

## Summer 2026 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 February 1, 2026.**

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## Project title: Research to identify gaps and develop a culturally informed emergency planning “medicine box”

### Project Background

Indigenous housing and service providers across British Columbia are increasingly impacted by climate-related emergencies such as wildfires, floods, heat waves, and seismic events. These events pose significant risks to Indigenous communities, particularly those offering complex care, transitional housing, and shelter services. Building on the Aboriginal Housing Management Association’s (AHMA) previous research, including the "[Climate Resilient Buildings for Urban Indigenous Housing and Service Providers](#)" paper and extreme heat study, this project will explore member experiences across the four stages of emergency management: mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery. The project contributes to climate justice by centring Indigenous voices and advancing culturally relevant resiliency strategies.

### Project description

This applied research project will engage AHMA members (Indigenous non-profit housing and service providers in BC) and key partners to identify gaps in emergency management and co-create a culturally informed emergency planning framework. The Scholar will conduct interviews, analyze geographic and service-specific needs, and develop a "medicine box" framework to guide the sharing of emergency management tools and resources. The project will be actionable through the development of practical tools and strategies that AHMA can immediately integrate into member support and training initiatives.

### Project scope

1. Review key themes from AHMA's existing climate resilience research and emergency management tools.
2. Develop interview questions and identify interviewees.
3. Conduct interviews with 8-10 AHMA members.

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4. Analyze key themes, geographic differences and service-specific needs (complex care, transition homes, shelters, etc.).
5. Identify circles of support and governance, such as emergency response organizations, key government contacts, and potential partners or sources of funding.
6. Summarize context-specific strategies and recommendations.
7. Develop the "medicine box" framework to organize and share emergency planning tools and resources. (Note: tools have already been developed or are in development, such as planning templates, training, and risk analysis.) The medicine box framework will guide the sharing of these resources with our members.

## **Deliverables**

- Final report summarizing findings, themes, and recommendations.
- Develop a culturally informed emergency planning framework called the "medicine box" (tools and resources).
- Webinar to present findings and framework to AHMA members
- 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 14.
- 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
- Public speaking and presentation skills, an asset
- Community engagement experience
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Familiarity with emergency management, emergency management planning, climate resilience, particularly in the areas of complex care, transition homes, and shelters would be an asset
- Familiarity with Indigenous peoples, cultural practices and the ongoing impacts of colonization is an asset.

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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 19, 2026.  
[Click here for details and to register.](#)

Below are some links to useful resources to help you with your resume, cover letter and preparing for an interview (there are many more online).

<https://students.ubc.ca/career/career-resources/>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/cover-letter-cv-resume-templates-ubc-career-services>