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## TRACKS Youth Program: Oshkwazin Youth Ambassadors

**Title:** TRACKS Oshkwazin Indigenous Youth Leadership Program – Summer 2020 Youth Ambassador

**Work term:** 30 hours/week for 8 weeks between July and August

**Wage:** \$14/hour

**Reporting to:** Oshkwazin Coordinator

**Number of positions:** 4

Oshkwazin is an Indigenous youth leadership program nested within the TRACKS Youth Program based at Trent University in Nogojiwanong (Peterborough, Ontario). Oshkwazin offers meaningful training and leadership development opportunities, as well as mentorship, training, team-building, and cultural learning experiences for high-school-aged Indigenous youth. Inspired by the mandate of IESS program, TRACKS Oshkwazin aims to empower Indigenous youth to utilize their traditional ecological knowledge (TEK).

**We are seeking 4 full-time staff members to support TRACKS Oshkwazin Indigenous Youth Leadership Program throughout the Summer. Please note that the availability of this position is conditional on funding.**

### Key Responsibilities

- 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
- Maintain regular work hours in communication with Oshkwazin Coordinator
  - *weeknights and weekends are sometimes required*
- Responsible for one a one-week social media takeover during the summer
- Create bi-weekly blog posts or blog post contributions
- Participate in brainstorm sessions relating to Oshkwazin Program brand and website re-development
- Participate in the design of leadership program curriculum including researching, developing, and testing activities
- Represent TRACKS Oshkwazin at various outreach or community events including Powwows
- Contribute to the future of the program by participating in evaluation, providing feedback and sharing perspective on a regular basis
- Assist Outreach & Education staff in facilitation of workshops and Summer camps
- Assist Outreach & Education staff with ongoing development of workshops and Summer programs
- Other duties as assigned by Oshkwazin Coordinator

### Required Skills and Qualifications

- **Must be interested in Indigenous cultural 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 work independently
- Strong teamwork and willingness to collaborate with others
- Reliable and respectful communication towards coworkers and supervisors
- Excellent people skills and a friendly attitude
- Must be willing to work a flexible schedule, with some evening and weekend hours

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.

**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.**

#### **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
- Prior knowledge and interest in personal Indigenous cultural history
- First aid training
- Lifeguard certification

#### **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, 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.

#### **Application and further information:**

Please visit the following webpage to fill out our written application: <https://www.tracksprogram.ca/current-posting-oshkwazin-youth-ambassadors-2020>

Along with this online application, applicants must submit a resume and a letter of recommendation from a teacher, coach, peer worker or mentor. Letters of recommendation should be approx. one page and include contact information. It is important that you follow all the guidelines for submission stated here and on the website.

Direct any questions regarding the application process to Kristin Muskratt, Oshkwazin Coordinator, at [oshkwazin@tracksprogram.ca](mailto:oshkwazin@tracksprogram.ca).

**Application deadline is June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.**

**PLEASE NOTE: Interviews, hiring timeline and work term is dependent on the progression of the COVID-19 response in Peterborough and at Trent University.**