



## Employment Opportunity

**Position Title:** Youth Educator

**Location:** 500-610 Main St, Vancouver BC

**Terms:** 25 hrs/wk, 13 mo contract (Feb 1, 2019 - Feb 28, 2020) with possibility for extension

**Start Date:** Feb 1st, 2019, or as soon thereafter as possible

**Hiring Range:** \$22 per hour

**Reports to:** Program Manager

**NOTE: Substantial weekend work will be required for this position.**

### What we do: mission & mandate

At the Environmental Youth Alliance Society (EYA), we believe every young person deserves the opportunity to spend time in nature. Just like clean air or clean water, connection with nature is a human right and essential to healthy adolescent development. Yet many youth living in Vancouver face barriers to accessing nature in their daily lives. EYA is working to change that by delivering free, experiential nature stewardship programs in eastside schools and inner city green spaces. Our programs create opportunities for youth experiencing marginalization to connect with nature in meaningful ways in their own neighbourhood, while building community and acquiring new skills, to benefit wellbeing and inspire environmental stewardship. To find out more visit [www.eya.ca](http://www.eya.ca)

### What you'll do: situation & role overview

Nature Stewards is a multi-week experiential learning program engaging youth (ages 14-20) to lead nature stewardship projects around the city - like planting wildflower meadows and growing native plants for wildlife gardens. In 2019-20, EYA is excited to partner with [Red Fox Healthy Living Society](#) to jointly deliver three Nature Stewards programs (spring, summer, fall). Red Fox promotes healthy active living among Indigenous and inner-city children and youth through free and supportive training and recreation opportunities. The shared program will bring together together Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth to develop an Indigenous foodscape garden in Strathcona Community Gardens, with a focus on reconciliation and decolonization, and will include an orientation weekend and short wilderness camping trip. As Youth Educator, you will support the Program Manager (and lead facilitator) with program delivery, including recruitment, facilitation, coordination, and garden maintenance.

### *Key responsibilities*

- Recruit youth participants via community outreach events, posterage, and promotion through EYA / Red Fox community partners; manage youth registration forms
- Assist Program Manager to plan programs and develop activities; coordinate program logistics and purchase program materials
- Support program facilitation and delivery: help to lead team-building activities and hands-on stewardship activities to develop the Indigenous foodscape garden

- Support the planning and delivering of the urban camping trip and wilderness trip
- Act as a mentor for youth participants, helping them feel safe and supported
- Take photos during program and, in partnership with Red Fox Facilitator, complete regular social media posts & write newsletter updates
- Ensure programming sites are welcoming and safe - safely dispose of garbage, deal with vandalism, carry out small repairs and improvements
- Maintain & manage Indigenous foodscape garden and programming sites between program sessions, including watering, weeding, invasive species removal, planting, clearing paths, and ongoing maintenance
- Clean, organize, and maintain program tools, equipment, materials, and storage spaces
- Coordinate and manage youth volunteers to help with site maintenance and stewardship activities outside program sessions
- Help maintain strong relationship with site partners: attend Strathcona & Cottonwood Garden meetings to provide project updates; appropriately engage & build relationships with gardeners while at garden sites
- Other activities as identified by the program manager

### **What you'll bring: requirements**

We're looking for a skilled youth educator with experience in native plant gardening and wildlife habitat stewardship. The ideal candidate is an energetic facilitator who competently creates safe and welcoming spaces, connects with and supports youth with diverse backgrounds and learning styles, recognizes individual potential, and creates moments of connection and learning through hands-on experiential activities. You are highly organized, resourceful, tech-savvy, and a collaborative team player. You are also someone who takes initiative, perseveres through difficulties, and loves learning and continually growing your professional skills.

- Undergraduate degree or equivalent experience or training in biology, environmental science, education, or related field
- 1 - 2 years experience facilitating youth programs and/or experiential education for youth
- Experience with native plant gardening and wildlife habitat stewardship; knowledge of urban ecology and wildlife including insects, pollinators, birds and other animals
- Experience with citizen science and wildlife monitoring is an asset
- Class 5 driver's licence and ability to join MODO car co-op required; access to a personal vehicle is an asset
- Knowledge of decolonization, reconciliation, and anti-oppression concepts and practices
- Experience working with youth, including underserved youth
- Experience coordinating youth programs, including managing logistics, is an asset
- Able to work collaboratively with a team to achieve shared goals
- Highly organized with great attention to detail
- Able to effectively prioritize competing tasks to complete work on time
- Resourceful, handy, and able to creatively troubleshoot issues regarding site maintenance and program logistics
- Clear and professional communication skills, both verbally and in writing

- Able to work responsibly and safely in an inner city garden space
- Able to do physical work in an outdoor setting in all weather conditions
- Able to safely use landscaping tools and basic handywork tools (cordless drill, saw, hammers, etc).
- Personal values fit with EYA / Red Fox mission and culture, demonstrated through work and/or volunteer experience
- Satisfactory criminal record check, including vulnerable sector check, required before starting work
- Occupational First Aid Level 1 or willingness to obtain before start of work

### **How to apply**

E-mail a short cover letter and resume in a single PDF to [emily@eya.ca](mailto:emily@eya.ca), with “Youth Educator application” in the subject line. **The deadline to apply is January 24, but applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and a candidate may be selected before the deadline.** Due to limited administrative capacity, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

EYA is committed to employment equity and encourages applications from underrepresented groups. Indigenous youth preferred.