

# ISAAC QI

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Animal welfare; geospatial analysis; applied microeconomics.

## EDUCATION

### University of British Columbia

Master of Food and Resource Economics (MFRE)

Expected Aug 2026

Vancouver, BC, Canada

- One-year course-based program combining academic knowledge and practical experience to address economic challenges in climate, food, and environmental sectors.
- **Relevant Coursework:** Econometrics, Time Series Analysis, Machine Learning, Environmental Economics, Policy Analysis, Economic Analysis of Agri-Food Markets
- **GPA:** 93%

### University of British Columbia

Bachelor of Science, Applied Animal Biology

May 2024

Vancouver, BC, Canada

- **Thesis:** Transitioning dairy cows to automatic milking: predictive effects of training on post-transition AMS use.

## SKILLS

- **Languages & Software:** R, SAS, Python, Google Earth Engine, LaTeX, HTML, CSS, Power BI
- **Econometric Methods:** Mixed Effects Models, Panel Data Analysis, Regression Analysis, Instrumental Variables, Time Series Analysis, Machine Learning
- **Applied Data & Policy Analysis:** Geospatial Modeling, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Policy Analysis Matrix

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### • UBC Sustainability Hub & Metro Vancouver

Sustainability Scholar

May 2026 - August 2026

Vancouver, Canada

- Identifying upstream flood attenuating natural ecosystems and downstream beneficiary communities in the Lower Fraser region through geospatial analysis.

### • Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC

Research Assistant to Dr. James Vercammen & Dr. Marina von Keyserlingk

January 2026 - Present

Vancouver, Canada

- Examining transport infrastructure and dairy cattle welfare using geospatial analysis.
- Building a spatial vulnerability framework in R to investigate how scale economies impacts animal welfare.

### • Animal Welfare Program, Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC

Research Assistant to Dr. Dan Weary & Dr. Marina von Keyserlingk

May 2023 - Present

Vancouver, Canada

- Identified novel behavioral responses in dairy cows transitioning to automated milking systems.
- Estimated mixed effects models in R analyzing individual heterogeneity and time-varying dairy cow behaviour.

### • AI Evaluator

Mercor Intelligence

2024 - Present

Remote

- Senior RLHF reviewer and rubric designer.
- Domain expert in agriculture, economics, and mathematics for AI model evaluation and prompt refinement.

## PUBLICATIONS & CONFERENCES

C=CONFERENCE, J=JOURNAL, S=IN SUBMISSION

- [S.1] Qi, I., Heinsius, J., von Keyserlingk, M.A.G., & Weary, D.M. (in submission). Individual differences in training predict how well dairy cows adjust to automatic milking.
- [C.1] Qi, I., Heinsius, J., & Weary, D.M. (2024). Teaching Cows to Udder-stand Robots: Positive Reinforcement Training for Automatic Milking System Acclimation. *LFS Graduate Student Conference*. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.
- [C.2] Qi, I., Vandresen, B., & Weary, D.M. (2024). Public Perception of Genetic Engineering in Production Cattle Analyzed using YouTube Data. *UBC Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference*. University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

|                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| • <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>APBI 398 - Research Methods in Applied Biology - Dr. Dan Weary &amp; Dr. Marina von Keyserlingk</i>                                                            | 2026 - Present |
| • <b>Graduate Facilitator</b><br><i>Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology (CTLT), UBC</i><br>◦ Facilitate pedagogical development workshops for graduate students on effective teaching practices. | 2026 - Present |
| • <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>LFS 101 - Principles of Microeconomics with Applications to Land and Food Systems - Dr. Sumeet Gulati</i>                                                      | 2026           |
| • <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>DSCI 532 - Data Visualization II - UBC Master of Data Science</i>                                                                                              | 2026           |
| • <b>Graduate Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>FNH 415 - Business Concepts in Food, Nutrition, and Health - Dr. Karen Taylor</i>                                                                              | 2025           |
| • <b>Research Mentor</b><br><i>APBI 398 - Research Methods in Applied Biology</i>                                                                                                                         | 2024           |
| • <b>Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>Machine Learning and AI Workshop - Vancouver Independent School for Science and Technology (VISST)</i>                                                                  | 2024           |
| • <b>Undergraduate Teaching Assistant</b><br><i>APBI 314 - Animals in Society - Dr. Amelia MacRae</i>                                                                                                     | 2024           |

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

TOTAL FUNDING: \$32,075

|                                                                                                                 |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| • <b>CGRS-M – NSERC Award</b><br><i>Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada</i>             | 2026<br>\$27,000 CAD   |
| • <b>CAES Conference Scholarship</b><br><i>Canadian Agricultural Economics Society, UBC MFRE</i>                | 2026<br>\$2,250 CAD    |
| • <b>UBC TSC Legacy Award</b><br><i>UBC Thunderbird Sport Clubs</i>                                             | 2026                   |
| • <b>Academic Thunderbird Award</b><br><i>University of British Columbia</i>                                    | 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026 |
| • <b>MFRE Award: Land and Food Systems Professional Programs Award</b><br><i>University of British Columbia</i> | 2025<br>\$1,000 CAD    |
| • <b>UBC TSC Student Leadership Award</b><br><i>UBC Thunderbird Sport Clubs</i>                                 | 2025                   |
| • <b>Best Project: Web Design</b><br><i>Cursor.ai</i>                                                           | 2025<br>\$300 CAD      |
| • <b>AI for Animals Conference Scholarship</b><br><i>AI for Animals</i>                                         | 2025<br>\$150 USD      |
| • <b>Lululemon Leadership Award</b><br><i>Lululemon</i>                                                         | 2024<br>\$1,200 CAD    |
| • <b>Canadian Society of Animal Science Undergraduate Award</b><br><i>Canadian Society of Animal Science</i>    | 2024<br>\$100 CAD      |
| • <b>3rd Place Poster Presentation Award</b><br><i>LFS Graduate Student Conference</i>                          | 2024<br>\$75 CAD       |

## SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                 |
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| • <b>LFS Graduate Student Council</b><br><i>Faculty of Land and Food Systems, UBC</i><br>◦ <b>Treasurer &amp; Applied Animal Biology Representative</b><br>◦ <b>Academic Events Coordinator &amp; MFRE Program Representative</b><br>* Led the organization of the LFS Graduate Student Conference; coordinated sponsorships, logistics, and academic teams.<br>* Secured 12 sponsors totalling \$2,000 in funding; supported 100 attendees and 50 presenters. | 2025 - Present<br>2026 - Present<br>2025 - 2026 |
| • <b>President</b><br><i>UBC Pre-Veterinary and Animal Welfare (PAW) Club</i><br>◦ Engaged in international collaborations with veterinary schools around the world.<br>◦ Led animal welfare outreach activities for 100+ undergraduate students.                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2023 - 2024                                     |
| • <b>Chair</b><br><i>Animal Welfare Conference</i><br>◦ Directed UBC PAW's flagship Animal Welfare Conference with 11 expert speakers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | June - October, 2023                            |

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Proctor**  
*Mensa Canada*
    - Proctor for Mensa Canada’s standardized entrance examinations.
  - **Senior Girls Basketball Coach**  
*Vancouver School Board*
    - Designed and executed player development programs for approximately 200 athletes over the past decade.
  - **Captain & Finance Officer**  
*UBC Thunderbird Sports Club Quadball*
    - Rebuilt team culture, grew active roster from four remaining players to nineteen within a single season; secured #1 in universities and #1 in the west at 2026 Championships.
    - John David Nicholson Spirit Award recipient.
  - **Board Member**  
*Quadball Canada*
    - Represented Western Canada and the university division, advised on national growth strategy.

2026 - Present

2013 - Present

2023 - 2026

2024 - 2026

CERTIFICATIONS & TRAINING

- **Facilitator Development Workshop**  
*UBC CTLT & CIRTL Network*
  - **CIRTL SoTL Workshop**  
*UBC CTLT & CIRTL Network*
  - **Instructional Skills Workshop**  
*UBC CTLT & CIRTL Network*
  - **PAACO Dairy Welfare Auditing Workshop**  
*Modesto, CA*

June, 2026

May, 2026

October, 2025

April, 2024

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages: English (Native), Mandarin (Fluent)