INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

Are you:

• Between the ages of 25 and 34?
• Educated, having at least a bachelor’s degree?
• Currently working?
• Currently living in Vancouver?

If so, you are invited to participate in a SFU master’s thesis study which explores the unique financial challenges facing young, educated people living in Vancouver and how these challenges may impact their choices surrounding housing and living arrangement.

This study will entail interviewing participants one-on-one for a length of approximately 45 minutes in order to gain an understanding of their housing and financial experiences.

For your participation, a compensation of $20 will be provided.

If you are interested and would like more details, please contact the researcher below.

Holly Adams, SFU master’s candidate
Email: holly_adams@sfu.ca
Vancouver’s Young Professionals and the Impact of Financial Challenges on Habitation Choices.

This research is part of a Masters’ thesis as part of the Urban Studies Program at Simon Fraser University.

STUDY TEAM
Who is conducting the study?
Principal Investigator/researcher: Holly Adams, Urban Studies Program, Simon Fraser University.
holly_adams@sfu.ca, (778) 349-5171.
Faculty Supervisor: Karen Ferguson, Professor, Urban Studies Program and History, Simon Fraser University.
Karen_ferguson@sfu.ca, (778) 782-7958.

INVITATION AND STUDY PURPOSE
Why should you take part in this study? Why are we doing this study?
The purpose of this part of the research is to learn the personal experiences of young, educated Vancouverites on the unique financial challenges they face and how these challenges might be impacting their habitation choices (living situation, type of housing, location of housing, etc.). You are being invited to take part in this study because your valuable thoughts and insight on the subject matter will be a vital part of building this research.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION
Your participation is self-initiated and voluntary.
Your contact with the researcher is self-initiated and participation is voluntary. If you decide to participate, you may still choose to withdraw from the study at any time without any negative consequences. Any data collected to that point would be destroyed.

STUDY PROCEDURES
What happens if you contact the researcher to be in the study? What happens to you in the study? How is the study done?
If you say 'Yes,' here is how we will do the study:
We will ask you to provide approximately 45 minutes, and no longer than 1 hour of your time for an interview in order to ask you questions surrounding your experiences as a young, educated person living in Vancouver. Questions will include asking approximate income and debt levels. Although unlikely, the researcher might need a second opportunity to clarify
information. If that is the case, you would be asked to speak a second time either over-the-phone, via email or in-person (as your preference) for a maximum of **30 minutes**.

This research uses audio-recorded interviews and paper note-taking during interviews. These records will help the researcher to analyze the information that you have provided. Only the researcher will have access to this record and it will be kept in an online repository, SFU Vault. After the interview record has been transcribed, the audio file will be destroyed in order to maintain your confidentiality.

The interview will be conducted in a place where you feel comfortable and is convenient for you. This could include your place of residence, place of work, or another quiet location.

If you choose to enter the study and then decide to withdraw at a later time, all data collected during your participation in the study will be destroyed. There are no consequences for withdrawing.

**POTENTIAL RISKS OF THE STUDY**

Is there any way being in this study could be bad for you?

There are no foreseen risks for participating in the study.

**POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THE STUDY**

Will being in this study help you in any way? What are the benefits of participating?

There are no direct benefits for you in participating in this study. However, this study aims to bring understanding to issues in Vancouver which likely affect you. A goal of this research is to create policy suggestions based on findings, to better the situation for young, educated Vancouverites.

**PAYMENT**

Will you be paid for your time/ taking part in this research study?

To thank you for participating in this research, you and the other participants of this study will be offered a payment of $20.

**CONFIDENTIALITY**

How will your identity be protected? How will your privacy be maintained?

No information that discloses your identity will be released. Any data collected (including consent forms) will be stored in a password-protected file. Tape recordings and paper notes are kept for a period of up to 4 weeks after interviewing (in a password-protected file) and will be destroyed once transcribed. It should be noted email and telephone correspondence by nature cannot be guaranteed confidential; however, the email and phone of the researcher is private and any correspondence will be deleted once study is complete. It should also be noted
transcriptions (with no identifying information) will be kept for a period of 2 years to comply with SFU data storage requirements.

STUDY RESULTS & FUTURE DATA USE
Where will the study’s results be displayed?
The results of this study will be reported in a graduate thesis and may also be published in journal articles and books. If you wish to have direct access to the findings of this research, please provide an email address in order to send you a report on the results.
Email: _____________________________________________________________

CONTACT FOR COMPLAINTS
Who can you contact if you have complaints or concerns about the study?
If you have any concerns about your rights as a research participant and/or your experiences while participating in this study, you may contact Dr. Jeffrey Toward, Director, Office of Research Ethics jtoward@sfu.ca or +1 778 782 6593.

PARTICIPANT CONSENT AND SIGNATURE PAGE
Taking part in this study is entirely up to you. You have the right to refuse to participate in this study. If you decide to take part, you may choose to withdraw from the study at any time without negative consequence.
• Your signature below indicates that you have received a copy of this consent form for your own records.
• Your signature indicates that you consent to participate in this study.
• You do not waive any of your legal rights by participating in this study.

_________________________________________  Participant Signature Date

_________________________________________  Print Name

_________________________________________  Date (yyyy/mm/dd)