

## 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: Researching policy framework for integration of rapid transit stations with affordable housing development**

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

Development intensification near rapid transit stations enables Cities to provide jobs, community amenities and housing in particular where they are easily accessible by sustainable modes of transportation. The Province of BC, who is a project partner in the delivery of major rapid transit projects, has also announced its commitment to investing in and building new affordable housing. Unfortunately, challenges resulting from the timing, procurement and mandate of partner agencies can result in a disconnect between the delivery of rapid transit projects and the City's land use planning for the transit corridor. As the placement of transit infrastructure has a direct impact on what is possible from a development perspective, a lack of close coordination between the two has a significant opportunity cost when it results in development intensification not occurring near major transit investments.

This project supports Big Move 2: By 2030, two thirds of trips in Vancouver will be by active transportation and transit: Encourage More Walking, Biking and Transit Use. Equity denied groups are often transient reliant populations as well, who are disproportionately impacted by transit planning decisions. Ensuring equitable access transit infrastructure, both spatially and by different groups, is core to the successful delivery of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

The Transit Integration and Projects (TrIP) group acts as a liaison between the Province, TransLink and various city departments in the planning, design and delivery of new rapid transit infrastructure within the City of Vancouver. Our group is composed of Engineers, Planners and Architects. This research will specifically contribute to the Architecture and Urban Interface practice within TrIP.

#### **Project description**

Vancouver does not currently have a policy mechanism that contemplates appropriate development specifically for those sites near rapid transit. Given the complexity in the planning, design and delivery of major transit infrastructure projects, it is challenging under our current policies and plans to integrate development with stations. The aim of this project is to address the financial and regulatory framework challenges that prevent urban integration of transit and development and examine how affordable housing can be provided at key transit nodes. This work will have direct applicability to the future planning process and business case development for the UBC Skytrain Extension.

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

## Project scope

- Precedent study and analysis of what other jurisdictions (cities and transit authorities) have done to address transit integrated development in terms of affordable housing programs, station area and/or transit overlay zoning
- Overview of current City and Provincial housing programs, policies and targets
- Perform economic testing of various development scenarios
- Provide a series of actionable recommendations to inform development of a future policy mechanism

## Deliverables

- A final illustrative report containing a summary of the work completed
- 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
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Familiarity with benchmarking methods and tools
- Experience with financial modelling and analysis
- Design and layout skills
- Policy research and review
- Comfortable leading information meetings with other cities and transit agencies

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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>