

Summer 2024 Sustainability Scholars Program Internship Opportunity

The UBC Sustainability Hub is pleased to offer current UBC graduate students the opportunity to work on sustainability internship projects. Successful candidates work under the guidance of a mentor from the partner organization, and are immersed in real world learning where they can apply their research skills and contribute to advancing sustainability across the region. These opportunities are paid. The pay rate for the summer 2024 program is \$27.50/hour or \$6,875 for a 250-hour project.

- 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 28, 2024.

Project title: Accessible transportation for newcomers: Research to understand barriers and opportunities

Project Background & Overview:

Accessible and sustainable public transportation transcends mere convenience; it stands as an essential pillar of a just and sustainable society. It plays a pivotal role in promoting social equity, safeguarding public health, advancing environmental sustainability, and fostering community engagement.

The overarching issue at hand is the stark disparity in access to and utilization of public transportation, particularly affecting newcomers to Vancouver. This disparity is compounded by linguistic and cultural barriers that undermine newcomers' confidence in navigating the city's transportation system effectively. These issues can hinder their integration into the broader community and limit their access to opportunities, services, and resources. In summary, this project tackles a multifaceted sustainability problem in Vancouver by providing support to newcomers and their families, emphasizing sustainable and multi-modal transportation, and breaking down barriers to full community engagement. It aligns with the city's climate action and sustainability objectives, aiming to create a more equitable, environmentally responsible, and inclusive urban environment.

Project description

The purpose of this project is to help improve the accessibility and sustainability of public transportation in Vancouver, with a particular focus on the challenges faced by newcomers to the city. We recognize that accessible and sustainable public transportation is not only a means of mobility but also a fundamental determinant of justice, health, sustainability, and community engagement. By addressing disparities through an intersectional lens, we aim to empower newcomers and enhance their confidence in using public transportation.

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Project scope

- Research and analyze data on public transportation accessibility, sustainability, and the challenges faced by newcomers in Vancouver.
- Based on the research, identify trends, patterns, and disparities in transportation usage, particularly among newcomers, and assess the impact of linguistic and cultural barriers on their confidence and mobility
- Work with the project team to develop a comprehensive program that addresses the identified disparities. This includes assisting in the design of intergenerational workshops and hands-on excursions focused on sustainable transportation options.
- Time permitting and depending on the interests of the Scholar: Assist with community outreach and engage with the communities to facilitate the program's adoption.
- Time permitting: Support evaluation and assessment of the project's impact on reducing disparities in transportation access and improving community integration.

Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- A final report 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 1 to August 15, 2024
- The Scholars is to complete their 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
- Community engagement experience
- Strong analytical skills
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Interest in transportation and transportation equity an asset

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 28, 2024**

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

Contact Karen Taylor at sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca if you have questions

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Useful Resources

We are holding a special **resume preparation workshop for prospective Scholars** on January 23, 2024.

[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>