Indigenous Outreach Internship Description

Description of Organization

UBC Geering Up Engineering Outreach is dedicated to promoting science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to all children and youth of British Columbia through fun, innovative, and hands-on educational programming. Our outreach to communities across BC emphasizes demographics underrepresented in STEM fields such as Indigenous youth, girls, and children from low-income neighborhoods. Indigenous youth have disproportionately low rates of graduation and post-secondary attendance, especially in STEM. By generating more interest in STEM topics, we hope to address this problem and create the next generation of individuals who will help grow their communities.

Geering Up's Indigenous Outreach initiative (also referred to as InSTEM) collaborates with over 35 Indigenous communities across BC to deliver year-round satellite programming. We bring in-class workshops, week-long camps, and Land Based Camps to these groups based on their needs and requests. More information about Geering Up Community Outreach is available [here](#).

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Geering Up has pivoted to delivering online STEM outreach and educational activities. These include daily livestreams of science demonstrations, online homework clubs, daily activity clubs, and online professional development sessions.

Mentorship & Internship Summary

This internship is designed to provide Indigenous youth with the knowledge and experience to teach STEM topics through a 3-week online program. In the first week, Indigenous Outreach Interns will be equipped with the skills to build, review and teach STEM curriculum in a safe and inclusive manner. An Outreach Instructor will be assigned to the student as a mentor for the entirety of the internship program. The mentor will guide the student on how to be an effective STEM educator and provide insight on the specific steps needed to pursue STEM careers. Mentors will also work with Outreach...
Interns to develop a set of personal and professional development goals. The student’s progress on these goals will be evaluated on a weekly basis throughout the placement.

In the second and third weeks, the Intern will work as a group with peers to create a full day of Indigenous STEM workshops for an elementary level audience. In this stage, the student can practice the professional skills they have developed in an environment they’re more acquainted with. Once training is completed, students will be awarded an honorarium of $300 per week and will be certified as junior instructors, opening employment opportunities to teach STEM with Geering Up. Employment options are flexible to account for physical distancing restrictions, and are expected to grow as restrictions are eased. The details of this position will be discussed in the job description.

We recognize that applicants for this position may come from a variety of locations and backgrounds. Our team will be as flexible as possible with respect to scheduling team meetings. If the applicant extends their work term past the length of the internship, Geering Up will continue to be adaptable with regards to scheduling shifts and remote work.

**Outreach Intern Job Description**

Outreach Interns are among our frontline staff, delivering STEM workshops and programming for youth across British Columbia. Interns will be asked to reach out to community members, family, and mentors who can share their Traditional ways of knowing and STEM knowledge. They will work with Elders and mentors to combine the participants’ knowledge and practices with STEM concepts. The goal of this program is to develop a sense of comfort and aptitude in teaching STEM for the Intern. With supervision, Outreach Instructor Interns are required to:

1. Create science, technology engineering and math curriculum
2. Act as an Instructor and role model to Geering Up program youth
3. Follow safety and risk management policies to build positive, safe learning environments for youth
4. Support the delivery of Geering Up online programming in the form of video content and online workshops
5. Complete all evaluations and reports in a timely manner
6. Perform other duties, as requested by the Coordinators

**Applicant Qualifications**

Geering Up fosters a positive learning environment for both students and staff, so all positive-minded applicants will be thoroughly considered for an interview. Nonetheless, a **stable internet connection**
with a webcam, computer, and microphone is required for working online in this program. If this is a challenge for you, please reach out to us.

Being an entry level position, the most desired applicant trait is a willingness to learn. Candidates with qualification gaps will be thoroughly trained by our Outreach Instructors. By the end of the onboarding process, Interns are expected to attain the skills and competencies listed below.

1. Background or interest in science, technology, engineering, or math.
2. Experience or interest working with youth
3. Strong teamwork, leadership, and interpersonal skills
4. Proven ability to work independently, multi-task, and solve problems in a variety of challenging situations without direct supervision
5. Excellent presentation and public speaking skills, ideally in communicating STEM topics
6. Experience in facilitating workshops or activities, preferably with children or youth
7. All Geering Up staff and interns must have a Criminal Record Check on file before they may work with children

Terms of Appointment
Training Sessions: July 6-24 2020. Full time hours will be from 9 am to 2 pm on July 6th and July 7th. From July 8th to 20th, students are expected to commit 15-20 hours per week for this position. Once equipped with instruction knowledge, we strongly encourage interns to continue paid part-time work with Geering Up throughout Summer and Fall 2020

Consequence of Error
Interns are responsible for the well-being of children and youth under their care. In select circumstances, they act as role models and must make critical decisions to ensure the participants online safety. Outreach Interns act as representatives of the Faculty of Applied Science and the University. Therefore, consequence of error is high and could impact the safety and wellbeing of participants, and in turn negatively affect the reputation of Geering Up, community partners, and the University.

Remuneration
Honorarium of $300 a week. To be paid out according to the calendar set by UBC payroll.

How to Apply
Applications will be accepted until June 1, 2020. Applications can be submitted on the Geering Up website through the form. Please contact outreach@geeringup.ca with any questions or technical issues.