

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.

Research project title: Identification of resources to support climate action programming in community centres

Project Background & Overview:

In 2021 alone, British Columbians have experienced climate change through a devastating heat wave, unprecedented wildfire season, and loss of life and infrastructure resulting from intense rain and floods. There is widespread concern about the climate crisis among Vancouver residents, but a lack of understanding of how individuals and families can take meaningful, supported action at a local level. Vancouver Park Board (PB) community centres reach a broad spectrum of the public from diverse ethnicities, socio-economic statuses, and ages, which enables them to offer a variety of social, educational and recreational opportunities. Enabling community climate action requires a collaborative effort from all levels of government and a deep understanding of community needs. This necessary effort of offering climate-focused programs tailored to the people community centres serve supports social change that aligns with the City of Vancouver's (COV) Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) and broader goals of climate action.

Project description

The objective of this project is to collect, refine and organize information gathered from municipal, educational and grassroots sources into a resource for Community Centre programming staff. Staff can use this resource to inform the design and implementation of climate action programs that meet the needs and interests of their local community and patrons. This will be achieved through interviews and exploring existing resources and current trends, while identifying gaps and possible next steps.

Project scope

Creating a resource for recreation staff to draw upon for developing climate action programs that align with the City's Climate Emergency Action Plan and Community Centre priorities. The student will:

1. Conduct interviews with Sustainability Staff (COV/PB), PB Recreation staff and local organizations.
2. Review CEAP resources and examples from other jurisdictions to understand what and where effective community climate action is happening
3. Determine possible program areas of focus by assessing trends, best practices, and areas of overlap with community centre interests
4. Organize the above information (from steps 1-3) into a useable resource for community centre programmers across the Recreation system. The resource should summarize:

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- Core content in the focus program areas
 - Example successful programs from other organizations and jurisdictions
 - Key local contacts for programming instruction
5. Recommendations for next steps

Deliverables

- Summary of available and relevant climate action materials
- List of existing resources/programming and key local contacts
- Recommendations for next steps
- A final report (or executive summary) for the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).

Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between May 2, 2022 and August 12, 2022
- The scholar is 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
- Community engagement experience
- Familiarity conducting focus group research
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys

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>