

CALL FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION INTERN

NORTHERN PENINSULA AND SOUTH COAST, NEWFOUNDLAND, LABRADOR STRAITS & QUEBEC NORTH SHORE PROGRAM

About QLF

The Quebec–Labrador Foundation is a registered charity in Canada and a non-profit organization in the U.S. with offices in Montreal and Massachusetts. QLF's program mission is defined in two parts: a regional component (Eastern Canada and New England), and an international component, which ties our regional model to a global network. QLF's mission is to address pressing environmental issues through community–based conservation programs in Eastern Canada and New England, and to share these successful models for biodiversity conservation, the stewardship of natural resources, and cultural heritage across the globe.

Project Summary

For more than a half-century, the Quebec-Labrador Foundation has served the rural communities of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Maritimes, and the Quebec North Shore with marine and freshwater conservation programs that contribute to species recovery and pollution prevention. Training and educating people to address the challenges of biodiversity conservation has been a fundamental strategy in meeting QLF's Mission.

QLF is currently seeking 1 intern to join a team providing educational workshops supporting environmental conservation and the protection of regional endangered and threatened species. Workshops on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland and the Labrador Straits will be delivered primarily to youth in schools and summer programs. As part of the workshops, the team will lead numerous dynamic and motivating educational presentations and discussions on topics such as shorebirds, seabirds, and sea ducks; marine mammals and sea turtles; Atlantic salmon and trout; aquatic macro-invertebrates and river ecology; bats and human interactions; marine debris and plastic waste; climate change and sustainability; and possibly other topics. Workshops will include practical information on how people can be good stewards for wildlife and the environment.

Working on Newfoundland's South Coast, tasks will involve working with local fishing communities on procedures for reducing marine debris and furthering actions to prevent harm to regional species-at-risk including marine mammals, sea turtles, and Atlantic salmon. The successful candidate will work with a team to provide adult and family-oriented community workshops and discussions to promote actions to prevent entanglements with fishing gear and ingestion of plastics.

Additional program activities include population monitoring of several marine mammal species, colonial nesting seabirds, sea ducks, and migratory shorebirds. The team will survey scenic rivers and ponds, post signs to prevent human-caused threats to wild Atlantic salmon and trout populations and conduct beach clean-ups to reduce threats to marine species caused by marine debris and plastic waste.

Through this project, the successful candidate will learn about the challenges of sustainability in small, rural communities whose economies have historically depended upon resource extraction. As such, community-based values and strategies will be incorporated into both the teaching style and overall experience.



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Positions:

For this project, we are seeking:

• 1 biologist and environmental educator (with studies in biology, sustainability, environment, marine mammals, or ornithology)

Desired Skills and Competencies:

- Preferred language: must be fluent in English, French competency an asset but not required
- Strong autonomy; Ability to work and manage tasks independently and as a part of a dynamic team
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills; must be able to effectively communicate with individuals inside and outside the organization
- Versatile and capable of preforming both conceptual and hands-on tasks; from developing workshops and lesson plans to conducting community shoreline clean-ups
- Confident in public speaking; experience conveying science/environmental topics to a broad audience and facilitating workshops for both youth and adults
- Recent graduate or working towards a degree in biology, ornithology, environmental studies, education, sustainability, or related
- Subject matter expertise; full understanding of climate change, biodiversity loss, and top conservation issues/challenges, etc.
- Manual labour skills; ability to work extensive hours in variable weather conditions and terrain, fit for the field, able to enter/exit boats
- Photography skills and experience considered an asset
- Driver's licence and first-aid training considered an asset

Project Logistics:

Approximate dates: 5 weeks, tentatively June 14 – July 19, 2023 Location: Northern Peninsula and South Coast of Newfoundland, Labrador Straits, and the Quebec North Shore

Application Timeline:

Applications will be accepted between January 16 and February 28, 2023. Please submit a CV and cover letter describing your relevant experience and motivation to <u>kgrant@qlf.org</u>.

Interview Timeline:

Interviews will be conducted virtually at the discretion of QLF staff. Applicants could be contacted for interviews anytime following the date of application submission until March 14. Final candidates will be contacted and confirmed in late March 2023.

*Please note this Internship is UNPAID, however, there is no fee to participate and all expenses (food, accommodation, *in-program travel) will be covered by QLF.*

*In-program travel is defined as the cost of travel within the program dates once participants have reached the field site. For transportation to the field site, the equivalent cost of airline transport from Montreal, Canada to the field site is covered, any additional fees are the responsibility of the applicant.



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