UBtheChange Community Activators position description

Note: Due to the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the details of this role may change during the planning process for the 2022/2023 academic year.

Timelines and details for this position, including the timing of the projects, are subject to change. If you have questions about what this might look like, including your individual circumstances for the 2022/2023 academic year, feel free to contact Sydney directly at sydney.kroes@ubc.ca.

Role overview

The UBtheChange Community Activators collaborate with diverse stakeholders to plan and implement one community day(s) of service project per term. Their work directly benefits local communities and facilitates meaningful learning experiences for UBC students.

Organizational Relationship

Each UBtheChange Community Activator will be directly supported by the Student Engagement Coordinator at the Centre for Community Engaged Learning and be part of the Centre’s UBtheChange Activator Network.

Primary Functions

Engage in Personal and Professional Skill Development

The UBtheChange Community Activators develop competencies in the areas pertinent to role, including:

- Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD)
- Community Partnership & Engagement
- Experiential Education
- Project Management
- Team Facilitation and Support
Provide intentional and effective support for participating students and community partners

Community Activators will work to support community partners to prepare for one community project engagement per term at an elementary school or non-profit community organization. Projects and planning may be conducted in person or virtually, depending on Provincial Health Guidelines.

An important part of the Community Activator role is to help UBC students learn from their community project experience through critical reflection activities. The Community Activators also provide training, peer leadership, and overall support for their team of UBC student participants. This includes:

- Regular engagement & communication with a team of student volunteers
- Facilitate orientation and peer reflection activities for student volunteers

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

- Complete Community Building Education online course (July-August).
- Role training will be held in mid-August or early September with dates confirmed based on the availability of the cohort.
- Potential Project Days Term 1: October 8-9, Fall Reading Break
- Potential Project Days Term 2: February Reading Break

* Program dates subject to change.

Regular Meetings
Student leaders must be available without classes or other activities for bi weekly meetings on Wednesdays from 5pm-6:30pm PST

- Term 1: first meeting September 7th, last meeting December 7th
- Term 2: first meeting January 11th, last meeting April 5th

Regular Commitment

- 15 hours of community-based project planning over September-March in addition to our regular meetings. This includes attending planning meetings with your project team and a site visit to your elementary school or non-profit community organization.
- An individual check-in with a program advisor (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
- May be required to complete a Criminal Record check (if required by Community Partner Organization).
- Preference will be given to students who have had previous experience as a UBtheChaneg Activator, Reading Week Student Leader, or other campus-wide student leadership roles.

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

- Previous or equivalent experience in community-based experiential learning (e.g. Map the System, Reading Week Projects, Social Impact Lab, community service learning as part of a course, International Service Learning, or similar programs 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

- Excellent written and verbal 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, personal and professional growth, diversity/awareness, and networking.
• Gain tangible skills in event planning, project management, professional communication, and public speaking
• Develop competencies in asset-based community development (ABCD), community partnership & engagement, and self-directed learning

Receive sponsorship to professional development opportunities

• UBC Student Leadership Conference (January 2022)

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

Sydney.kroes@ubc.ca