

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 Pathways to Net Zero Embodied Carbon Project<

UBC Sustainability Hub is undertaking a research and knowledge building project “Pathways to Net Zero Embodied Carbon in Buildings” to explore challenges and pilot solutions to accelerate Canada’s carbon emissions reductions from building materials. The Pathways projects are a collaboration with BC municipalities to identify and advance local solutions and strategies for embodied carbon reductions, within the constraints and opportunities of that community. Successful candidates will be asked to participate in knowledge sharing events and activities.

Project Title: Research to update the demolition bylaw for the City of Richmond

Project Background & Overview

Buildings are the third largest contributor to Canada’s total carbon emissions with one third of building emissions corresponding to embodied carbon emissions. These are the emissions generated by the production, installation, use and recycling and/or disposal of a building’s materials. They are distinct from operational carbon generated from energy used in the building for electricity, heating and cooling. While there are currently many policies, at various levels of government, intended to reduce operational emissions from buildings, there are relatively few targeting embodied emissions from buildings.

The City of Richmond has led the way in British Columbia by implementing a strong by-law for reducing and diverting waste from landfill in single family residence demolitions. This reflects the City's dedication to sustainability and environmental responsibility. By prioritizing material reuse, the City has met its downstream embodied carbon emissions reduction targets, and now it is expanding this policy to the broader built environment in Richmond.

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to inform an updated demolition bylaw for the City of Richmond with a particular focus on reducing embodied carbon emissions from the construction industry.

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Project Scope

- Review and analyse approximately 10 demolition bylaws in BC and Canada
- Interview 5 to 10 subject experts to complement the bylaw review and gain further insight into the value and impact of various bylaws
- Based on the research and a review of Richmond's bylaw, identify gaps and opportunities to update the City of Richmond's demolition bylaw to include or revise relevant embodied carbon considerations
- Present findings to key city staff for feedback and to validate any recommendations
- Drawing on the research and staff feedback recommend amendments/additions to the current demolition bylaw

Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- An executive summary for the public-facing Scholars Project Library.
- A presentation to project team and other stakeholders.

Time Commitment and Work Arrangement

- 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 8 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
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Demonstrated experience reviewing and analysing policy
- Knowledge of waste management practices and sustainability in the construction sector, an asset

Additional Information

Desk space will be made available in the City of Richmond. We encourage the successful candidate to work in the office as much as possible to benefit from opportunities to network and learn more about how the City of Richmond is advancing toward net zero emissions

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>