Community Change Ambassador
position description

Role overview

UBtheChange Activators provide support and engagement opportunities for student to explore complex social issues through fun and engaging events, peer advising, and pop-up activities.

Organizational Relationship

UBtheChange Activators are a group of five to ten UBC students igniting a culture of pro-social action at UBC. The Activators will be directly supported by the Student Engagement Coordinator at the Centre for Community Engaged Learning.

Primary Functions

Engage in Personal and Professional Skill Development

Activators will develop competencies in the areas pertinent to role, including:

- Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)
- Experiential Education
- Ethical Community Engagement
- Systemic Analysis of Community Challenges
- Team Facilitation and Support

Provide intentional and effective support for UBC to learn about and engaged with complex social issues through:

- Bringing a strong student perspective to program planning
- Staffing booths at campus events
- Planning and Facilitating pop-up engagement activities
- Planning and facilitating community building events (e.g. neighbourhood explorations, community education days)
• Promoting on-campus resources that may benefit students (e.g. wellness, coaching, mentorship)

Role model outstanding student leadership on campus

• Embrace the role as an ambassador for inclusive student leadership on campus and in the many communities we work with
• Contribute to an environment at UBC that is dedicated to equity and mutual respect.

Time commitments

Important Dates

• Spring Welcome – March 28, 2020 (full day, on campus)
• Activator and Reading Week Student Leader Training and Orientation – April 30 and May 1, 2020 (full day, off campus)
• Fall Training – September 6th, 2020 (full day, on campus)

Regular Meetings

Student leaders must be available without classes or other activities for weekly meetings on Tuesdays from 5pm-6:30pm

• Term 1: first meeting September 10th, last meeting December 1st
• Term 2: first meeting January 5th, last meeting April 6th

Weekly Commitment

In addition to regular meetings, commit to an average of 5 hours a week from September to March. Hours will vary depending on program schedule. Hours will be reduced during final exams.

• Help plan and facilitate a minimum of two program events each term (one on campus, one off), based on your schedule, strengths, and learning goals. Program events include:
Boothng at events

• Pop-Up Engagement cafes (on campus)
• Community Education Days/Neighbourhood Tours (off campus)
• Other program events (e.g. career panels, social events, year-end presentations)

• Advise peers on opportunities to engage with social issues and build skills in community

• An individual check-in with a program advisor once each term (based on your availability)

Desired skills and experience

• Be a UBC student in good standing
• Demonstrated commitment to the program and ability to attend all events and meetings
• Preference will be given to students who have experience volunteering in community, engaging with social issues, and/or mobilizing students

Strong applicants will also possess all or some of the following qualifications:

• Passion for engaging their peers in complex social issues
• Previous or equivalent experience in community engaged learning (e.g. Trek, Reading Week Projects, community service learning as part of a course, International Service Learning, or similar programs)
• The ability to work independently and collaboratively as a part of a diverse team
• Outstanding interpersonal and intercultural communication skills
• Enthusiasm and experience with group or team leadership with university students
• Excellent organizational skills: ability to prioritize, multi-task, and meet deadlines
• High level of self-awareness and commitment to ongoing learning
• Ability to take initiative
Benefits of participating in this role

Develop a specific set of professional competencies

- Enhance leadership skills in the areas of communication, team-building, relationship building, intercultural awareness, and networking.

- Gain tangible skills in facilitation, event planning, project management, professional communication, and public speaking.

- Develop competencies in experiential education, ethical community engagement, asset-based community development (ABCD), program development, and self-directed learning

Receive sponsorship to professional development opportunities

- UBC Student Leadership Conference (January 2021)

- Other local workshops or events that are relevant to the role

Increased opportunity for on-campus and community networking

- Opportunities to connect and network with local community organizations and non-profit professionals

- Be a part of the broader Peer Programs Network, which engages both within and beyond the UBC campus community in support of and service to others.

Contact information for questions

Krista.Knechtle@ubc.ca