



Roots & Shoots

Paid Land-based Job Training & Internship Program (Sept 2022 - Feb 2023)

Hours: 30 hrs/wk, 10am - 4pm, Tues - Sat

Dates: Sept 20 - Feb 24, 2023 (Land-based Job Training: Sept 20 - Nov 26; Work placement: Nov 29 - Feb 24)

Wage: \$15.65 per hour

What we do

The Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) supports youth living in the Downtown Eastside to connect with nature, grow new skills, and build community. Our programs empower youth to connect with the land, grow native plants and rewild green spaces in Vancouver's urban neighbourhoods. To find out more visit <http://www.eya.ca>

[COVID-19 UPDATE] EYA continues to adhere to the guidelines and regulations of the BC Health Authority. To ensure the safety of all participants, staff, and guests, this program requires participants to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 due to the high number of contact hours in both an indoor & outdoor setting. For indoor programming masks must be worn at all times. Please reach out if you have any questions about this or visit <https://eya.ca/covid19/> to learn more.

Position Overview

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

We're looking for six young adults to join this fully-paid job skills program, which includes:

- **10-week land-based job training (Sept 20 - Nov 26):** Spend 10 weeks learning and working on the land at EYA's outdoor sites in East Vancouver. Build your environmental job skills in areas such as native plant horticulture, ecological restoration, Indigenous plant knowledge, and environmental education. Grow your employability skills in areas such as digital skills, communication, personal management, teamwork, and career navigation through remote and in-person workshops.
- **12-week supported work placement (Nov 29 - Feb 24):** Spend 12 weeks in an internship position with a local environmental organization. EYA staff will help you find a well-suited work placement 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 career navigation support.

Key Responsibilities and Program Highlights

As a Roots & Shoots intern, you will

- Develop employability skills like written and verbal communication, teamwork, problem solving, project management, event planning and digital literacy
- Develop environmental job skills like native plant horticulture, Indigenous plant knowledge, ecological restoration, and environmental education
- Learn to improve your resume and cover letter, prepare for interviews, set goals, and navigate your career
- Learn about and participate in cultural ceremonies and practices led by Indigenous knowledge keepers and Elders
- Restore & maintain 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

- Available to participate in full 22-week program
- Interested in self-growth and learning new employability skills, both through hands-on workshops and computer-based training
- 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 full vaccination, physical distancing, mask wearing, frequent hand-washing, and no sharing of tools or gloves
- Satisfactory criminal record check, including vulnerable sector check

This program is open to all youth age 18-25 who identify as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Colour) and/or living with a disability. We strongly encourage past EYA participants to apply!

How to apply: If interested, please fill out the [Roots & Shoots application form](#). If you have any questions, please email carmen@eya.ca.

Applications will close on Monday, September 5th.