



BACK TO THE SEA

Bilingual Science Communicator

Location: Dartmouth (Punamu'kwati'jk), Nova Scotia (Mi'kma'ki)

Position Status: Temporary, 12 weeks, with flexible start date

Hours: Full-time [35 hours per week]

Wage: \$15.50 - \$16.25/hour dependent on experience

Application deadline: March 31st, 2024 @ midnight

Who can apply: Students between 15 and 30 years of age

The Back to the Sea Society is a charity dedicated to sparking curiosity for local marine life and inspiring a desire to protect our ocean. We run a variety of ocean based educational programs, including the Back to the Sea Centre, a small-scale marine interpretive centre located in Dartmouth (Punamu'kwati'jk) that abides by a collect-hold-and-release philosophy. We are looking for an enthusiastic, curious, and knowledgeable person who has a strong interest in ocean conservation to join our team and help advance our mission.

Summary of Position

Reporting to the Program Manager, you will be mainly responsible for leading a variety of educational initiatives and programs in both English and French, themed around the ocean and the animals that inhabit it. While these will mainly take place at the Back to the Sea Centre, you will also participate in external outreach events. The successful candidate needs to be bilingual, have previous experience leading programs for children (for example day camps, coaching a team, etc.). Knowledge of local intertidal species is an asset. Candidate must be comfortable handling live marine invertebrates and capable of having their hands submerged in water that contains shellfish.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Help create French scripts for our programs and species keys
- Deliver scientific interpretive programs for a wide range of audiences at the Back to the Sea Centre, including the general public, youth groups and persons with disabilities
- Welcome visitors, provide necessary information and maintain a high level of guest satisfaction through energetic interactions
- Lead and participate in the evaluation and improvement of group programs (e.g. day cares and day camps)
- Communicate animal handling protocols to guests
- Maintain appearance of building, information panels, hand-washing station, props and materials
- Assist with aquaristing and animal husbandry tasks
- Perform duties associated with opening and closing the Back to the Sea Centre
- Assist with the admissions process and gift shop sales

- Contribute to social media posts when necessary
- Attend and deliver high quality science interpretation at portable touch tank events
- Act as a Back to the Sea ambassador and help at our Society's fundraising events

Requirements/Qualifications

- Bilingual, speaking both English and French
- Have an aptitude for safe work practices and the ability to multi-task in a busy work environment
- A positive attitude towards working productively as part of a team while responding to feedback
- Creative, assertive, flexible and proactive in problem solving
- At least one season of interpreter/informal educator experience (e.g. camp councillor, museum interpreter, coach for children's sports)
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills needed to converse with visitors and other organizations, however English does not need to be your first language
- The following are considered assets:
 - Written French skills, with the ability to translate documents from English to French
 - Knowledge of local intertidal and subtidal Atlantic marine life
 - Demonstrated interest in future employment in the environmental or clean sector
 - A valid driver's license and access to a vehicle (whether personal or through a car share program)
 - Standard First Aid training
- Will be required to complete a Vulnerability Sector Check

Eligibility

Our funding for this position requires that the candidate fulfill the following criteria:

- are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident, or have refugee status in Canada (non-Canadians holding temporary work visas or awaiting permanent status are not eligible);
- are legally entitled to work in Canada;
- will be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of employment;
- are willing to commit to the full duration of the work assignment;
- will not have another full-time job (over 30 hours a week) during the work placement;
- have been a high school, college, CEGEP or university student (as defined by their educational institution) in the semester preceding the work placement;
- intend to return to studies during or after the work placement; and
- have a working knowledge of both English and French.

Working Conditions

This position will require a mix of working from home and working on-site. Our team makes use of the Google suite (Chat, Meetings, and Drive) to ensure an organized and positive online working environment. Back to the Sea abides by a “Fun yet Professional” work culture and we love to celebrate wins! Candidate must be available to work weekends, holidays and occasional evenings.

Physical Requirements

This position requires standing for extended periods, having your hands in cold salt water on a daily basis and occasionally involves the lifting of heavy water buckets. It may also require walking along coastlines that may be somewhat rugged. The Back to the Sea Centre is wheelchair accessible. Should the chosen candidate have any disability that makes the standard nature of this position not possible, we will work with them to ensure that this position is accessible to them. Candidate must be comfortable handling live marine animals and capable of having their hands submerged in water containing shellfish.

Application Process

To apply, submit your cover letter, resume and two references in the form of a single pdf document to Magali Grégoire at backtotheseastaff@gmail.com. Applications must follow these guidelines or they will not be considered.

If you require any assistance with the application process, please contact us. Qualified applicants are welcome to send inquiries about the role to backtothesea.info@gmail.com or call 902-817-2007. While we will acknowledge the receipt of your application, only those selected for an interview will receive a second contact.

Back to the Sea is committed to Employment Equity and strives to have a workforce that is representative of the diversity of this country. We encourage applicants from Indigenous People, Visible Minority Groups, Persons with Disabilities, People of the LGBTQ+ community and Women to occupy positions where they are underrepresented. It is the responsibility of every team member of Back to the Sea to embrace a culture that promotes diversity.

Back to the Sea works in the traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq.