

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

Developing a Neighbourhood Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for the City of North Vancouver

Project description

Overview:

Accelerating adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) is a key strategy in achieving the City of North Vancouver's ambitious climate target of net zero emissions by 2050. The City's EV Strategy (2018) identified 30 priority actions in five key areas to facilitate the transition to EVs including setting targets to install two to four new Direct Current (DC) fast charging stations and three to five new Level 2 charging stations. While the EV Strategy's targets for City-provided charging infrastructure have been met, significant barriers still exist for most City residents and further research into how to best support EV drivers lacking access to home charging through additional publicly accessible public charging infrastructure, potentially through private or public partnerships, is required. Recognizing that 88% of City residents live in multi-family buildings with significant barriers to EV charging, increasing convenient access to EV charging infrastructure is essential to enabling widespread EV adoption in the City.

Purpose of the Project:

The purpose of this project is to determine priority areas in the City for further public EV charging infrastructure along with potential models and recommendations for providing this infrastructure.

Priority areas would be identified based on proximity to residents with barriers to home charging and the project would identify opportunities on publicly accessible private property to increase access to EV charging (for example, surface parking lots).

The research will assess a number of potential partnership models and identify the advantages and disadvantages of each, and identify potential private sector or institutional partners for EV charging installations. The results of this study will inform the next steps for the City in supporting neighbourhood charging.

Deliverables

Spatial Analysis

- A GIS layer (developed in collaboration with City GIS staff) indicating areas in the City with barriers to home charging including multi-family buildings and “garage orphans” (homes lacking off-street parking).
- A GIS layer of strategic locations for public EV charging stations based on proximity to residences with barriers to home charging.

Review of Approaches

- A review of barriers and opportunities to on-street charging installations adjacent to new developments, working with the City’s Public Realm Infrastructure team.
- A review of policy approaches from other jurisdictions enabling Level 1 charging by extension cords crossing sidewalks and policy and safety implications for the City to adopt a similar approach
- A summary of potential partnership models for EV charging installations on private property.
- A list of potential partners identified to host EV charging stations on private property and of interviews with potential partners in strategic locations determining their level of interest and preference for partnership model.

Final Reporting

- A final report and presentation to key stakeholders containing project findings and recommendations for next steps.
- A final report for the UBC Sustainability Scholars online 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 be available for meeting or to conduct interviews during standard business hours (9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday), however the rest of the work can be completed on a flexible schedule..

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
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- ☒ Project management and organizational skills
- ☒ GIS training or experience.
- ☒ Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys
- ☒ Familiarity preparing feasibility studies

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.

<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>