**Summer Research Assistant(s) (Paid): Understanding stocks and flows of urban wood waste to inform climate change mitigation strategies for cities**

***Project Background:*** Urban forests (all of the trees in the city, including in parks, on streets, in backyards, etc.) are often studied and managed for the many benefits that they provide to urban residents. However, these forests also produce significant “wood waste” – for example, all the pruned branches and dead trees that are removed from the urban forest over time. While some of this wood waste is re-used or composted, some unfortunately goes to landfill. From forestry studies, we know that this material can be a large source of greenhouse gas emissions (contributing to climate change), but the GHG emissions specific to urban forestry waste have never been quantified. A multi-city team of researchers across Montreal, Toronto, Quebec City, and Edmonton is working on a project to measure – and then develop strategies to mitigate – these emissions resulting from urban forestry waste.

**Read more:** <https://www.daniels.utoronto.ca/news/fri-apr-28-2023-all-day/research-team-headed-forestrys-sean-thomas-awarded-13-million-nserc>

***Outline of the student’s role***: This student would join our multi-city project team to help us develop an understanding the stocks and flows of urban wood waste in Montreal (and potentially other cities). For example, how much wood is being removed from the urban forest in an average year, what kind of material is it, and how is that material processed. This would involve making connections with and communicating with urban forestry and industry professionals in municipalities, as well as reviewing existing scientific literature and reports for information. The student would work closely with [Oloun Polda](https://academic.daniels.utoronto.ca/masstimberinstitute/oloun-polda/) (a PhD student at the University of Toronto) to develop a consistent protocol and organize collected data. The position *may* involve some travel to other project cities (i.e. Toronto, Quebec City) throughout the summer depending on the direction the project develops. The student will also have the opportunity to engage with other projects in the Ziter Lab.

***Required Skills and Experience:***

* Bilingual (french/english) speaking, writing, and reading
* Strong teamwork and communication skills
* Good organizational skills
* Interest in urban forestry, climate change mitigation, and/or environmental economics

***Helpful Skills and Experience (but not required):***

* Previous experience with data collection and management
* Experience working with municipalities

**Salary** is approximately $17.50/hour.*Please note that students who are eligible and competitive for a* [*Concordia Undergraduate Student Research Award (CUSRA)*](https://www.concordia.ca/research/students-and-postdocs/undergraduate-opportunities/cusra.html)*, or* [*UFOR Undergraduate scholarship*](https://ufor.uqo.ca/scholarship-program/) *will be given priority (but you do not need to meet these criteria to apply).*

**If interested, please contact Dr. Carly Ziter (**[**carly.ziter@concordia.ca**](mailto:carly.ziter@concordia.ca)**) by noon February 22st, and cc:** [**ziterlab@gmail.com**](mailto:ziterlab@gmail.com) **in your email. Include “Urban Wood Waste Job” in your email subject.**

**Please include:**

* Resume/CV
* (Unofficial) Transcript
* A short cover letter (a paragraph in your email is fine!) expressing your interest in this position