Cabin Leader

2023 CampOUT! Volunteer Position Summary

Term: Leader Training May 19-22, Orientation Weekend June 9-10, CampOUT! June 28-July 3, 2023
Locations: Leader Training held at Chá7elkwnеч, Gambier Island, at Camp Fircom; Orientation Weekend held at a TBD location in Vancouver & CampOUT! held at Camp Fircom

Background
CampOUT! is an educational summer camp for queer, trans, Two-Spirit, questioning, and allied youth ages 14-21 from across British Columbia & the Yukon. The camp is held on the unceded Coast Salish territory of Gambier Island. Under the sponsorship of the University of British Columbia, the camp provides opportunities to develop leadership skills, build self-esteem, foster hope and resilience, and connect with resources to support health and well-being (physical, mental, social, sexual, educational, and spiritual). Participants return to their home communities with new skills, resources, and friendships. CampOUT! provides a supportive space for LGBTQ2S+ youth to celebrate and be celebrated for who they are. For more information, visit http://campout.ubc.ca/.

Job Description
Cabin Leaders will be responsible for assisting with the planning, preparation, leadership, wrap-up, and evaluation of CampOUT!-related initiatives throughout summer 2023. Cabin Leaders participate in a four-day leadership training program and develop community-building programming for camp. In addition, Cabin Leaders are responsible for campers' constant care and supervision at CampOUT! Two Cabin Leaders are assigned a cabin with 8-10 campers. Cabin Leaders support campers by offering guidance in all aspects of daily camp life. Cabin Leaders notice when campers need additional support or when their needs are not being met and bring that to Community Mentors, Care Team, Camp Director and UBC staff. Compassion, flexibility, enthusiasm, self-awareness, patience, collaboration, and a willingness to seek guidance from supervisors are essential.

Requirements
- Ability to stay on Gambier Island for Leadership Training Camp May 19-22, 2023. Water taxi transport, accommodation, and food are provided.
- Ability to attend a Leadership Team Orientation Weekend in Vancouver on June 9-10, 2023 at a TBD location in Vancouver.
- Ability to stay on Gambier Island for CampOUT! operation dates June 28 – July 3, 2023.
- Sign a confidentiality agreement and provide information for CampOUT! to obtain a Criminal Record Check, as sensitive information will be engaged with throughout the position.
- Must comply with the CampOUT! Community Agreement (no sex, alcohol, or drug use permitted during your time at camp)
- Must live in B.C. or the Yukon
- Must be between 19 and 30 years of age
- Must respect the confidentiality of all participants
- COVID-19 vaccination is strongly recommended and may be required

Accessibility
CampOUT! strives to be accessible to community members who may be facing multiple barriers to participation. If anything listed in this description is a barrier to your participation, please do not hesitate to contact the Camp Director so that accommodations can be made.

Note: All your personal information will be confidential. A media release is optional, and the short biography you provide will only be shared with youth and adult camp participants and staff.
Duties

- Care for the safety and well-being of all campers
- Act as a role model through positive behaviour, specifically by complying with all University of British Columbia rules, camp safety policies, and our CampOUT! Community Agreement
- Assist the Camp Director, Program Committee, and Community Mentors in delivering camp programming and related outreach activities
- Be available to campers as needed
- Follow and support agreed-upon health and safety practices. This may include conducting a COVID-19 rapid test prior to camp and masking indoors and encouraging the same of campers.
- Be available to support campers in activity transition times (wake-ups, meal times, program transitions, free time, evening programs, cabin time, and bedtime)
- Enact clear boundaries, and practice mentorship by maintaining positive and appropriate relationships with camp youth before, during, and after camp (in-person and online)
- Demonstrate an approachable, empathetic, and patient demeanour to facilitate effective communication and establish meaningful personal relationships with the campers in your cabin and small group
- Immediately report any injuries or illnesses of campers or oneself to Care Team and Camp Director
- Inform Camp Director of any difficulties or unusual situations that may occur
- Encourage campers, in words and actions, to participate as fully as possible in all parts of camp
- Support the program by ensuring the smooth running of activities and meal times
- Ensure the campers’ safety by making sure they are accounted for at all times
- Monitor campers’ behaviour and guide them away from harmful or disruptive behaviour, towards respectful and safe behaviour
- Assist in coordinating pre-camp meetings to finalize any workshops or activities led by Cabin Leaders
- Be able to explain the intent and reasons for CampOUT! and University of British Columbia policies, and when appropriate, obtain necessary clarification of these policies from the camp administrators

Qualifications

- Must have a valid Social Insurance Number and live in BC or the Yukon
- Strong interest in social justice and intersectionality
- Knowledge of issues facing queer and trans youth
- Strong interest in being an ally to all marginalized communities
- Excellent organizational and planning skills
- Strong communication skills
- Good listening skills and sound judgement
- Attention to detail
- Ability to work well with others as well as independently, and can take initiative when necessary
- Prior camp experience is an asset

Organizational Status

CampOUT! is housed in the Dean of Education’s Office (DNSO), under the direction of the Faculty of Education of the University of British Columbia. DNSO provides CampOUT! with a supportive institutional infrastructure, operational resources and numerous opportunities to collaborate and build new relationships across communities. By supporting CampOUT! DNSO is helping to fulfil the University’s commitment to foster safer learning spaces and strengthen community outreach both at the Institute and on campus.

Cabin Leaders report to the Camp Director. Cabin leaders work in collaboration with their Co-Cabin Leader, Volunteer Community Mentors, Care Team, Camp Director, and other Cabin Leaders. Cabin Leaders act as one of the primary contact points for the 8-12 campers in their assigned cabin. Cabin Leaders receive mentorship from Volunteer Community Mentors, Care Team, Camp Director, and returning Cabin Leaders.
Supervision Received
Works with and under the supervision and general direction of the CampOUT! Camp Director. Receives guidance, training, encouragement, and feedback from Camp Director, UBC Staff, returning leaders, Care Team, and Volunteer Community Mentors. Works independently and collaboratively. Consults with supervisor on matters which depart from established policy or procedures.

Working Conditions
Rustic summer camp environment. Accommodations have twin-size beds, heat, running water and electricity; bathrooms have hot water, showers, electricity. A full kitchen, and common area are available to the whole leadership team. Cabin Leaders share an open plan cabin with plenty of bunks with another Cabin Leader and 8-12 campers. Cabins have access to communal bathrooms with showers. Meals are served in a large dining hall, and workshops are delivered in a range of indoor and outdoor locations. View images of facilities here: https://www.fircom.ca/facilities

Consequence of Error/Judgment
The Cabin Leader plays a key role in maintaining the safety of CampOUT! and has a direct impact on the experiences of youth attending the camp and the Leadership Team. Cabin Leaders may deal with unique situations requiring sound judgment, strong boundaries, and discretion. The consequences of error are high, and negligent or inattentive actions could place the safety of camp participants in jeopardy and negatively impact the reputation of the camp, the Faculty of Education, community partners and the University.

Token of Appreciation
A $500.00 token of appreciation will be mailed out upon completion of the term. In addition, to support the role of the Cabin Leaders, UBC provides a comprehensive leadership training workshop before camp to support personal and professional development skills in strengths-based social justice leadership.

Application
1. By February 20, fill out the online Leadership application form, indicating your interest for the Cabin Leader role.

An open and diverse community fosters the inclusion of voices that have been underrepresented or discouraged. Therefore, we encourage applications from members of groups that have been marginalized on any grounds enumerated under the B.C. Human Rights Code, including sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, racialization, disability, political belief, religion, marital or family status, age, and/or status as a First Nation, Metis, Inuit, or Indigenous person. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

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(Pronouns: she, her, hers)
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