

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.

Project Title: Research to inform the carbon reduction strategy at Herschel Supply Co.

Project Background & Overview:

Headquartered in Vancouver, [Herschel Supply Company Ltd.](#) (Herschel Supply) designs and manufactures the finest quality backpacks, bags, travel goods, accessories, and apparel for everyday explorers around the world. We are a design-driven, detail-oriented, innovative company that creates opportunities for individuals to express themselves, influence change and contribute to the growth of a global brand. Our workplace is dynamic, supportive and entrepreneurial in spirit, we pride ourselves in being a collaborative, open-minded and an imaginative team.

The successful student candidate will work with staff in the internal Corporate Impact team, which aims to operate, design and manufacture products in a way that minimizes negative impacts on the environment and our planet. We also seek to increase our positive impact in our communities through our Herschel We've Got Your Back™ initiatives and by supporting creative education programming for creative youth.

Herschel Supply is not fast fashion. The best ways to reduce the impact of our products on the environment is to build them sustainably, make them last and, at the end of their lifecycle, redirect them from the landfill. Our goals at Herschel Supply are to make any products we put out into the world more sustainable and engage in innovative re-commerce models of business as we move toward a more circular economy in the future. 2022 is a key year on our carbon reduction journey, commencing with a GHG accounting then proceeding to science-based target setting and ultimately road mapping our global carbon reduction strategy.

Project description

While our approach to sustainability is constantly evolving, the key project relating to carbon reduction will be analysing third-party verified climate data and making recommendations on our 2031 carbon reduction goals:

Carbon Reduction Strategy

As a corporation with global offices, distribution, retail stores and products, we know we play a key role in combatting climate change. In 2022 we are working with external carbon consultants and our internal team to conduct a GHG inventory, set a science-based target (ultimately to be submitted to Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)) and create the path to our 2031 global emissions reduction strategy.

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The successful student will play a key role in the creation and implementation of our scope 1, 2 and 3 global GHG emission reduction strategy driven by accurate climate data. Herschel Supply's goal is to become a leader on carbon reduction in the luggage/bag space by 2031.

The successful student candidate will be exposed to our other key environmental impact reduction strategies as follows, and time permitting may work on some of the following projects:

Sustainable Materials Leadership & Supply Chain Environmental Improvements

As proud members of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition (SAC), we use the Higg Index suite of tools to monitor and benchmark our products and company performance on a variety of environmental factors. The successful student may work with the Product Development & Manufacturing Teams to take Higg Index learnings and apply them to our materials, products and supply chain operations.

Recommerce

Herschel Supply is looking at innovative ways to make our products more circular. The successful student may assist our Innovation team with research on product life cycle assessments (LCAs), end-of-life product solutions, and the implementation of our re-commerce model. These efforts directly divert existing aged products away from the landfills by way of repair, recommerce or recycling.

Project scope

Carbon Reduction Strategy

- Research to understand our environmental impacts based on existing climate data
- Review Scope 1, 2 and 3 climate data
- Analyze and advise on GHG accounting/inventory from third party consultants
- Participate in drafting Herschel Supply's Science-Based Targets or interim targets, and research strategy to support tracking our progress toward these targets
- Interviewing Herschel Supply staff from various departments (i.e., product, supply chain, logistics, etc.) to understand environmental inputs
- Make recommendations to the Corporate Impact team and senior leadership on 2031 carbon reduction strategy
- Make recommendations on more efficient energy, waste and water impacts

Environmental & Sustainability Project Work

If time permits, Herschel Supply may identify *ad hoc* environmental and sustainability projects on short timelines (i.e. conducting a product LCA and making recommendations on product end-of-life solutions); identifying sustainability developments in the fashion/retail products space and summarizing them to the Corporate Impact team bi-weekly).

Deliverables

Public Facing

- A final report for the online public-facing Scholars Project Library with company confidential information and trade secrets omitted.

Internal

- Various presentations, written recommendations and reports in relation to Herschel Supply's 2031 carbon reduction strategy.

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Time Commitment

- This project will take **480** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between **May 2 and August 12**.
- The scholar is to complete hours between **Monday – Thursday, 9am-5pm**, approximately **32** hours per week.
- Attendance and presentations at bi-weekly Corporate Impact team meetings (every other Thursday at 9:00am).

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- ☒ Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- ☒ Experience conducting stakeholder engagement events, including facilitation skills, is an asset
- ☒ Excellent public speaking and presentation skills
- ☒ Community engagement experience
- ☒ Strong analytical skills
- ☒ Ability to work independently
- ☒ Deadline oriented
- ☒ Strong project management and organizational skills
- ☒ Demonstrated experience in written communications and reports
- ☒ Familiarity with benchmarking methods and tools would be beneficial
- ☒ Experience with financial modelling and analysis would be an asset, but is not essential
- ☒ Design and layout skills are an asset
- ☒ Keen interest in helping reduce negative environmental impacts in the apparel, retail products, fashion and/or consumer goods space
- ☒ Any type of experience in manufacturing or the apparel, retail products, fashion and/or consumer goods spaces is an asset, but is not essential
- ☒ Willingness to advise, present to and consult with senior executives with a solution-oriented approach
- ☒ self-directed and comfortable interacting with multiple stakeholders

Herschel Supply is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its employees, customers, contractors, vendors and visitors. In order to ensure a safe and healthy workplace, visitors who wish to attend Herschel Supply's office, must establish that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Disclosure of your vaccination status to Herschel Supply is voluntary. If a candidate does not wish to disclose their vaccination status or obtain an approved exemption, they will be free to work from home if their duties allow them to do so.

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>