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Water Monitoring and Education Assistant

Wage: \$18/hr, 30 hours a week

Term: May 5 – August 24, 2024

Location: Columbia Valley, British Columbia

Deadline to Apply: April 8, 2024

Eligibility: In accordance with funding requirements, all applicants must be between the age of 15 to 30, a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and legally allowed to work in Canada.

This position is dependent on program funding

The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society (CLSS) is looking for an individual who is passionate about water stewardship to be our Water Monitoring and Education Assistant this summer! Please read the job description below and the instructions on how to apply.

Organization Background:

The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society (CLSS) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve the ecological health and water supply of Columbia Lake for present and future generations through scientific investigation, collaboration, and outreach. We work towards achieving this mission by researching the lake, advocating for its sustainability, engaging with local communities, disseminating our findings, and developing our organization. Our main activities include monitoring the water quality and quantity of Columbia Lake, its tributaries, and the upper reaches of the Columbia River, promoting habitat protection and restoration, conducting species monitoring, and facilitating education and outreach initiatives within the community. Through our scientific investigation, we gather data to assess the impacts of various factors influencing the lake's ecological health and water balance. CLSS shares its findings with local communities, organizations, and governments, encouraging collective efforts to preserve the freshwater ecosystem system and natural environment of Columbia Lake.

Job Description:

Columbia Lake's Water Monitoring and Education Assistant will work alongside scientists, trained citizen scientists and our Executive Director. The successful candidate will assist with the collection of water quality samples, hydrometric measurements, the distribution of educational materials to community members and tourists through community outreach programs, participate in and promote our conservation initiatives, and assist in delivering educational summer camps for kids. The Assistant will average 30 hours weekly, with some weekend shifts required.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Water Monitoring:

- Collect water quality field samples and measurements.
- Conduct stream flow measurements and record data from hydrometric stations.
- Download data from local weather stations to complement water quantity data.
- Assist in following and maintaining proper procedures and calibration for all equipment.
- Enter data into water quality and quantity databases.
- Tabulate, compile, and graph data for analysis in our annual reports.
- Train and supervise community volunteers and citizen scientists to ensure the accuracy of water quality monitoring procedures.

Education and Outreach:

- Maintain public outreach by writing news articles and e-newsletters and designing engaging social media content, brochures, and signage.
- Provide educational materials on green shorelines, green boating, and measures to prevent invasive species at community outreach programs
- Participate in organizing conservation initiatives, such as invasive weed pulls and community cleanups, and monitoring sensitive habitats and species at risk.
- Organize and facilitate educational community events about the lake, including community presentations and outreach booths.
- Assist in developing and delivering educational summer camps for children at various lakeside communities.
- Coordinate social media and communications via Outlook, MailChimp, Facebook, Instagram, and our website.

Required Qualifications and Experience:

- Must be enrolled in a post-secondary education diploma, certificate, or degree program related to environmental science, environmental studies, biology, hydrology, environmental resource management, geography, or a closely related field.
- Demonstrates a strong interest and passion for science and/or the environment.
- Must be able to provide a Vulnerable Sector Check (required for our programs involving engagement with children).

- Self-motivated individual with a demonstrated ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously and complete them promptly.
- Proficient in computer literacy, with familiarity with Microsoft Word and Excel programs.
- Exhibits strong communication and collaboration skills, along with the ability to work independently when required.
- Willing to work outdoors in various weather conditions, including rain or shine.
- Able to walk 1-3km to reach remote monitoring sites.
- Must possess a valid driver's license and have access to an operating vehicle and able to commute to various locations around the lake.
- Must have secured housing in the Columbia Valley at the start of the position.

Additional Valued Qualifications:

- Hold a Pleasure Craft Operator Card.
- First aid certified.
- Work or volunteer experience related to the environment and/or science is valued.

To apply:

Please send a cover letter and resume to:

Caily Craig, Executive Director

info@columbialakess.ca

We appreciate your interest in working for the Columbia Lake Stewardship Society.