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.

> This is a Fraser Estuary Research Collaborative Project <

The Fraser Estuary Research Collaborative (FERC) is focussed on advancing efforts to protect the Fraser River estuary in collaboration with key NGO and Indigenous partners. If you are interested in producing new knowledge and supporting Fraser estuary protection through scientific, technical, governance and policy innovations, the following project might be for you. **Successful candidates are expected to attend workshops and other events in the lower mainland in person.**

Project title: Science Communication of Values-Based Approaches in Coastal Adaptation

Project Background & Overview:
Living with Water is a collaborative initiative funded by the Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions that addresses the pressing challenges of sea level rise and increased flood risks along British Columbia's South Coast. With a diverse, multidisciplinary team, the project aims to help communities adapt to these threats. Recognizing the significance of sea level rise, which affects over 60% of the global population in coastal areas, the project seeks to expand the solution space for decision-makers, planners, and communities by providing new perspectives, resources, and decision-support tools to foster the conception and implementation of innovative and collaborative coastal flood adaptation solutions.

Living with Water prioritizes the exploration of socially and ecologically inclusive coastal environments, emphasizing the importance of coastal adaptation aligning with decolonization principles. The project acknowledges the need for a fundamental re-examination of colonial institutions and researchers' practices, including value systems, community engagement processes, governance systems, regulatory frameworks, and planning horizons. Through this re-examination, the initiative aims to amplify marginalized voices, broaden the solution space, and develop just, integrated, and cross-jurisdictional adaptation measures.

Project description

Living with Water (LWW) advocates for a values-based approach to coastal and flood adaptation. Incorporating values-based approaches into coastal adaptation planning supports foregrounding local Indigenous knowledges and perspectives, enhancing community engagement, building trust, promoting inclusivity, and facilitates the adoption of policies that are both scientifically sound and socially acceptable. This integrated approach is essential for the successful and long-term adaptation of coastal communities to the challenges posed by climate change.

There is a growing body of literature and practice that integrates values-based approaches to climate change and coastal adaptation planning, but there is a lack of communication around the potentials and importance of such an approach for coastal and flood management. As such, this project aims to use science communication practices to convey scientific information, concepts, and methods related to values-based approaches to a non-expert audience. The goal of science communication is to make scientific knowledge accessible, understandable, and engaging to the general public, policymakers, and other stakeholders who may not have heard about what values-based approaches to flood management entails.

This project aims to create various outputs that will enhance the public understanding of values-based approaches to climate change, build trust between the scientific community and the public, encourage informed decision-making, and foster interest in scientific fields working on coastal adaptation.

Project scope

- Literature review of best practices in values-based approaches to coastal adaptation
- Participation in the Living with Water May 27-29, 2024 Workshop. This will give the intern an opportunity to interview LWW members and gain insights in how values are used within the project.
- Identification of key audiences, crafting key messages, and choosing appropriate communication channels/deliverables
- Development of written and visual content
- Publication of deliverables to appropriate platforms (website, social media)

Deliverables

- A final report for the online public-facing Scholars Project Library.
- A series of effective science communication outputs that convey what values-based approaches are, and how they can be integrated in coastal adaptation practices. Depending on the intern's skills and strengths, deliverables could include written communication (short articles, website / blog posts); visual communication (infographics, illustrations, graphs, videos); science journalism (translating scientific findings for the general public), and social media (LinkedIn, Instagram).

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 writing skills
☒ Community engagement experience
☒ Ability to work independently
☒ Project management and organizational skills
☒ Photography and event documentation
☒ Familiarity with WordPress, Drupal, or other website content tools
☒ Demonstrated experience in visual communication
☒ Design and layout skills

Additional information

Scholar will be provided with access to a quality camera, tripod, and microphone for photography and video documentation should this be of interest/relevance.

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

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