



International Aboriginal Youth Internships

These internships offer First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth (ages 18-35 inclusive) the opportunity to gain valuable international experience and increase their employment skills while offering benefit to hosting organizations through their work. Through public engagement activities, interns also promote awareness and understanding of international development issues.

Internships are six months in duration, with four months spent at hosting partner organizations in Peru, Chile and Bhutan. Interns work in Canada for the other two months with an ACIC member organization both prior to their departure overseas and upon their return.

A modest living allowance is provided, as well as funding to cover a variety of costs related to the internship, including: travel to overseas posting; medical insurance and visas; cultural awareness training; language training if necessary; and job search support.

On behalf of our members and overseas partners, the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation (ACIC) is offering the following positions:

Youth Engagement Assistant – Atlantic Council for International Cooperation, Halifax, NS & La Restinga, Iquitos, Peru

Community Engagement Assistant – Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat, Cole Harbour (Millbrook), NS & La Restinga, Iquitos, Peru

Youth Local Wisdom Research Facilitator – GPI Atlantic & Bhutan Youth Development Fund, Bhutan

Youth Research Media Facilitator – GPI Atlantic & Bhutan Youth Development Fund, Bhutan

Cultural Knowledge Integration Specialist – Institute of Island Studies, Charlottetown & Williche Council of Chiefs, Chiloe, Chile

Cultural Practice Specialist – Institute of Island Studies, Charlottetown & Williche Council of Chiefs, Chiloe, Chile

Program Timeline

DEADLINE for Applications:

October 23, 2011 (or until a suitable candidate is found)

Interviews:

Early November 2011

Contracts signed with successful candidates:

Mid-November 2011

Preparations Begin (language training, visas, vaccinations, etc.):

November-December 2011

Positions Begin:

January 2012

Orientation, Training & Logistics:

January 2012

Departure for Overseas:

February 2012

Return to Canada:

June 2012

Public Awareness & Wrap-up Activities:

June/July 2012

Internships Completed:

July 2012

Application Guidelines

To be eligible to apply for an International Aboriginal Youth Internship, you must:

- Be between the ages of 18 and 35
- Have a high school diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED)
- Have not yet graduated from post-secondary studies
- Be a Canadian or permanent resident of Canada
- Be of Aboriginal affiliation and willing to sign a CIDA self-declaration form

Send Resume and Cover Letter to internships@acic-caci.org . Please include the job title(s) to which you are applying in the subject line of your email application. While we appreciate the interest of all applicants, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 23rd, 2011 (or until all positions are filled)

Other information:

- Please state in your cover letter where you found out about the posting.
- You may apply for more than one position. However, please indicate your order of preference for the positions you are applying to in your cover letter.
- If you are applying to positions in either Peru or Chile, please indicate if you have any Spanish language ability.

For further information, contact:

Carolyn Whiteway, ACIC Program Manager
projects@acic-caci.org
902-431-2311

ACIC is a coalition of individuals, organizations, and institutions working in the Atlantic region, which are committed to achieving global sustainability in a peaceful and healthy environment, with social justice, human dignity, and participation for all. ACIC supports its members in international cooperation and education through collective leadership, networking, information, training and coordination, and represents their interests when dealing with government and others.

ACIC also takes a leadership role in engaging Atlantic Canadians around issues relating to international development, global sustainability, and social justice. Through our public engagement work, ACIC strives to give Atlantic Canadians the knowledge, skills, and tools necessary to become active global citizens.

Youth Research Media Facilitator

Location: Halifax, NS/Bhutan

Host partner organizations: GPI Atlantic & Youth Development Fund of Bhutan

The ideal candidate would have:

- Video skills including camera work and editing programs
- A working knowledge of social media and various communications methods and web skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Basic research skills
- Personable, polite and friendly and enjoy being with youth as well as older people
- Some demonstrated ability to organize an event or program and to take initiative
- Strong interest in international development and other cultures
- Interest and some knowledge of environmental conservation or related topics such as biodiversity or climate change or indigenous knowledge
- Able to physically handle tough terrains
- Able to speak in public
- Able to conduct meetings
- Intern will need police check, child abuse screening, and emergency Red Cross training but GPI Atlantic will help with these
- Experience working with youth strongly desired

Activities:

In Canada:

- Undergo extensive training in youth facilitation and program management as well as research ethics
- Conduct a 2-day workshop with youth to demonstrate learned skills. This camp will be held on Micou's Island, sacred ground to the Mi'kmaq. The focus will be similar to that of the camps in Bhutan and will have Mi'kmaq elders to lead medicine walks, etc
- Work intensively with Canadian aboriginal elders on how to create a wisdom exchange with Bhutanese youth
- Undergo intensive training in wildcrafting of medicinal herbs, their application, etc. and development of a nomadic shelter
- Work with senior research staff at GPI Atlantic and in consultation with YDF to develop protocols for cataloging medicinal plants and their use
- Survey questions regarding youth concerns with climate change and the passing on of local wisdom about the environment including biodiversity, traditional plant medicines, etc
- Create a written assessment of program needs and plans after looking at materials from previous programs conducted by GPI Atlantic and YDF, especially around the adopt-a-village program and previous programs with indigenous local wisdom
- Create youth-oriented public engagement events after return from Bhutan

In Bhutan:

- Work with YDF program staff to finalize project protocols for working in two villages and have a homestay in these villages while working with Bhutanese youth on intergenerational local wisdom projects
- Plan and put on a series of camps in a few areas of Bhutan with different indigenous populations, including creating nomadic shelters, wildcrafting of medicinal herbs, and cataloging of medicinal plants
- Work with specific youth populations on the camps and create short videos with the youth to express their hopes and dreams and the intergenerational passing on of local wisdom
- Conduct training sessions for Young Volunteers in Action on youth facilitation, program management, etc.

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2

Youth Local Wisdom Research Facilitator

Location: Halifax, NS/Bhutan

Host partner organizations: GPI Atlantic & Bhutan Youth Development Fund

The ideal candidate would have:

- Strong interest in local wisdom, medicinal plants, wild foods, etc.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Basic research skills
- Personable, polite and friendly and enjoy being with youth as well as older people
- Some demonstrated ability to organize an event or program and to take initiative
- Interest and some knowledge of environmental conservation or related topics such as biodiversity
- Able to physically handle tough terrains
- Able to conduct meetings
- Intern will need police check, child abuse screening, and emergency Red Cross training but GPI Atlantic will help with these
- Experience working with youth strongly desired

Activities:

In Canada:

- Undergo extensive training in youth facilitation and program management as well as research ethics
- Conduct a 2-day workshop with youth to demonstrate learned skills. The focus will be similar to that of the camps in Bhutan. This intern will also create a catalog of medicinal plants on Micou's island together with Mi'kmaq elders
- Undergo intensive training in wildcrafting of medicinal herbs, their application, etc. and development of a nomadic shelter
- Work with senior research staff at GPI Atlantic and in consultation with YDF to develop protocols for cataloging medicinal plants and their use
- Create survey questions regarding youth concerns with climate change and the passing on of local wisdom about the environment including biodiversity, traditional plant medicines, etc.
- Create a written assessment of program needs and plans after looking at materials from previous programs conducted by GPI Atlantic and YDF, especially around the adopt-a-village program and previous programs with indigenous local wisdom
- Create youth-oriented public engagement events after return from Bhutan
- Edit and create useful cataloging materials of Bhutanese indigenous plants and recommendations for preservation of plants

In Bhutan:

- Work with YDF program staff to finalize project protocols
- Brainstorm with Bhutanese youth in the Young Volunteers in Action program on sustainable projects in 2 villages and have homestays in these villages
- Plan and put on a series of camps in a few areas of Bhutan with different indigenous populations, including creating nomadic shelters, wildcrafting of medicinal herbs, and cataloging of medicinal plants. Work with elders in each of the communities on intergenerational dialogues
- Work with specific youth populations on the camps and create short videos with the youth to express their hopes and dreams and the intergenerational passing on of local wisdom
- Work with youth to create a longer term project to create more livelihood options with medicinal plants
- Work with local elders on the creation of local wisdom events and get their input on the level of youth knowledge of local wisdom
- Liaise with other organizations working in environmental conservation in Bhutan and in research and youth programming
- Conduct training sessions for Young Volunteers in Action on youth facilitation, program management, etc.
- Collate results of the surveys of medicinal plants, coordinating activities with YDF and associated organizations and help analyze them
- Publish written results
- Continue blog updates and video documentation throughout the project
- Help plan and facilitate community events to share research results

- Create a sourcebook for use by YDF program staff to continue the camps and build on results of the surveys and camps

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2

Cultural Knowledge Integration Specialist

Location: Charlottetown, PEI/Chiloe, Chile

Host partner organizations: Institute for Island Studies & Williche Council of Chiefs

The ideal candidate would have:

- Experience in knowledge integration and public education
- Capable of development of educational tools such as videos and website content
- Experience working with indigenous communities, youth and elders
- Previous involvement as a community worker or volunteer
- Knowledge of environmental and resource management issues
- Adaptable, flexible, patient, honest, well-organized, creative
- Healthy and able to live and work in rural conditions with modest financial supports, and to travel to communities that lack roads and electricity
- Effective team worker but also able to work independently
- Spanish speaking or willing to take intensive training to learn Spanish

Activities:

- Assist with development of community research approach and instruments
- Integrate indigenous and scientific knowledge using various media (written, video, theatre, music)
- Develop educational outreach tools for young people and elders
- Assist with knowledge mobilization
- Organize and implement awareness activities based on overseas experience

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2

Cultural Practice Specialist

Location: Charlottetown, PEI/Chiloe, Chile

Host partner organizations: Institute for Island Studies & Williche Council of Chiefs

The ideal candidate would have:

- Prior experience in cultural research, adept at internet searches, data compilation and analysis
- Knowledgeable in the areas of aboriginal cultural practices related to food production, hunting and gathering and/or traditional patterns of consumption
- Previous involvement as a community worker or volunteer
- Knowledge of environmental and resource management issues
- Adaptable, flexible, patient, honest, well-organized, creative
- Healthy and able to live and work in rural conditions with modest financial supports; and to travel to communities that lack roads and electricity

- Effective team worker but also able to work independently
- Spanish speaking or willing to take intensive training to learn Spanish

Activities:

- Develop instruments to collect indigenous knowledge concerning patterns of traditional food production, gathering and consumption
- Research documentary and first-hand accounts of traditional food practices
- Assist with development of community educational materials
- Assist with knowledge mobilization
- Organize and implement awareness activities based on overseas experience

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2

Youth Engagement Assistant

Location: Halifax, NS/Iquitos, Peru

Host partner organizations: Atlantic Council for International Cooperation & La Restinga

The ideal candidate would have:

- Experience working with children and youth, especially those at-risk
- Working level of Spanish
- Artistic experience and interest
- Excellent written and interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to work in teams
- Tolerance, Respect and Patience
- Adaptability

Activities:

In Peru:

For the overseas portion of this project, the intern will be placed with La Restinga in Iquitos, Peru working with at-risk children and adolescents in the neighbourhood of Belen. Specific duties include:

- Accompanying educators in the development of educational sessions with child and adolescent populations
- Accompanying the educators in monitoring and evaluation activities with different populations
- Accompanying educators in visiting families from different populations

In Canada:

For the in Canada portion of this project, the intern will be placed at ACIC's office and focus on youth engagement. This focus will enable the intern to learn more about techniques and strategies to engage youth, which may inform their work overseas. Specific duties include:

- Assisting with International Development Week activities and Move Your World youth conference, including outreach to aboriginal communities
- Developing communications materials, including contributions to quarterly publication
- Organizing and implementing awareness activities based on overseas experience

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2

Community Engagement Assistant

Location: Cole Harbour Reserve (Millbrook First Nation), NS/Iquitos, Peru

Host partner organizations: Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat & La Restinga

The ideal candidate would have:

- Experience working with women, especially those in vulnerable situations
- Working level of Spanish
- Artistic experience and interest
- Excellent written and interpersonal communication skills
- Ability to work in teams
- Tolerance, Respect and Patience
- Adaptability

Activities:

In Peru:

For the overseas portion of this project, the intern will be placed with La Restinga in Iquitos, Peru working with women and the general community in the neighbourhood of Belen.

Specific duties include:

- Accompanying educators in the development of educational sessions with women and mother populations
- Accompanying the educators in monitoring and evaluation activities with different populations
- Accompanying educators in visiting families from different populations

In Canada:

For the in Canada portion of this project, the intern will be placed at the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat office and focus on Aboriginal health issues on First Nation communities in the Atlantic region.

Specific duties include:

- Outreach to Aboriginal communities closest to Halifax (Indian Brook, Millbrook, Glooscap and Pictou Landing First Nations) in the area of health professions promotions
- Networking with youth to develop strategies for promotion of health careers with Mi'kmaq Maliseet Atlantic Youth Council, and
- Organizing and implementing awareness activities based on overseas experience

Starting Date: January 2012

Ending Date: July 2012

Months Overseas: 4

Months in Canada: 2