



The Student Environment Centre

Student Resource Group
University of British Columbia

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Eco-Initiatives Form: \$100 to \$500

<p>Name:</p> <p>Date Submitted: November 1st 2017</p> <p>Contact Email:</p> <p>Club or Group Affiliation(s): UBC Environmental Policy Association</p> <p>Amount Requested: 450</p>			
<p>TREASURER USE ONLY:</p> <table><tr><td>Approved</td><td>Modified</td><td>Denied</td></tr></table> <p>Submitted as of:</p> <p>Notes:</p>	Approved	Modified	Denied
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1. Please fill in the fields below to give us an overview of your project:

- Name of Project: Climate talks
- Objective or Purpose: To increase awareness surrounding global climate change, and how public policy can be used as a tool to combat it.
- Brief Description: Our “Climate Talks” are discussions that provide students with an opportunity to learn about environmental public policy by listening and/or contributing in a casual, pressure-free environment, with an informed moderator (such as a UBC professor) present.
- Project Date(s): On 22nd November 2017 we will have a climate talk led by Patrick Condon focusing on a community design project in Surrey and the entangled web of environmental policy and planning, and two more in the spring semester of 2018.
- Expected Attendance: Normally 40-60 people come to our climate talks, but we are hoping to attract even more in our upcoming ones.

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

Our discussions are always based around an environmental theme. We work to find topics that can connect political science and economics to the environment. For example, one of our climate talks last year was focused around carbon taxes, specifically the Liberal party's proposal to implement a national carbon tax in 2018. We discussed the likely impacts of this policy, and whether it is enough to start reducing Canada's carbon footprint, with the help of local activist and community leader Kevin Washbrook. He currently serves as a director at Voters Taking Action Against Climate Change.

Our last event on October 4th, was centered around the theme of climate change and capitalism as this is a growing area of research. We brought in UBC Professor Kathryn Harrison who focuses her research on why governments implement the policies they do as well as the efficacy of alternative policy instruments.

These are just two example of the way that we combine environmental concerns with policy applications. Therefore, although we don't contribute to sustainability by physical means (such as increasing the number of recycling bins on campus, etc.), we encourage big-picture thinking by having a platform for students to consider the policy decisions that are shaping our world. Our goal for these discussions is to have students leaving the room feeling engaged with environmental economics/politics, thereby making the UBC student body more involved in questioning the environmental decisions world leaders, businesses, and entrepreneurs are making on a daily basis.

3. Are you pursuing any other sources of funding? If so, what are those sources, how much are you expecting to receive from them, and what will those funds be put toward? We can help you identify other sources of funding.

We received a grant of \$700 from the Vancouver School of Economics Undergraduate society in August. This money has been, and will be used to fund other projects than our climate talks. For instance we have used the money on our website, on hosting a social, as well as on marketing material.

4. What aspect(s) of your project will SEC funding be used for? Be as specific as possible with the allocation of funds.

SEC funding would be incredibly valuable for the success of our events. In order to have successful discussions and encourage participation we like to provide our guests some light snacks. For our last climate talk on October 4th we used Westcadia to order cookies which came to approximately \$140. We tried to make the event as low waste as possible, and recycled all the paper napkins that we used to serve the cookies. Thus we ask for funding of \$450, to be able to fund our climate talk on November 22nd, as well as the two we are planning on having next semester.