

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

Applying a Climate Equity Lens to the Big Moves for Deep Emissions Reductions

Project description

Local governments across BC are recognizing the urgent need to ramp up their climate action, including through climate emergency responses, renewing climate action plans, or accelerating implementation of climate action initiatives. At the same time, many policy makers are looking for ways to support social equity, inclusion and justice goals, including through reconciliation with Indigenous communities, supporting marginalized populations, and acknowledging systemic racism.

We know the “Big Moves” for municipal climate action that are needed to drive down emissions from buildings, transportation and waste. This project will focus on applying an equity lens to strategies for accelerating building retrofits and low carbon electrification, including electric vehicles and other forms of electric mobility. The strategies will be analyzed to determine who benefits, who may be negatively impacted, and how we adjust and adapt strategies to support equity goals in the context of emission reduction. This analysis will be used to develop a climate equity framework that can be applied by any BC community for evaluating the Big Move strategies and actions.

Deliverables

- Briefing note or memo following a literature review including academic research on climate justice at the municipal level, examples of climate plans with a strong equity focus, etc.
- Report with analysis of climate equity lens on the actions of two aspects of the Big Moves:
 - Retrofits of existing buildings, including energy efficiency and fuel switching
 - Electric mobility, including electric vehicles and other e-mobility
- Final slide deck with visuals

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- Final presentation to CEA team and possibly broader audience, including local government staff and/or elected officials
- Report or executive summary for the online Scholars Project Library

NOTE: The scope and final deliverables will be confirmed following the initial literature review, based on the availability of resources and alignment with Big Move topic areas.

Time Commitment

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between **May 3 and August 13**.
- The scholar can work a flexible schedule but must be available to attend meetings or deliver presentations during standard business hours (9 am to 5 pm Pacific Time on weekdays). Scholar should plan to work approximately 15 hours per week.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Community engagement experience
- Familiarity conducting focus group research
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Demonstrated experience in working with marginalized communities, social services, and awareness of equity and justice issues.

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.](#)

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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>