

## 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.**

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### **Project title: Advancing low carbon resilient buildings following a disaster: Compiling a playbook for local government leaders**

#### **Project Background & Overview:**

BC communities are increasingly responding to climate related disasters including fires, heat waves, floods and associated landslides. When communities are in a crisis and recovering from a disaster, decisions must be made quickly and often the easiest way is the way that is selected. CEA and partners envision an action-oriented guide to bridge emergency response, climate adaptation and climate mitigation in the built environment for use to manage the risk of a disaster before one happens or to be used when in the middle of responding to a disaster. Examples include heat pumps to provide resilience with heat event air conditioning, EV's as emergency power, climate development permit areas and embodied emissions.

#### **Project description**

An action-packed playbook for communities that need to move quickly will include multiple chapters. The focus of this project will be on the buildings chapter, which will include guidance, communications and template policies for building forward fast while advancing low carbon resilient buildings. The chapter will emphasise the most important decisions that will influence emissions in the built environment in a format that makes sense in both emergency recovery response and in planning to avoid disasters. This guide will compile existing research, templates, and expertise in order to make building in a low carbon and resilient way the easiest way when disaster strikes. We will collaborate with key players in the sector including the insurance industry, retrofit and step code peer networks, MNAI, PCIC, SFU ACT, SHIFT (formerly BC Healthy Communities), emergency response. Staff and elected officials will be made aware of the playbook through CEA's multiple communications channels.

#### **Project scope**

- Review existing project concepts and topics
- Conduct interviews with experts in local governments and buildings-related advisory organizations to compile action-focused guidance and templates for local governments for a buildings chapter in the 'building forward better' guide.
- Topics to include:
  - electric heat pumps (AC for resilience, low GHG for mitigation),
  - EVs as emergency power (guidance for new buildings based on previous Scholar's work, templates for local governments to communicate EV resilience potential),
  - indoor air quality management (particularly for smoke-events),
  - climate development permit areas (DPAs),
  - and embodied carbon (building on Squamish Nation, Squamish District and Whistler work).

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This covers a significant amount of topic territory, but many of the resources/content already exist and need to be compiled, formatted, and framed in a consistent way to support rapid response.

Interaction with CEA collaboration partners including MNAI, PCIC, SFU-ACT, SHIFT (formerly BC Healthy Communities) and others will be required.

## Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- A final report for the online public-facing Scholars Project Library.
- A well-structured and well-formatted document consistent with CEA guides that CEA will include as part of the overall playbook in both PDF form and online (in a similar structure to Closing the Loop [Home - CLOSING THE LOOP](#))

## Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between May 2 and August 12.
- The scholar is to complete during standard office hours, approximately 17 hours per week.

## Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Community engagement experience
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Strong technical and drafting skills
- Design and layout skills
- Knowledge of local government powers, buildings and efficiency as well as emissions, embodied carbon awareness

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 30, 2022**

Apply here: [Click here to apply](#)

Contact Karen Taylor at [sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca](mailto: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>