with jurisdictions that have integrated carbon budgeting into climate action such as the City of Edmonton and the City of Oslo

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- Summary of interviews with key local stakeholders such as the City of Vancouver, who is exploring the development of a carbon budget
- An estimation of the carbon budget for the Metro Vancouver region out to 2050
- A methodology section outlining how the budget was determined and allocated from the global carbon budget
- An explanation of how to use and update the carbon budget excel tool
- Recommendations on how carbon budgeting can be used to support climate action within Metro Vancouver
- A final report or executive summary for the online Scholars Project Library

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 9 am and 5 pm Monday to Friday, approximately 20 hours per week. At this time, this work will be completed mostly remotely.

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
- Demonstrated experience in developing analytical tools with excel

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

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

Contact Karen Taylor at 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.

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<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>