



Job Title: Bear Awareness Education Specialist

Are you looking for a meaningful summer job in which you can expand your knowledge, learn new skills, work with the public, and exercise a degree of initiative and independence? The Northern Bear Awareness Society is looking for two enthusiastic summer students to deliver an established education campaign aimed at reducing human-bear conflicts within the City of Prince George.

Location: Prince George, BC

Position Duration: 7 weeks

Dates: One position has been filled. The second position will start in June, ending by Sept. 3rd, 2022

Hours: 40 hours / week

Wage: \$17.00 / hour

Vacancies: 1

Closing Date: Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

About the Northern Bear Awareness Society:

The Northern Bear Awareness Society (NBAS) has been providing residents of Prince George, BC, with free Bear Awareness education and related services since the year 2000. Our mission is “to reduce conflict in neighbourhoods between people and bears through education, innovation and cooperation”. We accomplish this goal primarily through the delivery of interactive presentations, public information displays, and by communicating through the media. Our messaging focuses on the proper management of unnatural bear attractants, including garbage, bird seed, fruit trees, compost, barbeques and pet food. Working closely with the BC Conservation Officer Service, the City of Prince George, the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, and other key partners, we are also focused on a long-term goal of obtaining provincial Bear Smart status for the City.

Job Description:

Two Bear Awareness Education Specialists will work together to deliver a public education campaign in the City of Prince George. Training in bear biology and the use of proven education and delivery techniques will be provided at the start of the work term, followed by weekly mentorship meetings with supervisors. This position requires maturity, self-reliance and the ability to work alone or with a partner for long periods of time with minimal supervision.

Hours:

While much of the work can be conducted during the standard work week (Monday to Friday during the day), certain tasks will require evening and weekend work. The Bear Awareness Education Specialists will have some flexibility in choosing how to distribute their 40 hours/week to meet the needs of the position.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Providing education about bears and the proper management of backyard bear attractants to interested residents of Prince George, through:
 - Interactive Presentations: delivering an engaging and informative presentation to groups of varying ages and diverse backgrounds, including elementary school classes, senior citizens, new immigrants, and other community groups;
 - Public Information Booth: representing the Northern Bear Awareness Society at community events throughout the season.
- Working proactively with residents in high-bear-use neighbourhoods to provide education about local bear populations, unnatural bear attractants, and how to properly manage these attractants. This education campaign will be conducted through a variety of means, including:
 - Door-to-door delivery of educational materials;
 - Door-to-door canvassing to offer advice and support for the proper management of unnatural bear attractants;
 - Tagging of garbage that has been left at the curb overnight on the evening before scheduled garbage collection;
 - Monitoring of improvement in neighbourhoods that have received educational support.
- Maintaining and building upon the society's existing resources and educational materials through:
 - Updating of our display booth and educational handouts, as required;
 - Website: regularly updating the Northern Bear Awareness Society website as appropriate. Guidance and training will be provided from the NBAS board of directors.
- Communications:
 - Responding to requests and posting engaging information on our Facebook pages (NBAS and Prince George Fruit Exchange)
 - Respond to telephone and email enquiries in a polite and informative manner.
 - Media: promote NBAS messages through the media (print, radio, television and Internet-based) by writing media releases and Public Service Announcements and being interviewed.
- Recording data and compiling reports on the impact of the education campaign.
- Volunteer recruitment and support.
- Event planning: the opportunity exists for exercising some creativity in planning extra educational events in our community.
- Assisting with and initiating other projects that align with the society's mission statement.

Skills and Qualifications:

- Strong written communication skills;
- Strong oral presentation skills;
- Strong interpersonal skills and willingness to work with strangers;
- The ability to work in a professional manner with minimal supervision;
- General computer and Internet proficiency. Preference for those with experience using: Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Preference will be given to students pursuing studies in Wildlife Management, Natural Resources Management, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Geography, Tourism, Communications, Education, or other relevant degree programs;
- Should have an understanding of local human-wildlife issues.

Requirements:

- As these positions will be funded by a Canada Summer Jobs grant, the applicants must:
 - be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment;
 - be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred for the duration of the employment; and
 - have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial legislation and regulations.
- Must pass a criminal record check;
- Must have a valid class 5 drivers' license;
- Must have a reliable vehicle that can be insured for work purposes, to be used for transportation of bulky presentation and display materials (reimbursement for kilometres travelled will be provided at the rate of \$0.55/km).
- Must be able to lift and manoeuvre bulky display materials, including bear hides.
- Must be able to work from home (a laptop computer and cell phone will be supplied).

How to Apply:

Email your resume and a cover letter detailing your qualifications and desire to work for the Northern Bear Awareness Society, to Nicole Botten at NBASociety@gmail.com. PDF file format is preferred. Applications will be accepted until May 12, 2022 or until the positions are filled.