

Nova Scotia Youth Corps Summer Student Intern

Position Title:	Field Work and Lab Assistant
Number of Positions:	1
Location:	Halifax, Nova Scotia
Position Status:	Temporary, 9 weeks [June 26 – August 25, 2017]
Hours:	Full-time [35 hours per week]
Wage:	<u>Minimum</u> \$11.75/hour

Clean makes homes more [energy efficient](#), [restores streams & watersheds](#), [engages youth](#) on the environment, promotes [green transportation](#), mitigates the effects of [stormwater](#), helps communities reduce [waste](#), and contributes to public policy discussions.

That's [what](#) we do. [Why](#) we do it is to help create a more sustainable society in Atlantic Canada. We work for a clean climate & clean water, and, to help us get there, we foster, educate and support clean leaders in our communities.

Clean is a non-profit, non-governmental environment organization created in 1988 through an [Act of the Legislature](#) in Nova Scotia. However, we receive no core government funding. We run the charity through money raised for our many programs and projects, which can come from agencies, businesses, government departments, foundations and individual citizens.

You may know us as Clean Nova Scotia, but we work on projects in other parts of Atlantic Canada, throughout the traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik. That's why we say we're just *Clean*.

We are currently seeking a hardworking, dynamic and motivated individual to add to our Nova Scotia Youth Corps (Youth Corps) team for summer 2017, who has a strong passion for people and the environment. Our approach is always collaborative and team oriented.

Program Overview:



Youth Corps

In Nova Scotia, more than half of our young people leave the province after graduation. But what if they were given the skills and opportunities to join a vibrant green economy here at home?

The Youth Corps wants to inspire, develop and nurture an interest in jobs that support a future-looking economy and a sustainable environment. By tapping into a student's journey mid-way through school, our training and internship program offers new green options in career path decisions – while giving young minds the tools they need for future success.

The Youth Corps builds connections between youth and local organizations to stimulate stewardship for the natural environment and support the emergence of young community leaders. This is accomplished by providing students with training and employment opportunities through paid work placements with community-based organizations. And our Aboriginal Leadership Program builds on the Youth Corps to focus on the needs of First Nations youth while bringing traditional indigenous knowledge into the program. Our goal at Clean is to help build that foundation on which students can build their careers, and grow into the thoughtful, creative policy-makers and CEOs of tomorrow.

Position Overview:

The host for this Summer Student Intern position through Youth Corps will be the Dynamic Environment and Ecosystem Health Research (DEEHR) Lab, reporting to Dr. Linda Campbell. In this position, you will be mainly responsible for assisting with research and field work at wetland sites round Nova Scotia. Our work at the DEEHR Lab currently focuses on researching wetland sites that have been contaminated from historical gold mining activities. The successful candidate needs to be comfortable with working long hours outdoors (in a variety of weather conditions), be physically fit with the ability to lift up to 50 lbs, and be willing to work with aquatic invertebrate species and fish.

About the Host:

Dr. Linda Campbell's Dynamic Environment and Ecosystem Health Research (DEEHR) Lab (at Saint Mary's University) integrates multiple approaches in their research from diverse fields such as environmental chemistry, aquatic ecology, fish biology and population health. Our ultimate goal is to improve our understanding of the fate and effects of anthropogenic and natural toxicants in aquatic ecosystems and the way humans interact with aquatic environments.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Our work this spring/summer will include site visits to 6-7 wetland ecosystems within Nova Scotia, which have been impacted by historic gold mines located nearby. At these sites we will be collecting invertebrate and sediment samples, and water chemistry data. We will also be using floating traps to capture hatching insects on the water's surface. All samples be taken back to the lab and prepared for analysis for mercury, arsenic, and other contaminants to assess the ecological damage and bioaccumulation of potentially toxic elements, happening in these areas.

Other duties of the field/lab assistant will include lab work (such as washing glassware, general lab cleaning, assisting in the preparation and analysis of the collected samples). Tasks may also include assisting in literature reviews and developing a poster presentation on the topic of environmental consequences of historic gold mining activities.

Requirements/Qualifications:

- Must be a Canadian citizen or legally entitled to work in Canada;
- Must be between the ages of 15 and 30;
- Must be a full-time student and intending to return to school in fall 2017;
- Is not a member of immediate family of host;
- Have an aptitude for safe work practices and the ability to multi-task in a busy work environment;

- Be able to work productively as part of a team while responding to feedback;
- Demonstrates interest in future employment in the environmental or 'green' sector is considered an asset;
- Must be willing to work potentially long hours outdoors in a variety of weather conditions;
- Must be able to lift up to 50 lbs;
- Must be willing to work with invertebrates (training will be provided);
- Must be comfortable working in wetland environments (i.e. potentially wet and muddy);
- Must be comfortable around water;
- Must be able to work well in both close team environments and independently;
- Past experience with field work is an asset;
- Past experience with lab work is an asset;
- Past experience/knowledge in environmental science and/or ecotoxicology is an asset;
- First aid and/or wilderness remote first aid experience is an asset;
- Must be prepared (with the appropriate attire and gear) to work potentially long hours outside in a variety of weather conditions.

To apply, fill out the online application [here](#). After you click the 'submit' button, you will be directed to a page where you can upload your cover letter(s), resume, and letter of reference. You can also access that page directly by [clicking here](#) – note that your reference can also submit their letter on your behalf directly through that page. Your application will not be considered until we have received all of your application materials.

The deadline to apply is midnight, May 24, 2017. We appreciate all interest; however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Clean is committed to Employment Equity and our goal is to be a diverse workforce that is representative at all job levels. We welcome applicants from Aboriginal People, Visible Minority Groups, Persons with Disabilities and Women in occupations of positions where they are under-represented. If you are a member of one of the equity groups, you are encouraged to self-identify on either your cover letter or resume.