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CALL FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION INTERNS

MARITIMES 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 (New England and Eastern Canada), 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, stewardship of natural resources, and cultural heritage across the globe.

Project Summary

Protected Areas Stewardship Program:

Conservation and Stewardship of Ecologically Significant Species in

Protected Areas across the Maritimes.

QLF seeks to engage the next generation of environmental leaders in projects that focus on community-based biodiversity conservation, climate action and stewardship of natural resources within the Atlantic region. In its fifth year of operation, this project supports ecologically significant species conservation and protected areas stewardship. The project will be delivered in partnership with the Nature Trust of New Brunswick, The Nova Scotia Nature Trust, and The Island Nature Trust; charitable land conservation organizations that conserve privately owned and ecologically significant land across the Maritimes.

This project is designed to provide hands-on training in community-based conservation. Interns will gain field experience and skills related to conducting scientific data collection, community engagement, and workshop facilitation. Key activities include ecologically significant species surveys, collection of bird census data and macro-invertebrate species data for water quality monitoring in nature preserves; nature preserve maintenance; environmental clean-up and restoration projects; invasive species monitoring and removal; public engagement and environmental stewardship workshops.

QLF is currently seeking 3-4 Interns for this project, under the direction of a QLF Team Lead. The activities will be carried out in the provinces of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island. The team will be equipped with a vehicle and will travel together / share accommodation for the duration of the project.

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Positions:

For this project, we are seeking:

- 2 amateur ornithologists or bird enthusiasts
- 1 'budding' plant biologist
- 1 environmental biologist

Desired skills and Competencies:

- Highly motivated, analytical, detail-oriented, creative and proactive thinker
- Ability to work independently and as a part of a dynamic team
- Assist with data collection, data entry, analysis and reporting as required to develop and implement property management plans.
- Subject matter expertise; full understanding of climate change, biodiversity loss, and top conservation issues / challenges, etc.
- Working towards a degree in biology, ecology, ornithology, environmental studies or related
- Technical skills; experience with stewardship actions, monitoring duties and surveys, identification of plants, water quality assessments, etc.
- Manual labor skills; ability to work extensive hours in variable weather conditions and terrain, fit for the field
- Prior field work experience and navigation skills considered an asset (experience in GPS use, ability to read topographic maps)
- Photography skills and experience considered an asset
- Driver's license and first aid training considered an asset

Project Logistics:

Approximate dates: 6 weeks, tentatively May 2 – June 14, 2022

Location: New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island (pending confirmation), Nova Scotia

Application Timeline:

Applications will be accepted between December 1, 2021 and March 1, 2022. 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 2022.

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. Additionally, as domestic and international travel require individuals to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, it is also a requirement for participation in QLF internships.

^{*} 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.

