



Roots & Shoots Internship: Paid Environmental Career Development Opportunity (June - October)

Job Title: Roots & Shoots Internship, Roots & Shoots Program

Hours: 30 hrs/wk

Dates: June 22 - October 23 (10-Week Land-based Program June 22 - August 28; 8-Week Work Placement August 31- October 23)

Wages: \$14.60 per hour

What we do

The Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) helps youth living in the Downtown Eastside to connect with nature, grow new skills, and make new friends. Our programs empower youth to grow native plants and create gardens that help birds, bees, and other wildlife survive in Vancouver's urban neighbourhoods. To find out more visit <http://www.eya.ca>

[COVID-19 UPDATE] EYA is planning for in-person summer programs with some changes to keep you and your family safe, including small group sizes, outdoor activities only, 2-metre physical distancing, no sharing of gloves, mass sanitation of tools, frequent hand-washing, and safely-prepared pre-packaged lunches. We're carefully monitoring updates from health authorities - if it isn't possible to run in-person programs, we will adapt our programs as needed.

Position Overview

Do you enjoy working outside in nature and learning from the land? Would you like to connect with community experts and knowledge keepers to deepen your learning? Want to increase your job skills and find work in the environmental field? Apply to join EYA's new Roots & Shoots Program!

We're looking for five youth to join this fully-paid job skills program, which includes:

- **10-week land-based program (June 22 - August 28):** Spend 10 weeks learning and working on the land at EYA's outdoor garden sites in East Vancouver. Learn and apply skills in horticulture, ecology, Indigenous plant knowledge, group facilitation, and community-building, as well as job skills like resume building, interview skills, goal setting and teamwork with the EYA team, local knowledge keepers and experts in the field.
- **8-week supported work placement (August 31 - October 23):** EYA staff will help you find a well-suited work placement in the environmental field that aligns with your values and career goals. You'll build a community of other youth, community partners and EYA staff and receive one-on-one support throughout the work placement, as well as continued afterwards to support career navigation.

Key Responsibilities and Program Highlights

As a Roots & Shoots intern, you will

- Develop job skills like written and oral communication, teamwork, problem solving, adaptability and digital technology
- Develop environmental job skills like native plant horticulture, medicinal plant knowledge, ecological restoration, teaching and facilitation
- Learn to improve your resume and cover letter, prepare for interviews, set goals, and improve your communication
- Learn about and participate in cultural ceremonies and practices led by Indigenous knowledge keepers and Elders
- Maintain & improve urban wild spaces like medicinal plant gardens and wildlife habitat through weeding, watering, removal of invasive species and planting native species
- Get your Occupational First Aid Level 1 and Food Safe certifications
- Gain practical experience in website, social media, and other marketing tasks
- Gain valuable work experience for your resume
- Participate in other activities related to your personal and professional goals

Skills & requirements

This program is open to all youth age 18-25 who are not returning to school in the Fall.

- Available to participate in full 18-week program
- Interested in self-growth and learning new job skills
- Interested in exploring job options and building skills in the environmental field
- Able to do physical work in an outdoor setting in all weather conditions
- Reliable and able to show up on time
- Willingness to learn communication skills and how to work on a team and individually
- Excited to learn more about plants and wildlife
- Familiar with the Downtown Eastside neighbourhood
- Able to work responsibly and safely in urban parks and gardens
- Able to follow EYA's safe work practices - e.g. safe use of landscaping tools, rakes, shovels, hammer, saw, etc.
- Able to follow EYA's COVID-19 safety rules, including physical distancing, frequent hand-washing, and no sharing of tools or gloves
- Satisfactory criminal record check, including vulnerable sector check

How to apply

If interested, please fill out the [Roots & Shoots Internship application form](#). If you have any questions, please email erica@eya.ca.

Applications will be reviewed as soon as they are received, so send us your application as soon as possible!

This program is open to youth who identify as Indigenous, racialized minorities, LGBTQ2, or

living with a disability. We strongly encourage past EYA participants to apply!