



Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University is currently seeking student applicants for 2 student Policy Research Assistants to join the summer Policy Lab.

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems (ISFS) is a research and outreach institute based on KPU's Richmond, BC, campus. Through our integrated program of applied research, extension programming, and community engagement, we investigate and support regional food systems as key elements of sustainable communities. We focus predominantly on British Columbia but also extend our programming to other regions. More information is available at www.kpu.ca/isfs.

The Summer Policy Lab

The ISFS periodically hosts a summer intensive Policy Lab aimed at identifying policy options addressing key gaps in food system policy in BC. The Policy Lab will include 2 student researchers who, with the support of the Policy Lab Supervisor, and ISFS Research Associates will investigate policy precedents from around the world that speak to key gaps in food system policy in B.C., and develop policy recommendations relevant to the BC context. This year's policy lab will focus on the research and identification of policy and planning tools to advance local/regional food systems in the *Okanagan bioregion of BC*. Policy gaps will be identified by ISFS Research Associates prior to the start of the Policy Lab and may include topics such as increasing food processing and post-production capacity for local food, protecting farmland for agricultural purposes, improving waste management in agriculture or other areas of food policy interest in the region.

The Policy Lab conducts professional research, the results of which are submitted to stakeholders involved in ISFS research, such as local government, producers, policy makers, community organizers etc. As a result, ISFS is searching for students who have the drive to participate in practical, professional and impactful research.

For more information on the ISFS Policy Lab, please see the White Paper, produced from research from the 2017 Policy Lab: [*Protection is Not Enough: Policy Precedents to Increase the Agricultural use of British Columbia's Farmland.*](#)

Position Description: Policy Research Assistant

Wage: \$15/ hour

Hours: Approximately 490 hours (35 hrs per week)*

Contract: Casual Service Contract, April 29th, 2019 to August 2nd, 2019

Supervisor: *Policy Lab Supervisor/ISFS Research Associates (tba)*

* Under certain circumstances, hours may be subject to flexibility. Please specify if you require such an accommodation.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Apply excellent research abilities to investigate policy from B.C., Canada, and beyond.
- Communicate regularly with Policy Lab Supervisor to develop methodology and assess progress.
- Prepare reports, briefs and communications as required.
- Prepare final report, briefs and communications as required.
- Work as a team member to address challenges, communicate progress and complete Policy Lab goals.

Qualifications

- Fourth year standing in or recent completion of Policy Studies or Sustainable Agriculture studies at KPU.
- Ability to think critically and strong sense of initiative.
- Ability to produce clear, technical writing.
- Ability to effectively and independently manage time and produce high quality work within project deadlines.
- Excellent organizational skills and the ability to work independently and as a team member.
- Positive, professional and collaborative attitude and demeanor.
- Knowledge of food systems and related policy in the B.C. and/or Okanagan context is an asset.

To apply for this position, please submit your cover letter and resume to Naomi Robert (Research Associate, ISFS) at naomi.robert@kpu.ca by the application deadline of **April 5th, 2019**.