

**GREENEST CITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM**  
**UBC Sustainability Scholars Program, Summer 2018**

**Greenest City / Healthy City Research project title**

Impact study of potential uses of a Downtown Eastside facility

**Research supports the following policies**

- Greenest City Action Plan  
Specific goal area (s): *Local Food* \_\_\_\_\_
- Healthy City Strategy  
Specific goal area (s): *Healthy Human Services; Feeding Ourselves Well; and the project may link to Cultivating Connections and Making Ends Meet* \_\_\_\_\_
- Renewable City Action Plan
- Green Operations
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Outline scope of project and why it is of value to the City and describe how and when the scholar's work will be actionable**

The tenant of a city-leased facility located in the DTES will soon be vacating the building, which creates a unique opportunity to develop new programs and services. Building on community needs and gaps, and the facility's design and functional infrastructure, the Healthy City Scholar will assist city staff in developing options to best program the space into the future. The existing space is 9000 sf and includes smaller meeting rooms and offices, a well-functioning commercial kitchen and dining area that serves 800 meals /day.

**Scope of Work**

- Review background materials including the Social Infrastructure draft Plan, DTES Plan and Social Impact Assessment, VCH's Food Asset Map and other documents related to community economic development strategy, incubator kitchen analysis, etc.
- Visit, review, and assess the facility, layout, and existing infrastructure, including existing food service infrastructure
- Assess community identified needs that could be met through the space by reviewing existing documents and conducting interviews and 4-6 focus groups (residents, service providers, and City staff)
- Develop a list of potential uses of the space. Assess their ability to meet the community's needs and the City's social goals.
- Propose preferred options for services / uses of the space, including in a short- or a long-term lease scenario. Options should consider co-location or single lease.
- Develop recommendations in order to assist in soliciting service providers.

**Why it is of value**

- In 2014, the Healthy City Strategy proposed a long term vision for health, well-being and equity for all Vancouverites. This project specifically aims to improve equitable access to appropriate, high-quality

**Submit applications here: <http://bit.ly/2DC2jpP>**

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social and community services. It may also support connection building, making ends meet, and feeding ourselves well.

- The Greenest City Action Plan also has a target to increase food assets in the City and this facility may have the potential to continue to serve as a food asset.
- The DTES Plan aims to ensure that the future of the DTES improves the lives of all those who currently live in the area, including low-income and middle income residents, the homeless, seniors, women, children and families. The 2014 DTES Social Impact Assessment identified several ongoing community gaps including employment, low cost food, places to gather, and health and support services.
- The identified space is well placed to address some of the community needs. An assessment of the space and its ability to meet these community needs is required in order to appropriately guide decision making as to its future use.

**Deliverables**

- A written analysis of potential uses of the space
- Options and recommendations that can be used for soliciting proposals for tenancy
- A public facing final report (or executive summary) for the UBC Sustainability Scholars online project library

**Time Commitment**

- This project will take **250** hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between April 27 to August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- The scholar is to complete hours between Monday to Friday, 8:30-5pm, approximately **16** hours per week

**Work location:** *Woodward's Building, 111 West Hastings Street*

**Skill set/background required/preferred**

- Strong analytical skills
- Demonstrated interest in community development and/or business planning
- Experience planning and facilitating focus groups (internal City staff and external stakeholders)
- Experience with business analysis and / or familiarity with food services would be an asset
- An understanding of and sensitivity to factors and impacts of marginalization, particularly in the downtown eastside
- Excellent research and writing skills
- Ability to work independently and demonstrated time management skills

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