



Graduate Studies Scholarship in the Master of Arts in Sustainable Leisure Management Program (MASLM) at Vancouver Island University (Nanaimo, British Columbia, Canada)

Creative Economies: Exploring the Nexus of Culture and Tourism in Yukon and Northern BC

The Department of Recreation and Tourism at Vancouver Island University (VIU) is seeking candidates for a graduate studies scholarship within the MA Sustainable Leisure Management program starting in the fall semester of 2021, and involving two semesters of intensive courses (Nanaimo campus) leading to a one year thesis research project in the project regions.

Developments at the intersection of tourism and the cultural economies represent key processes with potentially high societal and economic impacts. Cultural tourism is one activity that can help realise inclusive and innovative development. The successful candidates (2 students) will work under the supervision of Drs. Suzanne de la Barre and Patrick Brouder in the SSHRC funded project ***Creative Economies: Exploring the Nexus of Culture and Tourism in Rural Canada (Yukon and northern BC)***. The project examines the role of the cultural and creative economies in rural and remote communities where place-based development has been central to building community resilience. The project offers the successful candidates the opportunity to develop independent research on diverse research opportunities, including but not limited to:

- societal changes and the nature of cultural expression
- economic diversification in resource-based communities
- reconciliation with Indigenous communities in Canada
- spatial dispersion of tourists from hub, gateway, and core areas to smaller communities
- place-based innovation in arts, culture, and tourism

VIU is a member of the World Leisure Centre of Excellence (WLCE) and its MASLM program offers emerging leaders the opportunity to explore and apply innovative sustainability solutions to leisure-related challenges in the global context. This 2 year program begins with an 8 month residency for course work at VIU's Nanaimo campus. Course work is followed by an applied field experience, which leads to the thesis research project.

The successful candidates will receive a substantial scholarship package during the two-year program and with the delivery of key outcomes totalling approximately \$20,000 for their studies in the program and fieldwork in northern BC/Yukon. The scholarship includes:

Year 1: Stipend of \$8,000 in total for the 8 months of course work in Nanaimo to be paid in two instalments (December 2021 and April 2022) and subject to the successful completion of courses; research assistantship at VIU (up to 140 hours at \$20/hour over 2 semesters = \$2,800)

Year 2: Research support up to \$7,200 for expenses incurred during fieldwork in northern BC and/or Yukon (for example, can include transport, accommodation, food, and other research-related expenses). Additional funding of up to \$2,000 is available to support presentation of findings at a relevant conference upon successful completion of the research.

In addition to the above funding package, the successful candidate will be eligible to apply for a Bombardier Graduate Scholarship (\$17,000) or a BC Graduate Scholarship (\$15,000) during their first semester of studies with application support from Drs. de la Barre and Brouder.

Interested candidates should send an expression of interest to suzanne.delabarre@viu.ca and patrick.brouder@viu.ca. The expression of interest should be an email briefly stating why you are interested in this graduate opportunity and a statement confirming that you qualify for VIU's MASLM program based on the application package criteria listed below (maximum 300 words).

The full application package for the MASLM program includes: resume, academic transcripts for prior studies, including evidence of a completed undergraduate degree, three letters of reference accompanied by three completed referee forms; a comprehensive statement addressing areas of research interest; statement of career interest; and a summary of relevant preparation (e.g., career experience and prior academic studies). The candidate should indicate in the comprehensive statement what specific interest they have in the SSHRC funded project themes and the relevant experience they bring to the project.

For more information on the project and the team:

www.creativeforces.net

<https://wordpress.viu.ca/sdelabarre>

www.brouder.ca

For more information on the MASLM program, WLCE research and associated faculty at VIU:

<https://management.viu.ca/sustainable-leisure-management/viu-world-leisure-centre-excellence>

<https://management.viu.ca/sustainable-leisure-management/recreation-and-tourisms-faculty-staff>

The VIU community acknowledges and thanks the Snuneymuxw, Quw'utsun, Tla'Amin, Snaw-naw-as and Qualicum First Nation on whose traditional lands we teach, learn, research, live and share knowledge.