

CAMP LEADER – SPRING BREAK CAMPS

Organization Overview

The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) is the joint operating partner - with the City of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) - of VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory. Our mission is to engage people of all ages and walks of life in the importance of biodiversity to our lives, and to foster a lifelong love of plants and gardens by virtue of their participation in our programs and services. Situated in Vancouver, BC, on the unceded Ancestral shared lands of the x^wməθkwəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) Nations, VanDusen Botanical Garden is a 55-acre urban green space, an ideal location for connecting with nature.

The VBGA welcomes eligible applicants from any location for this in-person role; candidates unfamiliar with Vancouver and surrounding areas are encouraged to explore tourist attractions, cultural events, and programs through sites such as <https://www.destinationvancouver.com/> and <https://www.hellobc.com/places-to-go/vancouver/>.

The VBGA is committed to volunteer and employment equity and diversity and encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including people of any sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; Indigenous peoples; visible minorities and racialized people; and people with disabilities.

Position Overview

Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association is seeking Camp Leaders to deliver nature-based Spring Break Camps for children ages 5-10 at VanDusen Botanical Garden. VBGA Camps promote environmental stewardship and a love of the natural world through a fun blend of science, gardening, games, crafts and garden exploration. Visit our website to learn more about our programs at <https://vandusengarden.org/learn/camps/>.

Responsibilities

- Deliver full-day, nature-themed day camps to children ages 5 to 10
- Follow VBGA's health and safety protocols to ensure the wellbeing of all participants
- Provide campers with a safe, educational, fun, and meaningful experience
- Supervise and mentor a team of Volunteers and Junior Counselors
- Ensure that the campers are signed in and out by their parents/guardians
- Help to maintain and prepare program materials, supplies, and facilities
- Oversee activity preparation, cleanup, and daily cleaning and sanitation
- Perform standard First Aid procedures, group management practices, etc.
- Complete effective documentation of incidents, accidents, behavioural concerns, etc.
- Communicate effectively with parents/guardians regarding day-to-day camper experiences
- Liaise with the Youth Programs administrative team to ensure smooth operations

Qualifications and Experience

- Some post-secondary education and/or background in education, interpretation, ecology, biology, First Nations or Indigenous Studies or similar
- Proficient in basic computer skills; knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite and Cloud-Based Storage preferred (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, SharePoint, OneDrive)
- Ability to write and speak fluently in English
- Comfortable and experienced with delivering educational programs to a variety of audiences and experience overseeing youth aged 5 – 10, preferably in a camp setting
- Experience planning and developing activities for groups of school-aged children
- Willingness to work outdoors in all weather conditions with a positive attitude
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively and respectfully as part of a team
- Clear, recent Criminal Records Check/Police Information Check incl. Vulnerable Sectors (or willingness to obtain prior to start)
- Valid Standard First Aid Certification incl. CPR-C & AED (or willingness to obtain pre-start)

Preferences will be given to candidates that:

- Are part of self-identified equity-seeking groups such as newcomers to Canada, or members of visible or non-visible minorities or marginalized groups
- Have cultural sensitivity training, experience supporting specific needs, or similar
- Are knowledgeable and interested in plants, ecology, and/or gardening

Eligibility

This is a funded position; to be eligible you must be:

- Between 16 and 30 years of age at the start of employment
- A Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or have refugee protection status
- Legally entitled to work in Canada

Commitment/Availability

- March 10th-14th part-time, flexible, blended (online training/orientation, onsite prep time)
- March 17th-21st, 24th-28th full time, 8h/day onsite ~8:15am-4:15pm (camps in session)

Note

Possibility of extension as a casual Environmental Educator or re-hire full-time for Summer Camps based on availability and assessment by Youth Programs team.

Wage \$22.00 per hour + 4% in lieu of vacation

Contact Natasha Friedmann (she/they), Youth Programs Manager - nfriedmann@vandusen.org

*Please submit your resume and cover letter by email **before 11:59pm Pacific time on February 2nd 2025**; note that interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis and postings will remain open until the positions are filled. Thank you for your interest; however, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*