

Call for Outstanding Young Leaders!

Apply to join Waterlution's Canada-wide Youth Advisory Board

Over 10 months Youth Advisors (YAs) (ages 16-29) will develop their leadership, workshop facilitation, content creation and project management skills - by supporting our water education programs in schools and communities. This is the third year that Waterlution is recruiting a Youth Advisory Board (YAB), and we cannot wait to see what unique elements you can bring to our school programs!

[Click Here to Apply! Applications are due Tuesday, May 22nd at 11:59PM PT.](#)

Waterlution has two school-based programs which YAB members will support:

1. The **Great Canoe Journey, Canada-wide:** engages school-aged youth, in all provinces and territories, in a youth-led initiative to contribute to their journey of reconciliation. Guided by traditional canoe builders and their canoes; Indigenous Canadians, new Canadians and long-time Canadians will learn together about Indigenous People, culture, water and connections across Canada throughout this 2-year project. YAB will lead additional school-based workshops and activities about reconciliation and water.
 - The YAs will support this program by **leading school group activities, workshops and webinars.**
 - They will also provide support by creating educational and engaging online program content (water/nature/cultural photos and videos with educational context).
 - YAs will assist with **developing, promoting, delivering** the program's content and resources.
 - Some YAs will create and promote a calendar with stories about The Great Canoe Journey from across Canada.
2. The **Great Waters Challenge, British Columbia:** The purpose of the Great Waters Challenge is to raise the awareness and leadership capacity of youth – mostly through school engagement - to be better stewards and protect our water. As students complete a series of challenges, each discovers their personal connection to water and their community's water story. As a class, they lead a water celebration or action day for their school to showcase their learnings. **Note: Only BC-based YAB will work on the Great Waters Challenge**
 - The YAs will support this program by **leading school group activities, workshops and webinars.**
 - YAs will support by creating educational and engaging online and program content (water/nature photos and videos with educational context).
 - YAs will assist with **updating, promoting, delivering** the program's content and resources.
 - Some YAs will work to develop an educational book about BC's waters.

Are you the right fit for the Youth Advisory Board (YAB)?

- The volunteer position is open to young leaders **ages 16-29 living in Canada** who are passionate about water, environmental issues, Indigenous knowledge and culture, education and/or film/photography/social media.
- You can commit on average **2-3 hrs of volunteer work per week during your term** which will include email/phone communication with the YAB coordinator, teachers and project partners, team video calls, spending time outdoors capturing photos or videos, researching and creating educational resources, and hosting webinars and in school workshops during the 2018/19 school year (**YAB Term: May 29th, 2018-March 31st, 2019**).
- You are eager to work with other YAs locally and across the country as a peer, mentor or mentee to share knowledge and skills.
- You are self-disciplined, driven, and committed. Volunteers must be able to work remotely from their computers and visit local schools.
- You are passionate about how water connects us all and are eager to share your knowledge with schools, and you want to support Indigenous People sharing knowledge by playing an active role in reconciliation.
- You are willing and enthused to be showcased online as a young water leader (our YAs are prominently featured on social media, making short videos, sharing photos of yourself outside).
- You are social media savvy and love to capture beautiful photos or videos of water and nature.
- You are looking to build your network, develop leadership skills, be involved in your community, expand your water knowledge, and to add experiences to your resume.

YAB Role Overview

As a YAB member you will **contribute your unique skill set to Waterlution**. The **YAB is comprised of 4 main subteams (youth advisors choose their team)**;

- 1) **Indigenous Culture and Education Team**- this team will **develop activities and resources for school teams to learn about water, indigenous culture and reconciliation**. They will support other teams by providing appropriate cultural content for projects as needed.
- 2) **Film/Photography Content and Social Media Team**- this team will create resources to **mentor other YAs and engaged school children in film and video creation**. They will support the other teams by **creating engaging and educational videos** as needed (for promotional or educational purposes)
- 3) **Water Literacy Team**- this team works to **develop tangible educational extensions of the project** which could include **colouring books or calendars** (Great Canoe Journey), a **BC water storybook** (Great Waters Challenge) or other artistic activities with water and cultural educational facts included. This team will develop a crowdfunding and water literacy campaign to promote their creations (funds support the Great Canoe Journey/Great Waters Challenge).
- 4) **Bilingual Education Team**- composed of bilingual Canadians, this **team will translate and adapt programming and content to include French school classes in the Great Canoe Journey**. They will work closely with the other teams to ensure the French language is portrayed throughout all aspects of the Great Canoe Journey project and will work with French school teams across the country.

Each YA joins one sub-team and fulfills the following requirements:

- 1) All YAs will **recruit a minimum of four school teams** to participate in the programs and will **lead on communications with their teams** throughout the term. We had over 60 schools that played last year, so you may also be encouraging them to sign on again.
- 2) All YAs will **host one workshop or webinar for each team (a minimum of 4)**.
- 3) All YAs will **each create a total of 3 educational videos** about a water and/or cultural topic of their choice (film and video mentorship provided, as needed).
- 4) All YAs will help promote the Great Canoe Journey by submitting photos of themselves engaging with water and culture for [Waterlution's Instagram account](#) throughout the term (you will be credited for your photos and featured as a dedicated young water leader).
- 5) **Committed and dedicated YAs will be invited to a team training and retreat in Squamish BC in August 2018 at the Cheakamus Outdoor Education Centre.**
- 6) All YAs are strongly encouraged to participate in a crowdfunding campaign during their term (for promoting products created by the Water Literacy Team). All YAs who are invited to the training and retreat will seek one microgrant of \$500-\$1000 to help cover the costs of flights and training. The Waterlution team has many resources to help you succeed and we will offer lots of support and ideas, as required.

What will YOU gain from this volunteer experience?

- 1) **Transferable skills** for your resume including: resource and program development, workshop facilitation, leadership, communication, fundraising, social media and videography.
- 2) You will **grow your network** by joining a group of outstanding young water leaders, connecting with like-minded youth from across Canada!
- 3) You will receive a [four-sight](#) assessment to understand how you can contribute to teams
- 4) You will receive **a reference letter from Waterlution** acknowledging your volunteer work and your specific skills and successes and we can act as a reference as you seek future employment (we can often open doors here too!)
- 5) Dedicated YAs will be invited to a **training and retreat** (training, local transport, meals and accommodations and flight costs are covered by Waterlution).
- 6) YAB will be **rewarded with gift cards and other prizes** for their outstanding work.
- 7) You will **inspire the next generation of Canadian water leaders!**
- 8) You will **gain access to Waterlution's global network** through our Water Innovation Labs, which can open many doors for your education and careers.

Please contact Olivia Allen, Project Lead for Youth Programs, if you have any questions: olivia.allen@waterlution.org

Applications will be reviewed on an on-going basis and **short phone interviews** will be scheduled with the Project Lead. After the interview, applicants **will submit a 1-minute video** introducing themselves and sharing knowledge about their local water. **Applicants will be notified if they are selected on Tuesday, May 29th, 2018.**

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