

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.

Project Title

Supporting the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy for the City of Prince George, BC

Overview

In Prince George, transportation accounts for the majority of both corporate (51%) and community (52%) greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs). The City of Prince George's 2020 Climate Change Mitigation Plan recognizes the importance of reducing transportation GHGs and identifies the need to develop an Electric Vehicle Strategy that will identify initiatives and policy changes that will increase community-wide uptake of low-carbon vehicles. This would include identifying locally specific ways to support a corporate and community-wide transition in reducing transportation-related GHGs. It is recognized that strategies and policy changes that work in large urban centres may not work in smaller Northern communities such as Prince George. Prince George has a high degree of vehicle reliance compared to the Provincial and National averages due to a winter climate, difficult topography and spread-out low-density development that makes active transportation and transit networks less feasible and desirable.

This project seeks to establish a better understanding of what initiatives could be achievable for Prince George to increase community-wide uptake of low carbon vehicles. The outcomes of this project could inform policy development in Prince George and may be used by other communities to inform their electric vehicle uptake initiatives. This Project would contribute to the following action identified in the 2020 City of Prince George Climate Change Mitigation Plan: T4 - Develop an electric vehicle strategy to identify initiatives that will increase the community-wide uptake of low-carbon and electric vehicles.

Project Objective

This project will include conducting a review of City of Prince George Bylaws, policies and other procedures/guidelines and applying and/or adapting BC Hydro's best practices for EV uptake, performing stakeholder interviews and undertaking other research methodologies to provide recommendations on which policies and initiatives could be most feasible to implement in the Prince George and Northern BC context. A significant portion of the project includes reviewing City Bylaws, policies and other procedures/guidelines and applying or adapting BC Hydro's Best

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Practices to provide recommendations to encourage uptake of electric vehicles specifically in a local-to-Prince George context. Additional topics of research as a part of this project may include identifying opportunities for expanding public and corporate EV charging infrastructure, building community partnerships to expand public EV charging, and developing relationships with local dealerships to encourage community EV uptake. The recommendations provided through this project will guide and support the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy specific to the City of Prince George.

Project Scope

The Scholar will provide locally specific research to inform the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy to support a corporate and community-wide transition in reducing transportation GHGs for Prince George. This is expected to include:

- Conducting a review of electric vehicle strategies and initiatives in other municipalities to identify strategies and case studies that have been successful, with a particular focus on similar sized, northern, rural communities and information that can apply to the Prince George context (i.e. Canada, US, Europe);
- Conducting a review of internal City of Prince George Bylaws, policies and procedures/guidelines and identifying opportunities for applying and/or adapting BC Hydro's best practices to enhance the uptake of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations in Prince George;
- Performing interviews with potential community partners and dealerships;
- Supporting the refinement of the project scope and achievable deliverables to best inform City of Prince George of an electric vehicle strategy; and,
- Summarizing the findings and recommendations of this work in a report that can be used by City of Prince George policy and decision makers to inform an Electric Vehicle Strategy.

Project Deliverables:

1. Regular updates, via email or through meetings that reports on progress;
2. A final report, including:
 - a. Summary of Policy and Literature Review;
 - b. Summary of consultation with community partners and dealerships;
 - c. Recommendations of initiatives and policy or Bylaw changes to assist the City of Prince George in the development of an Electric Vehicle Strategy.
3. Final Presentation to City staff on research findings and recommendations for an Electric Vehicle Strategy.
4. Final report [or executive summary] for the online Scholars Project Library

Time Commitment:

- This project is expected to take 250 hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between May 3rd and August 13th, 2021.
- The scholar is expected to complete an average of 17 hours of work per week. The scholar should be available by telephone and zoom as agreed, for a project start-up meeting, periodic status updates, and draft and final report presentations.

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Required / preferred skills

- Excellent research and writing skills;
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability;
- Experience conducting stakeholder engagement, is an asset;
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques;
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills;
- Familiarity conducting focus group research;
- Strong analytical skills;
- Ability to work independently;
- Deadline oriented and demonstrated time management skills;
- Experience collecting, analyzing and reporting on qualitative and quantitative data; and,
- Familiarity with low carbon transportation usage in Northern Communities would be considered an asset.

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>