

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:

Gender Inclusion and Rapid Transit Facility Design

Project description:

On November 17, 2020, Council approved the Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP). This puts Vancouver on track to reduce our carbon pollution by 50% by 2030, in alignment with the findings of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to limit global warming to 1.5°C. The City needs to expand and improve the sustainable transportation network to ensure that two-thirds of trips in Vancouver are by active transportation or transit. To achieve this target of sustainability, considering the needs of different users is crucial to offering accessibility within the transit network.

Emerging trends in academia and in transit-first cities in North America and Europe have pointed to the lack of systematic gender inclusion procedures for transportation, whether that is in terms of training of professionals, participation of users, or the design and planning of systems and services. The topic of gender and transportation is an intersectional issue involving the socioeconomic differences in needs. Gender differences in travel patterns are mainly accounted for by the division of roles in the labour market and in the family, which affects employment conditions, income levels and mobility needs. The availability of public transportation outside rush hours, the physical and financial accessibility of transport facilities and safety conditions are the main aspects to be considered in designing gender-friendly transport systems. A gender perspective in transport policies can help reduce inequality of mobility.

The City is working with partners to advance the preliminary design of the SkyTrain extension from Arbutus Street to UBC. The outcomes of this project will help the City better understand how to advance station design and planning, using a gender perspective. The purpose of this project is to:

1. Use an intersectional framework to research emerging trends on the topic of “gender and transportation” from up to 5 cities that lead the way.
2. Use a gender lens to identify policies/practices to address the needs of different genders through transit station design.
3. Provide design specific spatial considerations and initiatives that may be implemented moving forward.
4. Develop an implementation framework to accompany the design specific initiatives.

Deliverables:

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- A final report, containing an executive summary of the research, key findings and recommendations.
- A final presentation of findings to the Rapid Transit Office
- 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, 2021
- The work can take place on a flexible basis that suits the Scholar's schedule, however the scholar is to be available for meetings between 8:30am – 5:00pm, Monday to Friday approximately 15-20 hours per week.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Interest in active transportation
- Familiarity with "Intersectionality"
- Experience conducting qualitative research
- Comfortable conversing with strangers to obtain information
- Experience with space planning preferred
- Ability to apply a critical lens in contemplation of "business as usual" constructs and challenge the status quo

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>

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