



TRACKS Youth Program
TRent Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Science

[705-748-1011 ext. 6381](tel:705-748-1011)
1600 West Bank Drive Peterborough Ontario K9L 0G2
www.tracksprogram.ca
facebook.com/tracksyouthprogram/
instagram.com/tracksprogram/

JOB POSTING: Oshkwazin Summer Ambassadors

Please note: the application deadline has been extended until **June 14th, 2021 at 11:59pm.**

Title: Oshkwazin Summer Ambassador

Program: TRACKS Oshkwazin Indigenous Leadership

Work term: 20 hours/week for 8 weeks in July and August

Wage: \$14.50/hour

Reporting to: Oshkwazin Youth Supervisor

Number of positions: 4

Part One | Program Description

TRACKS (TRent Aboriginal Cultural Knowledge and Science) is an educational program based on Michi Saagiig Anishnaabeg territory. We are hosted by Trent University within the Indigenous Environmental Studies and Sciences Program (IESS) and operates in partnership with founding partner organization Kawartha World Issues Centre and the First Peoples House of Learning. TRACKS consists of two distinct and connected programs:

Outreach & Education and ***Oshkwazin Indigenous Youth Leadership***.

IMPORTANT: This posting is for the TRACKS Oshkwazin Indigenous Leadership program. Before applying, please review our [website](#) to understand the mandate of Oshkwazin.

TRACKS Oshkwazin Summer Ambassadors should identify as Indigenous and be between 14 and 18 years of age. A main component of this position is to experience Indigenous youth leadership building opportunities with a small group of other Indigenous youth (up to four) and the Oshkwazin Youth Supervisor. The Oshkwazin Youth Ambassadors will coordinate and help lead 4 on-the-land learning days in August, where they will have the opportunity to put their leadership skills and Traditional Ecological Knowledge into practice. If COVID-19 measures allow, a small group of outside youth **may** be invited to participate; if not, the Ambassadors will be the only participants. These positions are responsible for helping to develop the Oshkwazin program, by contributing their ideas for what sorts of programming Oshkwazin can do in the future. This is one of the ways that Oshkwazin ensures youth input in its programming.

Part Two | COVID-19 Update and Conditions

Due to COVID-19 and the guidelines of Trent University, TRACKS Youth Program is operating primarily online and virtual for the foreseeable future. The Oshkwazin Youth Ambassador Program will likely include a blend of in-person, outdoor and on-the-land programming, as well as some virtual engagement. All of this will be done while following COVID-19 safety measures.



Interviews for these positions, hiring timeline, work term and work responsibilities outlined in this contract are subject to change with appropriate notice based on guidance from Peterborough Public Health and Trent University.

Part Three | Position Details

Key Responsibilities:

- Participate in mandatory staff training upon hiring
- Maintain regular work hours and be in regular communication with the Oshkwazin Summer Youth Supervisor and Oshkwazin Coordinator
- Develop and maintain a learning portfolio to be evaluated at the end of the Summer
- Participate in training and workshops relating to the Oshkwazin Youth Ambassador curriculum
- Responsible for planning and facilitating 4 land camps – each Ambassador will be responsible for 1 day of on the land learning with an Elder and/or Knowledge Keeper
- Participate in Anishinaabemowin learning – if you have knowledge of the language, you will be able to expand your vocabulary/understanding and if you have no knowledge, you will learn some basic words/phrases and concepts
- Participate in brainstorm sessions relating to Oshkwazin program development
- Participate in the design of leadership program curriculum including researching, developing, and testing activities
- Contribute to the future of the program by participating in evaluation, providing feedback and sharing perspective on a regular basis
- Assist Outreach & Education staff with ongoing development of workshops and Summer programs
- Assist the Communications and Social Media staff with online content
- Other duties as assigned by the Oshkwazin Summer Youth Supervisor and the Oshkwazin Coordinator

Required Skills and Qualifications

- **Must be interested in Indigenous cultural knowledge and Traditional Ecological Knowledge**
 - ***Prior experience is not necessary, an interest in learning is much more important!***
- Basic computer skills such as word processing and email communication
- Ability to take direction and feedback
- Willingness to collaborate with others and work with a team as necessary
- Reliable and respectful communication towards coworkers and supervisors and program participants
- Excellent people skills and a friendly attitude
- Experience with conflict resolution

Other Qualifications and Assets

- Experience working or volunteering with summer camps and/or youth programs
- Traditional Ecological Knowledge that pertains to beading, quillwork, weaving, hunting, fishing, harvesting, plant identification, dancing etc., are highly valued



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- All candidates must provide references
- First Aid Training
- Mental Health First Aid

Part Four | TRACKS Hiring Policies

TRACKS strives for equity in its hiring and specifically welcomes applications from all qualified candidates including those experiencing marginalization, including women, people with disabilities, people of colour, Indigenous people (including First Nation, Metis, Inuit and non-status), those identifying as two-spirit or LGBTQ, parents and caregivers, and those dealing with adversity in their lives. We commit to making reasonable accommodations for those needing additional support, as much as possible within the expectations and requirements of this position.

IMPORTANT: Due to the funding structure of TRACKS Oshkwazin, and the goal of the program being to nurture Indigenous leaders, only Indigenous applicants will be considered for these positions.

Why work for TRACKS?

TRACKS places high priority on providing training and professional development opportunities for all employees. By working with TRACKS, you can expect to grow your resume and build competencies which are valuable to future employers. These competencies include:

- Building relationships with Indigenous youth, Elders, Knowledge Holders and communities
- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Innovation and creativity in relation to program development
- Collaboration
- Independent work ethic
- Effective communication
- Other interpersonal, intrapersonal and cognitive skills such as active listening, self-evaluation, adaptive learning, conflict resolution and more

You will also have the opportunity to be involved in various types of training and have the freedom to pursue your individual interests related to Indigenous ways of knowing. This position will also allow you to access resources available through Trent University.

Part Five | Application and Submission

Application

Please visit the following webpage to fill out our application: <https://www.tracksprogram.ca/oshkwazin-summer-ambassadors>

As part of this online application, applicants must submit:

- Answers to the following questions (*your answers can be in point form and the word counts are suggestions*)



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- Please tell us about yourself (Where did you grow up? Do you have siblings/cousins? What are your interests/hobbies? What are you passionate about? Who do you learn from?) – max. 200 words.
 - Please describe why Indigenous leadership is important? In other words, what interests you about this position? – max. 350 words.
 - Please share how you connect with the land (What activities do you do on the land or water? Do you hunt, harvest, or garden? Do you enjoy laying in the grass and listening to the birds? What animals, tree, plants, etc do you like?) – max. 200 words.
 - a resume (include all volunteering experience, extracurriculars, ceremonies, harvesting/hunting, land camps, etc.)
 - a letter of recommendation from a teacher, coach, peer worker or mentor
 - approx. one page
 - Must include contact information

IMPORTANT: Your application is unlikely to be reviewed if you do not follow all the guidelines for submission stated here and on the website.

Submission

~~Applications will be accepted until June 7th, 2021 at 11:59pm.~~ **The application deadline has been extended until June 14th, 2021 at 11:59pm.** Please submit the above on our website at the following link: <https://www.tracksprogram.ca/oshkwazin-summer-ambassadors>

Direct any questions regarding the application process to Maggie Cummings, Oshkwazin Coordinator, at oshkwazin@tracksprogram.ca.