Summer 2022 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 30, 2022.

>> This is a Collective Impact (CI) Project >>

Collective Impact (CI) projects involve multiple Scholars working in collaboration on one larger project. Some CI projects require Scholars with similar skills while some require Scholars with different skills. If you are a strong communicator and like the idea of achieving high impact through collaboration, this project might be for you. Read on for more details.

Project Title: Foundational literature reviews to support land, water and resource management in Tšilhqot'in Territory – Wildlife Management for Bears and Ungulates

Total Number of Scholars Required: 3

Other positions collaborating on this project
- 2022-006A: Foundational literature reviews for Tšilhqot'in Territory - Habitat management of forest ecosystems
- 2022-006B: Foundational literature reviews for Tšilhqot'in Territory - Wildlife management for bears and ungulates
- 2022-006C: Foundational literature reviews for Tšilhqot’in Territory - Soil amendments

Project Background & Overview:
The Tšilhqot’in Nation are caretakers of their Territory and have inherited an ancient obligation to safeguard their lands and resources. The ancestral teachings of the Tšilhqot’in, “the People of the River” guide decision-making for the nenqay (the land and everything on it). By continually learning, sharing knowledge and acting in respectful ways, the Tšilhqot’in Nation continues to pass on Tšilhqot’in values from generation to generation.

The sustainable management of the water, land and resources is a priority for the Nation. In 2019, the Tšilhqot’in Nation signed the Gwets’en Nilt’i Pathway Agreement, a tri-partite agreement, with the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia. This government-to-government agreement commits both levels of Crown government to transform the relationship between them and
the Tŝilhqot’in Nation with respect to the management of land and resources in Tŝilhqot’in Territory, among other commitments.

The Tŝilhqot’in Nation is working collectively to assess cumulative impacts over time and space. Climate change impacts are being felt in the Territory. There have been extensive wildfires, extreme heat waves, flood events, changes to water temperatures and prolonged periods without rain. Forestry activities and the management of habitat, assessments of wildlife and operational plans must work collectively to ensure landscape resiliency.

Project description
UBC Sustainability Scholars will support the work of the Tŝilhqot’in National Government by conducting directed literature reviews to support habitat management, wildlife management and forest management. The reports will be reviewed by the Nation to inform research and land management decisions and will be used to develop educational material. After the reports are submitted to the Tŝilhqot’in National Government, they will continue to be built on and traditional knowledge from the Tŝilhqot’in Nation will be added into the reports. By bringing together western science and Indigenous knowledge, the Tŝilhqot’in National Government is bringing together two different ways of knowing to support decision-making.

Project scope
The Scholar will conduct a literature review to support wildlife management for ungulates and bears. This work will support telemetry evaluations and wildlife management for the Territory.

The deliverables will be a report summarizing the literature review and a compilation of factsheets for wildlife species.

Activities:
- Note seasonal diet selection of caribou, moose, deer, elk, wild horses, black bears and grizzly bears
- Note seasonal patterns of food intake and seasonal caloric and essential nutrient intake requirements (particularly, during critical times such as gestation and lactation periods)
- Note water consumption requirements and maximum and average distance from water sources
- Focus on literature and documents for similar ecosystem and biogeoclimatic zones

Deliverables
- Produce a report including a technical summary of the literature review and a compilation of plain language factsheets.
  - The technical summary will contain a summary of the literature review conducted, references, resources and recommendations for outstanding research on these topics.
  - The factsheets will be attached in the appendix and clearly summarize the information gathered on each plant, animal or soil amendment.
  - Reports (word documents) should include: title page, executive summary, table of contents, technical report, references and an appendix of factsheets.
- These reports will be able to be used for the online public-facing Scholars Project Library.
Time Commitment
- Each position is for 270 hours of work.
- This project must be completed between May 2 and August 12, 2022
- The scholars are to complete hours between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday, approximately 17 to 20 hours per week.

Required/preferred Skills and Background
- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Strong technical and drafting skills
- Design and layout skills, an asset
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability and biodiversity
- Awareness of the complexity of managing wildlife and wildlife habitat
- Familiarity or experience with wildlife and/or range management
- Understanding of forestry/agroforestry/agriculture practices

Applications close midnight Sunday January 30, 2022
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