



Bio-monitoring Research Assistant (Summer Position)

Starting Spring 2019; \$18.50 per hour for 35 hours per week; number of weeks TBD (pending funding)

Submit applications to Amanda Duncombe-Lee, U-Links Program Coordinator, aduncombe-lee@ulinks.ca by Monday, April 13th, 2020.

There is growing interest, demand and need for long-term benthos monitoring in the lakes in the Haliburton Highlands bioregion and for terrestrial biomonitoring in its protected forests. We are piloting a new program which will coordinate and leverage the resources of U-Links, Trent University School of the Environment and Fleming College School of Environmental & Natural Resource Sciences, and local community associations and organizations to establish long term biomonitoring for multiple lakes and forests in the Haliburton Highlands bio-region.

Qualifications

- Field knowledge of ecological monitoring and biological sampling methods (e.g. benthic invertebrates) is required. OBBN certification and/or experience with vegetation sampling protocols are considered assets.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.
- Knowledge of environmental research practices.
- Strong time management and organization skills. Must be able to assess, prioritize, and manage multiple responsibilities.
- Competency with MS Office (e.g. Word, PowerPoint, Excel and with social media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram).
- Must be able to follow instructions and perform well under various circumstances. Must have a good attendance record and be punctual.
- Must be able to work in a team environment and cooperate with fellow employees, community partners, and students.
- Must be able to work independently for periods of time with minimal direction.
- Must display a positive attitude with respect to U-Links in the work environment and externally with partners.
- Knowledge of Haliburton County is considered an asset.

Responsibilities

- Assist with the Aquatic Biomonitoring Program in conjunction with the Biomonitoring Project Coordinator
 - o Assist in coordinating all logistics with all local lake associations involved in the Benthos Biomonitoring Program.
 - o Collect environmental data in order to classify both aquatic and terrestrial monitoring sites

- Maintain and calibrate monitoring equipment
- Assist in the promotion of the program via written, online and verbal outreach
- Attend meetings of the Benthic Sub-Committee, and U-Links Management Committee take minutes, and follow up on action items
- Work with professionals from Trent University; Fleming College; and the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation, and Parks.
- Assist with the Terrestrial Biomonitoring Program in conjunction with the Project Coordinator
 - Assist in coordinating all logistics with the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust and Haliburton Forest
 - Set up permanent sampling plots on HHLT and Haliburton Forest properties with the assistance of the Project Coordinator
 - Take complete notes and fill out data sheets with plot locations and relevant information
- Work with U-Links community development partners to develop environmental research project proposals for the CBR program
- Collaborate with Project Coordinator to write regular social media posts, press releases, and website content.
- Maintain regular communication with U-Links staff and Management Committee members
- Review and update online public database of past research projects
- Update organizational forms and procedures with direction from U-Links staff
- Participate in the execution of special projects and other duties as assigned

Other Requirements

- Must have a valid Ontario Drivers License and access to own transportation.
- Must be comfortable working in and around water.
- Pleasure Craft Operator's Card is considered an asset.
- Must be able and willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Must be able and willing to hike over rough terrain while carrying all equipment.
- Must be comfortable being exposed to biting insects.

Supervision

- This position is supervised by the Biomonitoring Project Coordinator and the Program Coordinator

Work Location

Base location: U-Links office in Minden Hills. There is the potential for the chosen candidate to work remotely with some time scheduled at the U-Links office. The chosen candidate will be travelling to various sites throughout Haliburton County and the surrounding region.

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