



Opportunity to take part in Semester at CityLAB

August 1, 2018

Are you involved in work related to climate change? Join our City-wide climate adaptation team!

Climate change is already having drastic impacts on Hamilton, notably with fluctuating water levels, more frequent extreme weather events including the intensification of microbursts, and higher precipitation events, wind storms, extreme heat days and drought. As the municipal government works to mitigate and adapt to a warming climate, staff from the Air Quality and Climate Change Team within the Healthy and Safe Communities Department are working with CityLAB Hamilton's Semester at CityLAB course to prototype a model of community partnership that will engage City staff in the interdepartmental work necessary to make sustained change happen across the organization. Ultimately, our goal is to create an integrated city wide climate change adaptation plan modelled off of the Toronto Region Conservation Authority's SNAP (Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Retrofit Plant) – that has been actively trying to accelerate neighbourhood-based urban renewal and climate change initiatives. Overall this work will contribute to a larger City and Community Climate Adaptation Plan.

In order to realistically achieve our goal within Hamilton, the scale of our prototype will be adjusted to focus on a specific neighbourhood in the city, while looking at a range of themes that align with the City's strategic priorities. CityLAB students will work in small groups, in tandem with relevant City staff, who will be actively involved in co-creating the project. This experience will not only allow for meaningful and relevant learning opportunities for students, but will also create a rich environment for City staff to collaborate on issues that inherently cross departmental boundaries.

Want to get involved?

CityLAB is currently looking for staff members from all City departments who are interested in collaborating with their peers, as well as highly motivated students, to move Hamilton forward on climate change priorities. With your guidance and input, student projects can advance your department's needs as we collectively move toward a more integrated approach. **To express your interest, please follow up with Trevor Imhoff at Trevor.Imhoff@hamilton.ca before Thursday, August 23rd.**



About CityLAB

CityLAB is an innovation hub that brings together student, academic, and civic leaders to co-create a better Hamilton for all.

CityLAB partners City of Hamilton staff with faculty and students from McMaster University, Mohawk College, and Redeemer University College to design projects that provide students with experiential learning opportunities in their city while helping the City accomplish its strategic priorities.

CityLAB's main areas of focus are:

1. **Healthy Neighbourhoods** - individual and community health and wellness
2. **Climate Change** - sustainability initiatives including mitigation and adaptation
3. **Municipal Excellence** - providing efficient and citizen-focused services

Semester at CityLAB

Semester at CityLAB is an intensive 15 unit experience for Hamilton's post-secondary students. This course is for passionate, motivated, and enthusiastic students who want to learn from the community, expand their personal and professional networks, and apply their studies to make change within Hamilton. The first course will run from September to December 2018 and will be based downtown at CityLAB in the former CFL Hall of Fame building, right at the centre of the municipal action!

For more information, see our website: www.citylabhamilton.com/semesteratcitylab