

Summer 2023 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 on the Apply page to confirm your eligibility before applying.

Applications close at midnight on Sunday January 29, 2023.

Project title: Research to understand the challenges and successes of carbon reduction projects in healthcare facilities

Project Background & Overview:

Provincial Health Services Authority's environmental sustainability commitment to "act as leaders with respect to environmental stewardship" is accomplished by developing and adopting sustainable best practices within its operations while engaging the healthcare community in a collaborative approach towards sustainability. Climate Change Mitigation and Energy and Carbon Management are key parts of this commitment and have been supporting this organizational priority since 2008. By focusing on energy and carbon emissions management, Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA) is reducing its exposure to energy cost escalations, demonstrating environmentally responsible development, supporting the public sector emission reduction legislation (Climate Change Accountability Act), and minimizing the environmental impact from healthcare facilities on the health of the populations and patients we serve. PHSA has been working on identifying opportunities and implementing projects that help reduce operational carbon emissions from the building portfolio and achieve provincial and organizational targets with respect to GHG emissions reduction.

Project description

The purpose of this project is to explore the implementation challenges and success factors in carbon reduction projects completed at healthcare facilities in the Lower Mainland, BC.

Our goal is to capture stakeholders' experiences from past projects and collect their input and feedback through surveys, interviews and focus groups, and then invite the key stakeholders in a workshop to co-design an implementation process for carbon reduction projects at healthcare facilities that is informed by the learnings of this research. The outcome of this work will be used for continuous improvement of our project planning and delivery processes, facilitating the achievement of carbon reduction targets for the organization.

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Project scope

The scope of work for this project includes the following:

- Conduct a literature review to identify common implementation challenges and success factors experienced in carbon reduction projects within the healthcare sector specifically, and public sector organizations more broadly
- Conduct surveys, interviews and focus groups with a selected number of stakeholders within Lower Mainland Health Organizations to capture and document experienced challenges and success factors in the implementation process of carbon reduction projects in healthcare facilities
- Synthesise the findings and help develop and deliver a working session with key stakeholders to co-design an implementation process for carbon reduction projects that is informed by the learnings of this research
- Document and present the research findings and designed implementation process to key stakeholders at PHSA and elicit their experts' opinion

Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- A final report for the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).
- A final presentation to key stakeholders within the organization

Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete
- This project must be completed between May 1 to August 15, 2023
- 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
- Experience conducting stakeholder engagement events, including facilitation skills, is an asset
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Familiarity conducting focus group research
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Familiarity with carbon emissions management, energy costing, building emissions, is an asset
- Ability to conduct energy saving or GHG reduction calculations is an asset.

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 29, 2023**

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 23, 2023. [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>