

Summer 2025 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. The pay rate for the summer 2025 program is \$31.25/hour or \$7,812.50 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 11:59 pm on Sunday January 26, 2025.

Project title: Best practices research on youth wellness needs and resources to inform emergency response planning

Project Background & Overview:

Foundry is a province-wide network of integrated health and wellness services for young people ages 12 to 24. There are currently 17 Foundry centres (expansion underway to 35 centres) across BC. Foundry's mission is to support young people in living a good life.

Communities across BC are experiencing climate related events including severe weather, wildfires, heatwaves, and floods. We know that climate related emergencies can impact the mental health of young people and their families during and after these events, and that young people are vulnerable to climate distress and anxiety.

Foundry centres need to be prepared to respond effectively during and after extreme weather event emergencies, supporting young people and families they serve, as well as their staff. The disruptions that often accompany climate change induced weather events can present unexpected challenges for young people, and there is a growing recognition of the need for responsive services during emergencies, along with proactive planning to minimize disruptions in health and wellness service delivery during both acute and ongoing crises.

Foundry would like to develop a resource to guide emergency response planning for the organization, to help inform how we can work with and support individual centres effectively. Foundry collaborates with service providers, families/caregivers and youth to ensure services are culturally safe, youth friendly, and meet the needs of young people. Similarly this project will consider how the perspectives and experiences of Foundry service providers, youth, and subject matters experts can be included in emergency response planning for Foundry.

Project description

Foundry Central Office supports the network of 17 Foundry centres across the province, each operated by a lead agency, including local community organizations, health authorities, and

First Nations organizations. Foundry centres are in diverse communities, each with emergency preparedness needs influenced by location-specific factors, centre capacity, and the existing emergency preparedness structures of the lead agency and the community.

Foundry Central Office aims to develop resources to guide Foundry Central Office in developing a strategy or framework to help the network of centres be prepared to respond in climate related emergencies and evacuations. This initiative will strengthen Foundry Central Office's knowledge and identify options for next steps in developing a strategy, framework, and/or tools to support Foundry centres in delivering youth services during emergencies. Ultimately, this work will help ensure that youth can access Foundry's health and wellness services when they need them most.

Project scope

The project will include:

- Literature review on best practices and other guidance for emergency response planning as it relates to/or in the context of youth services organizations supporting young people during and after emergencies.
- Scan of existing data/information about Foundry centres to identify what data/information exists and where there are gaps that may need to be addressed to inform future work and/or decision making.
- Compiling a list of existing resources that will be helpful for future work and continued learning related to this project.
- Interviews with key informants from Foundry centres, Foundry Central Office, and subject matter experts (approx. 5-7 interviews).
- Making recommendations for next steps in developing a framework or tools to support Foundry with emergency response, and if time permits developing some of the framework or tools.
- Preparation of a final report that will include background/overview of emergency response in BC as it relates to this project

Deliverables

- A final report for Foundry Central Office, containing a summary of the work completed:
 - Background/context about emergency response and planning in as it related to this project so that we have foundational knowledge for this work.
 - Synthesis of literature and engagement findings.
 - Analysis and recommendations for next steps/tools .
 - Resource list – references, tool, or other materials to support future work.
 - Draft framework or other tools if time permits.
- A final report for the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete
- This project must be completed between May 1 to August 15.
- 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
- Familiarity with research methodologies and survey techniques
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills
- Comfortable conducting interviews
- Knowledge and/or interest in emergency response planning for organizations
- Knowledge and/or interest in health and wellness services/issue of youth

Applications close at **11:59 pm Sunday January 26, 2025**

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 21, 2025. [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>