

## CapU WIL Newsletter Summer 2026

Issue No. 003/26



### Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) this summer

Summer 2026 brings new opportunities to connect students, faculty and partners through impactful WIL experiences. We're excited to celebrate past successes of the Spring term, reflect on what can be improved and share what's ahead in the months to come. We're here to bring everyone's WIL knowledge together and illustrate what CapU can achieve through WIL.

#### This issue at a glance:

- Annual WIL Awards: A peek at the ceremony and call for 2026 nominations
- WIL highlights over the Spring term
- Student story: Meet Priya McMurtrie
- Faculty spotlight: Meet Steve King

- Take a look at the Fall 2025 WIL types university-wide
- CapU WIL external advisory committee and university-wide WIL committee
- CDC and WIL: Supporting our students together



## 2025 CapU WIL Awards

We are grateful to the Annual WIL Awards presenting sponsor **DoubleTree by Hilton North Vancouver**. Their inaugural support for 2025 and their commitment to sponsor the 2026 Annual WIL Awards makes a real impact on our students. Winning students receive a \$1,000 award and the sponsorship allows us to celebrate both students and partners for outstanding participation in WIL experiences, innovation in approach and forward thinking.



## Nominate now

Recognize a student or a partner before December 5, 2026

Have you worked with an outstanding student in the Spring 2026 term? Want to recognize a WIL partner who consistently engaged our students? Don't wait till December, **nominations are now open**. Until December 5, 2026, you can nominate a partner or student who participated in WIL during the 2026 calendar year. Self-nominations are also acceptable with support letters.

Nominate a [STUDENT](#) or a [PARTNER](#) online, following a few easy steps.



## Spring 2026 Highlights

Spring 2026 was an incredible term full of wonderful WIL experiences across all five faculties.

WIL facilitated 23 projects involving over 371 students. Interdisciplinary opportunities with partners such as BC Ferries, District of North Vancouver, North Shore Community Resources, Step Out, Soroptomist International, Soul Rider, North Shore Homelessness Task Force, View Optometry, WorkBC, Allego Global, Silver Harbour Seniors Activity Centre, Wonders Wonders Foundation, Vancouver's North Shore Tourism, CapU's safety & emergency services, CapU's

Library, North Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, North Shore Women's Centre and with the Violence Against Women in Intimate Relationships Committee (VAWIR).

A big thank you to our faculty and partners for their hard work and the time dedicated to make these WIL experiences available to a diverse group of students. We appreciate you.

Please [email us](#) student stories and any WIL-related news. We look forward to highlighting your proudest WIL moments.



### BADM 329 x RainCity Housing

BADM 329, a performance management course, worked with RainCity Housing and Support Society on a project focused on designing best-practice onboarding frameworks, tools, touchpoints, and recommendations. Exposed to issues in human resources, DEI, service design, and employee experience design, our students learned directly from the source and provided solutions.

Thank you RainCity Housing. Your team and Dalibor Gavrić, Director of Talent Management, provided a great collaboration framework for this WIL project guided by instructor Enrique Arce Gonzalez.

Capilano University students mapped out a day on Gambier Island, from forest trails to quiet beaches.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK ☞

A STUDENT-CREATED PROJECT



### TOUR 104 X BC Ferries

Thank you to instructor Andrew Stegemann and BC Ferries for setting up the scene for students enrolled in TOUR 104, marine tourism and interpretation, to develop communications materials on coastal sights and wildlife. BC Ferries passengers should keep an eye out for the info brochures while traveling along the B.C. coast.



## Faculty spotlight: Steve King

Practicum instructor, School of Communication

*An important component of the Bachelor of Communication Studies degree is the practicum course and it has been so rewarding to see the students proactively and confidently demonstrate their 'employability' to potential host organizations who quickly recognize the value of what they've learned in their degree program.*

*Students often surprise themselves with their achievements and what they can offer the workforce. Integrating short-term WIL experiences with their studies provides students a vital experience in their field and a clearer idea of what to focus on after graduation.*

If you are a faculty member and interested in WIL, find more [ways to collaborate!](#)

## Student Story: Priya McMurtrie

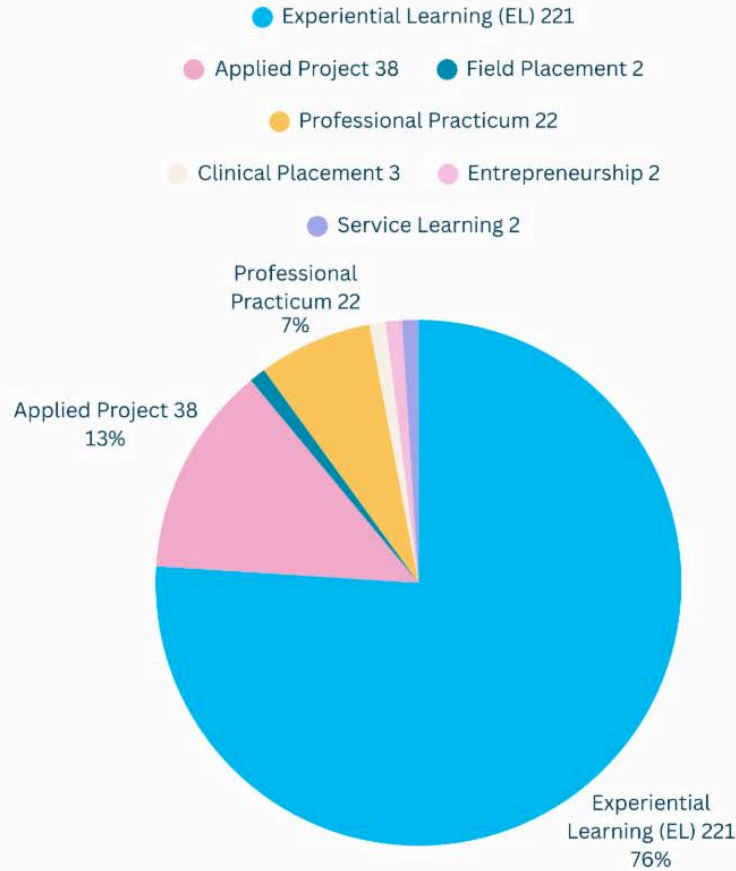
Through partnered WIL projects, Priya McMurtrie worked with real organizations on projects including digital marketing and consulting. Her teams analyzed client challenges, identified underlying issues, and developed recommendations that were selected for implementation.

*"Being able to say to somebody, 'I don't think what you're presenting as the issue is correct... here's what we found,' is a skill that is so important."*

Along the way, mentorship played a key role in her experience. Priya highlights instructors like Lee Oikawa, Shafiq Balu, and Robin Furby for their guidance, encouragement, and lasting impact.

Through these experiences, she developed not only technical skills, but also the confidence to advocate, think critically, and challenge assumptions in professional settings.





### Experiential Learning (EL) and WIL ratios

Many of us have been waiting to see the results of the Fall 2025 term screening on the WIL/ EL offerings at CapU, and here they are. The university offered 1402 courses in the Fall 2025 term and data shows that 21 per cent of these courses (291) included at least one type of EL or WIL.

The chart above illustrates how this 21 percent is divided between EL (16 per cent) and WIL (five per cent). The most predominant types of WIL offered at CapU last fall were professional practicums, clinical placements, field placements, and applied research projects.

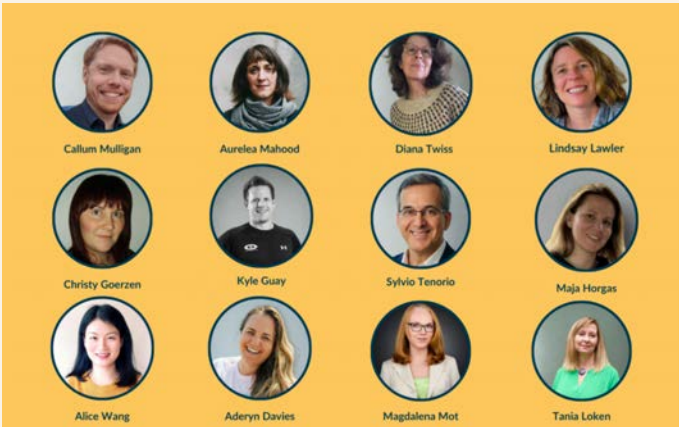
Helping us visualize the incredible curricular WIL and EL experiences offered to our students each term, this data also enables us to build on what we have, multiply the good, and elevate what we can offer in terms of curricular WIL. For any questions or to ask for a WIL data collection user guide, please [email us](#).

### CapU WIL committees

We are grateful to our committee members for their ongoing support of WIL at CapU.

**WIL university-wide committee**

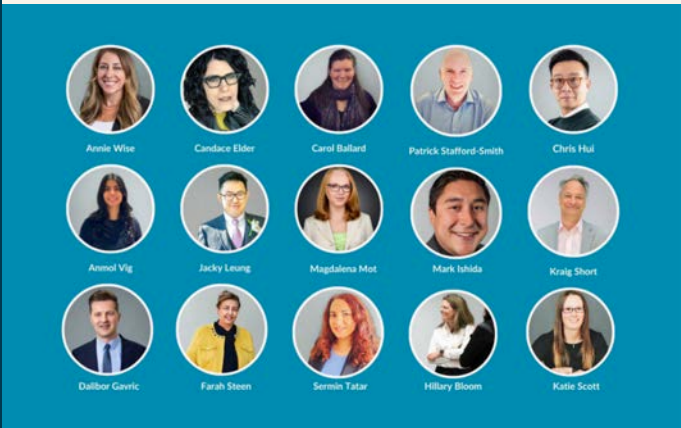
The university-wide committee brings together members from across Capilano University, including academic and provost, the career development centre, and all five faculties. With expertise spanning education, health, arts, human development, business, tourism, fine arts, STEM, student support and applied research, the committee helps shape WIL development in alignment with institutional priorities, the evolving needs of students, and the ever-changing ways we deliver curricular WIL.



*Pictured: Voting members*

**WIL external advisory committee**

Our committee members represent a diverse range of regional organizations, bringing a wealth of perspectives, spanning non-profit and social services, tourism and hospitality, arts and culture, environmental consulting, education, housing and community support, business advocacy and public services. This breadth of expertise helps ensure WIL builds experiences that reflect the varied needs of our economy and communities.



*Pictured: Voting members*

**CDC and WIL workshops now available**

The Career Development Centre (CDC) and the WIL team at CapU are pleased to offer a joint workshop designed to inform students ahead of their co-op, practicum, internship, or work experience terms.

This 45-minute session is tailored for students enrolled in WIL courses, including WIL preparation courses, which lead into longer-term WIL experiences. Focusing on helping students prepare and be ready to succeed in their WIL experiences, the session offers information and points to the available support each step of the way. Students will be able to access resources and understand the essential skills needed throughout the process, while knowing how to communicate their experience in a career context.

If you are a faculty member who is interested in hosting this session in your class or would like to discuss a more customized approach to supporting your students, please let us know.



## WILCAP—Amplifying curricular WIL experiences on campus

WILCAP is an internal Capilano University work-integrated learning program and defined as a curricular type of WIL experience, where CapU students enrolled in a course can engage with our operations/ support units for an established number of hours, in an experience completed for credit. Students engaged in a WILCAP experience are covered by WorkSafeBC.

We invite operations/ support units to [register](#) for the Fall 2026 term. The WILCAP program has its own agreement and more information for the CapU community, including how a WIL student reflects in Workday, is available on [Frontlines](#).

Plan ahead and [email us](#) to learn what type of WIL experiences are available in Fall 2026 and Spring 2027.

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Reach out to [CapU WIL](#) to learn more!

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*Message sent to all CapU employees.*

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