

## 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.**

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### >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: Researching opportunities to reduce embodied carbon in multi-unit residential building (MURB) construction for the City of Victoria**

#### **Project Background & Overview**

Buildings are the third largest contributor to Canada’s total carbon emissions, and one third of building emissions correspond 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 the built environment.

City of Victoria is committed to cutting its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 80 per cent compared to 2007 levels and a shift to 100 per cent renewable energy by 2050. In anticipation of this commitment, the City of Victoria wants to better understand the current policy and program landscape to inform the City’s approach to new construction of multi-unit residential buildings to reduce embodied emissions in alignment with the City’s commitment to reducing GHG emissions level by 2025.

## Project Scope

This project aims to review current and existing policy across BC, highlight opportunities to reduce embodied carbon emissions in the residential building stock, and identify future actions to implement into the city policy. To achieve this the Scholar will:

- Conduct a jurisdictional scan of municipal-scale policies and initiatives relevant to reducing embodied carbon in new construction of multi-unit residential buildings
- Interview between 5 and 7 subject experts at the City and other relevant jurisdictions to understand the successes and challenges of their embodied carbon policies and initiatives relative to new construction of multi-unit residential buildings
- Review and summarise relevant City of Victoria policies and initiatives.
- Based on the research and in consultation with the project mentor, prioritise several initiatives/policies to examine in greater detail and perform an analysis to identify best opportunities for the City to consider implementing
- Present the research and recommendations to city staff and key stakeholders for feedback
- Develop a final report synthesizing the findings and listing recommendations and future actions

## Deliverables

- A mid-term progress report
- A final report containing a summary of the work completed
- An executive summary for the public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).
- A presentation to the 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 Scholar 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
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Excellent writing and communication skills
- Deadline oriented
- Familiarity preparing feasibility studies, an asset
- Familiarity with embodied carbon emissions in buildings, an asset

# SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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

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

Contact Karen Taylor at [sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca](mailto: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>