

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: Building awareness and appreciation of the Fraser Estuary through the curation of a radio program exploring climate issues, research, adaptation and Indigenous land and water sovereignty.

Project Background & Overview:

The “foreshore” describes the land along the edge of the water that is both submerged and revealed by the tide. Very simply, it is the wet part of the beach, a place of unclear jurisdiction, and thus of contestation, friction, and constant movement. Those who dwell in this zone must continually adapt to a changing environment. The foreshore conjures histories specific to this region: narratives of trade and exchange, habitation and nourishment, resistance and violent erasure, and evokes the emergence of possible futures.

The foreshore has served as a fertile operative metaphor for Other Sights’ thinking for close to a decade. Foreshore Immersive (2023) considers the potential of this zone in the context of adaptations to the pandemic, climate change, collective care and trauma. Presenting a series of Immersive sessions open to the public in-person and also via livestream, and also later available via radio rebroadcast online, this program will provide a supportive framework for artists, writers, thinkers, activists and scientists, engaging with participants from diverse disciplines and viewpoints all whilst gathering at the Blue Cabin/Branscombe House on the foreshore of the Fraser Estuary in Steveston. Activities over the course of 2023 may include listening sessions, workshops, walks, discussions, presentations and more.

Other Sights’ ongoing foreshore research and programming includes Currents and Waves Radio program (www.currentsandwaves.ca). Broadcasting 24/7 since January 2020, Currents and Waves plays content curated into six themes: departures, origins/site, crises/resilience, The Blue Cabin, foreshore and deep listening. Radio programs include environmental recordings, talks by artists, researchers, activists, climate change/adaptation advocates, experimental audio, music about the ocean, and podcasts and conversations about Indigenous land and

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water sovereignty. The platform contains content by over 200 contributors and amplifies a wide range of critical issues in relation to art, sustainability and climate adaptation.

As the 2023 Foreshore Immersive sessions are based on and near the Fraser Estuary, Other Sights would like to curate a day long program of audio that connects with the importance of this location in relation to art, climate, ecology, and the future.

Project description

Other Sights would like to work with a Sustainability Scholar who will create an engaging audio program that explores the Fraser Estuary (FE) which will be incorporated into our organization's Currents and Waves Radio program. The student would be responsible for researching and selecting 12-24 hours of audio programs that will be incorporated into the Fraser Estuary once weekly broadcast. The content can be sourced from existing recordings or also generated anew. Programs can be varied in nature, from recorded conversations with their peers on Estuary research initiatives and ambient environmental recordings, to pre-recorded environmental podcasts that look at climate issues of the Estuary, or even poetry about the river. Diverse audio formats are welcome. The scholar will also have the opportunity to engage with artists and conveners from Foreshore Immersive to add additional content to their program as several of the events and conversations from the Immersive also explore climate adaptation.

This program will launch in the early fall (August/September 2023) and will broadcast weekly for one year. Other Sights sees this program as a way to promote and present the Foreshore Immersive and the many topics that it explores. But more importantly, we look forward to the Sustainability Scholar enriching the program with a range of perspectives and ideas that connect to the Fraser Estuary. Building context awareness on critical sustainable and ecological research is just as important as the science and innovation underway. Awareness furthers research and work by fostering new connections, ideas, and partnerships. The scholar's work will continue to be actively promoted throughout the year as it broadcasts weekly on our radio station. To learn more about Currents and Waves visit and listen: www.currentsandwaves.ca

Project scope

As this project and research is taken on, some useful questions to consider would be: How can this radio program be used to mobilize people into action to support and protect Fraser Estuary, and other related research/artistic projects? Who is the audience for this program? What stories aren't being told that should be? Are there Indigenous-led stewardship-related laws, regulations, policies, plans and programs that are at the forefront of adaptation and resilience? What are some interdisciplinary and or experimental local or international approaches that are being used to galvanize public support and interest in relation to Climate Adaptation and Resilience?

The Scholar will spend May and June researching and selecting Fraser Estuary audio content as well as participating in Foreshore events. They will be responsible for contacting artists, activists, scholars researchers, podcasters and other communities in order to secure radio programming content. Other Sights will assist with contracting and payments for broadcast

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usage for programs. Throughout June and July the scholar will gather the content and continue curating the overall program. In early August, content and program schedule will be reviewed with Other Sights, finalized, and uploaded onto the radio platform. The scholar will also work on written program descriptions and, time permitting, securing images for social media promotion and online use for the program. Around Mid-August the scholar will generate their summary and public reports for their Scholars Project Library.

Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- A final report for the online public-facing Scholars Project Library.
- A detailed radio program schedule for 12-24 hours of programs, including acquired audio files
- Short descriptions for each of the programs for audio and online written promotion
- Participation in related radio and public event programming (5-7 events)

Time Commitment

- This project will take 260 hours to complete: 250 hours to be allocated to the research, and 10 hours to be allocated to participating in meetings and collaboration opportunities with the rest of the FERC cohort
- 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.
- The Scholar must live in the lower mainland to be available to attend FERC meetings and events in person.
- The scholar will meet twice weekly with Other Sights' General manager to check-in, the GM will provide administrative project support as well as mentoring support for the radio platform and programming. The scholar will also have the opportunity to meet with Other Sights Producers and Foreshore conveners to discuss their research project, these individuals will also support questions and concept development.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Programming skills
- Familiarity with WordPress, Drupal, or other website content tools
- Demonstrated experience in audio programming (a benefit but not mandatory)
- Design and layout skills

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Additional information:

Other Sights does not have an office, the scholar would be working remotely 70-80% of the time, meetings will take place on line, or in person at an Other Sights Producer studio space. The candidate should be comfortable with remote work, and also meeting and initiating communication with a wide range of artists, researchers, etc. Other Sights will provide public transit costs as well as a prorated portion of phone/internet costs for the scholar from May-August.

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>