

Eco-Initiatives Form: Above \$500

Name: [REDACTED]

Date: Friday, October 23, 2015

Contact Email or Phone: [REDACTED]

Club or Group Affiliation: Environmental Science Students' Association (ESSA)

Amount Requested: 1000\$

TREASURER USE ONLY:

Approved

Modified

Denied

Submitted as of:

Notes:

1. Describe your project and its purpose (approximately 200 words)?

Career options are often a top concern for many university students. With an environmental science or related degree, the possible careers and necessary prerequisites are often unclear. Speaking to professionals with similar educational backgrounds about their career development is therefore an important and rare opportunity for ENSC students. To address this issue, ESSA hosts an annual career fair.

In February, ESSA will host representatives from approximately thirty organizations representing industry, educational institutions, and government. The 200+ students who will attend the event will be able to investigate potential careers and learn of any necessary educational and work experience that may be required. Additionally, the career fair will enable students to gain crucial experience speaking one-on-one with prospective employers.

ESSA will provide food and refreshments for all attendees and gift bags for representatives to show our appreciation and maintain a positive relationship, ensuring that both students and representatives return in future years. All UBC students are welcome and encouraged to attend the event.

2. Outline how your project pertains to the environment and sustainability at UBC (approximately 200 words)?

The importance of exposure to postgraduate opportunities for students cannot be overstated. The Career Fair provides an exclusive opportunity for students in Environmental Sciences and related fields to network and explore their postgraduate options, whether it be continuing their education or entering the workforce. The Career Fair is particularly useful as it allows students to practice speaking face-to-face with employers, which can be a rare opportunity for many in this specialization. This development of professional skills can help students to increase their confidence, improve their networking abilities, and better prepare themselves for interviews. These are direct benefits that will not only be of use in the immediate future as students seek summer employment, but may also be built upon for future postgraduate interviews and employment opportunities. With over 200 students expected to attend this event, roughly two-thirds of our specialization will benefit directly from the event and come away with a better understanding of how they can apply their degree in the professional world. Furthermore, the Career Fair may lead to a few students securing summer and fulltime employment in environment and sustainability sectors. Employers of environmental and sustainability backgrounds will be able to share their experiences and the positive impacts they have had on the environment as a result of working for their employer.

3. How will you document the successes and difficulties of your project? In what ways do you foresee this documentation aiding other SEC Eco-Initiatives (approximately 200 words)?

After every Career Fair, we provide companies and students with feedback forms in order to improve our event and outreach to as many individuals as possible. The event will be documented in our club's newsletter and is advertised across UBC through social media, posters, classroom announcements, etc. This is an example of feedback we have received in the past:

"We felt like it was a great opportunity for us to speak with students last year, and that helped in our decision for coop student hires and for others who have joined our company since then from UBC"

Michael Browne (Project Manager/Fisheries Biologist, Stantec)

Demonstrating the ability of UBC EOAS students to perform in a professional capacity surely improves the reputation of students in our department, and our school, on local, national and international levels.

- 4. For most requests of funding of this amount, the SEC would like to see other funding sources contributing to the financing of your project. Are you pursuing any other sources of funding? If so, what sources, and for what amount? (SEC Treasurers can help you identify other sources of funding.)**

We will be using our membership fees, club money and the EOAS Undergraduate funding to assist in funding event. This will total approximately 1000\$.

- 5. What aspects of your project (purchases, bookings) will SEC funding be used for?**

We will use the funding for food, refreshments, table/chair rentals, thank you gifts and advertising.

Signed (Your Name): Andrew MacKinnon

SEC Treasurer

Name:

Signature:

SEC Chair

Name:

Signature:

A note about Eco-Initiatives Grants

If your project is approved, the SEC will reimburse you for the purchases made. You must provide the SEC with proof-of-purchase. If you have any questions regarding the Eco-Initiatives Funding, please contact SEC Treasurers*. Arrangements can be made to provide students with funding before purchasing if they cannot afford to make the purchase for their project and then receive compensation. Reimbursement usually takes about 5 business days. Eco-Initiatives Grants can fund a wide variety of projects; any projects related to the environment or sustainability, and involving members of the UBC student body, will be considered. However, requests for funding for projects undertaken as part of coursework at UBC, or individual volunteer projects, must illustrate a connection to the wider student body at UBC.

Completed forms should be emailed to enviro@ams.ubc.ca. Alternatively, we welcome you to drop your form off at our office, Room 245B of UBC's Student Union Building. The Treasurers and other active members of the SEC would love to help you formulate your project, and will be glad to assist with the project's development and applications for funding.
