



Science Policy Intern Position 6 months

Translating science into policy: support for integrated water management in the Okanagan.

Description: The Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB) is seeking an intern to assist with science policymaking and integration in the Okanagan. The semi-arid Okanagan is one of Canada's driest watersheds and faces challenges from climate change variability and other influences on water quantity and quality. The intern will be expected to integrate a range of science (e.g., data, model outputs) and social science (e.g., stakeholder process) approaches to assist in delivery of the OBWB's on-the ground projects. This position will allow a young environmental professional to engage with a range of water science management and governance issues. The intern will work with community actors that include: local government water managers, First Nations, agriculturalists, senior government, environmental professionals and local businesses. He or she will support activities that include policy and management solutions for: source water protection, climate change adaptation, population growth and integrated land-use decisions. This project is ideal for an individual who has a multi-disciplinary background and is a strong communicator.

Specific Duties: The duties of the intern will focus on translating science into practical policies by conducting research and supporting communication activities including: (1) developing water governance and policy briefs grounded in contemporary science and integrated with new policy being developed by local, First Nation and senior governments; (2) collaborating with Okanagan water researchers to enhance water demand management programs; and (3) providing support to the OBWB Water Management Program by supporting the activities of the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council. Contemporary integrated water policy issues that the intern would be working on may include: fish management, ecological flow requirements, groundwater management, hydrologic monitoring, source protection, water quality, agricultural water reserves, demand management, and water economic instruments.

Requirements: The funding for this position comes from Environment Canada's Science Horizons Youth Internship Program, which has the following requirements:

- Master's degree or extensive post-graduate experience in a related position.
- Not currently attending or enrolled in school.
- Age 30 or less at the commencement of the internship.
- Unemployed or underemployed.
- Legally entitled to work in Canada.

Start date: The 6-month internship will begin no later than September 1, 2011, and be completed no later than March 31, 2012.

Location of Project: The intern will be based out of the OBWB office in the Central Okanagan Regional District Office, Kelowna, BC. Travel for fieldwork and consultation throughout the Okanagan will be central to the intern's work—candidate must possess a valid class 5 driver's licence.

Application Deadline: 4:00 pm, July 8, 2011.

To Apply: Please submit a cover letter and CV that clearly demonstrates how your experience relates to the duties described above. Electronic submissions only—send to: melissa.tesche@obwb.ca.

Salary: Commensurate with experience.

For more information about the Okanagan Basin Water Board and the Okanagan Water Management Program, please visit: www.obwb.ca.