



# Director of Strategic Policy and Analysis

JOB POSTING



## KEY DETAILS

Position Title:	Director of Strategic Policy and Analysis
Location:	University of Victoria, Victoria, BC
FTE:	Three-year term, full-time
Salary:	Commensurate with qualifications
Benefits:	Employer contribution to Extended Benefits Plan
Start Date:	1 February 2023 (preferred, but negotiable)
Application Deadline:	6 January 2023

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

The Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions (PICS) Director of Strategic Policy and Analysis position offers an exceptional opportunity for aligning and advancing climate research within government policy.

PICS is a multi-university institute encompassing the four major research-intensive universities in British Columbia: University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, and University of Northern British Columbia. Our mandate is to produce leading climate solutions research that is actively used by decision-makers to develop effective mitigation and adaptation policies and actions. This position will directly support PICS' effort to mobilize climate knowledge into action and will contribute to an exciting renewal of our organization under our new Executive Director.

The Director of Strategic Policy and Analysis is responsible for understanding the major climate policy issues facing British Columbia. This Director role will develop a strategic approach for how PICS can meaningfully contribute a coordinated response across the academic community to support and inspire government-led climate action. The position entails: engagement with policy makers, researchers and wider audiences; evaluation of government policy; strategic analysis of climate data and research opportunities; and enhancement of PICS project reporting and impact tracking.

The candidate must have experience working with governments on climate policy and experience coordinating and conducting research with university-based networks.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Director of Strategic Policy and Analysis will contribute to operationalizing PICS' mandate while taking on the following responsibilities:

- Stay informed of evolving BC – as well as national and international – climate policy and critical issues relevant for PICS-funded research;
- Engage in relationship-building and regular communications with local, provincial and national governments to identify emerging climate threats and opportunities;
- Evaluate government strategy and budgets to be aware of any leveraging opportunities for PICS;

- Support overall coordination of PICS research to ensure that results from PICS-funded projects are well understood from a portfolio perspective and associated relevance for policy;
- Increase PICS' ability to be a conduit for moving expertise to policymakers and wider audience;
- Conduct meta-level analysis that cuts across climate data, costing approaches, spatial analysis, and census data to understand the integrated impacts of climate change facing BC, Canada, and beyond;
- Support qualitative research and reporting, at the community-level, ensuring that research needs are understood across various geographic, demographic, and policy-level scales and scenarios and is also aware of specific nuances in rural, remote and northern areas of BC;
- Enhance project reporting and impact tracking mechanisms of all PICS-funded projects to ensure their contributions are well documented, analyzed, and reported on for PICS' annual report;
- Act as a resource person for PICS-funded projects to sharpen their policy relevance and provide networking and others supports to ensure research results link with decision-making;
- Experience working in respectful and reciprocal ways with First Nations and other Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities in order to support PICS to operate in a manner that upholds and advances principles of Truth and Reconciliation
- Lead reporting processes within PICS including the coordination and communication of advisory groups, managing expert peer-reviewers, and incorporating feedback, advice, and detailed comments;
- Be nimble to work with team on aspects outside their immediate portfolio; and
- Work collegially to provide high-level support to the Executive Director, all PICS staff, and the larger PICS network of academics, governments, industry, Indigenous and civil society organizations, and communities that is seeking meaningful and timely climate action.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- PhD or master's degree from a recognized post-secondary institution, with relevant specialization in one or more of the following knowledge areas: climate and environmental policy, climate economics and politics, and any related field or discipline.
- Knowledge of issues concerning climate change adaptation and mitigation and the ongoing discourse around how solutions mainstream into public policy.
- Expertise in community engagement processes, including work with First Nations or other Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities.
- Strong writing, verbal presentation, and analytic capabilities and associated software packages (e.g. GIS, SAS, SPSS, R, etc.)
- Experience working at the interface between science and policy.
- Dynamic, people-and-results-oriented with a passion for implementing climate change solutions.

- Ability to communicate complex issues to broad audiences both orally and in writing.
- Demonstrated leadership and project management skills.
- Ability to initiate and execute plans to ensure smooth financial operations of research activities within multi-partner projects.
- Ability to travel (generally 1-3 days/trip) within BC, but also Canada and internationally, as needed.

## ADDITIONAL DETAILS

PICS is committed to upholding the values of justice, equity, diversity, and intersectionality while also advancing decolonization in our organizational operations and funding approach. We seek meaningful and measurable change in all our activities and actively encourage applications from equity deserving groups.

Given PICS is a multi-university institution, we have staff working across British Columbia, and there is flexibility to have the successful candidate work from PICS' main office at the University of Victoria, or from home, provided the candidate is BC-based and eligible to work in Canada.

**To apply:** please send a CV and cover letter describing your interest in and qualifications for the position to PICS Administrative Manager Cassandra Price ([picsam@uvic.ca](mailto:picsam@uvic.ca)). In your cover letter, please concisely describe your experience in aligning climate research with government policy and the unique contributions you will bring to PICS if you are the successful candidate. Review of applications will begin January 6, 2023, and the position will remain open until filled.



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