

Canadian Museum of Nature seeks volunteers to assist with school groups

The Canadian Museum of Nature is recruiting English and French speaking volunteers who have an interest in nature to join its dynamic school programme team, now in its 33rd year.

This is an exciting time to volunteer at the Museum, which is nearing the end of its five-year renovation. In May 2010 the Museum will be fully open, with a new signature Water Gallery, an Earth Gallery, wonderful travelling exhibitions and a special high-definition theatre. Presently open to the public is the beautifully modernized West Wing with the Talisman Energy Fossil Gallery, Mammal Gallery, and Bird Gallery. The Discovery Zone offers hands-on programming as well as captivating HD nature movies. Structural and mechanical upgrades, heritage restoration, as well as an elegant glass “lantern” gracing the entrance are also part of this comprehensive Renewal project.

Training is offered to enhance the volunteers’ skills in directing activities, leading discussions and serving as resources for the students. The orientation will take place on September 14, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at the Museum at 240 McLeod Street (corner of Metcalfe St). Volunteers are required to commit a half-day per week from September to April. Applicants should be good communicators and comfortable working in teams in a busy environment. They should also be energetic and able to adapt to changing circumstances.

The Canadian Museum of Nature is Canada’s national natural history and natural science museum. It promotes awareness of Canada’s natural heritage through permanent and travelling exhibitions, public education programmes, active scientific research, and the maintenance of a 10-million-specimen collection.

For more information about volunteering with school programmes or to learn about other opportunities, please contact Katherine Day, Coordinator, Volunteer Programme, at 613-566-4261. Information about volunteering is available online at http://www.nature.ca/museum/volntr_e.cfm.