

Rachel Sutton

Rachel pursued a major in Environmental Studies with the School of the Environment. She graduated in 2019.



Why did you choose to study in the School of the Environment?

I knew I wanted to work in the environmental sector, but I was not immediately sure of what industry, so I chose to pursue a major that would provide me with opportunities to explore several different options. Within the School of the Environment, I've had the chance to take courses from policy to physical sciences to urban planning, providing me with context for work in public, private, or not-for-profit sectors. Another appeal for studying in the School of the Environment was the diverse faculty who came from a wide range of academic and professional backgrounds. For me, the School of the Environment was a place that offered a truly interdisciplinary education and opportunities for applied research.



What are some highlights from your studies?

Some of the fondest memories from my undergrad are from the time I spent on the Environmental Students' Union (ENSU) and from the conferences I was able to attend with the generous support of the School of the Environment. From being a Sustainability Officer to Co-President, serving on ENSU allowed me to meet so many friends from my program and to work with the broader School of the Environment community. The School of the Environment provided me with the opportunity to carry out an independent research project that, in addition to providing me with invaluable research opportunities, allowed me to travel within Canada and to Europe to present my findings with other researchers working on sustainability initiatives. Looking back, I will miss the deep sense of community and generous support extended to me by the School. I am incredibly grateful for my wonderful peers, professors, and all the other faculty and staff I've worked with throughout my undergrad.

What are your plans post graduation?

In a few years, I hope to return to school to complete my Masters in Public Policy. Until then, I plan on taking a couple of years off and continue to work on the City of Toronto's Youth Food Policy Council as well as continuing to work for my Member of Parliament.

