

Wet'suwet'en Genealogy Internship Job Posting

Posted: July 9, 2020

Deadline for expressions of interest: July 31, 2020

Submit to: Gretchen Woodman at gwoodman@wetsuweten.com

Wet'suwet'en Genealogy Research Mentorship Program

The over-arching goal:

to gather, record, organize, analyse and report knowledge/information regarding Wet'suwet'en genealogical data as it is utilized in the traditional system (feasts, inheritance, land and resource ownership, etc.) and by contemporary Wet'suwet'en social and political organizations (member services, child, family and community wellness programs, etc.).

Participants need to have a base of relevant knowledge and skills but it is expected that many of the skills and much of the knowledge will be gained during the project. Knowledge will be shared between all participants – we will all learn together from each other, from documented sources and, especially, from the chiefs, elders and community members who are willing to teach us.

The positions:

We are seeking 5 genealogical interns, one for each of the 5 Wet'suwet'en Clans to work 4 days per month on this genealogical project. The position starts August 2020 runs until March 31, 2021. We are able to offer the interns \$25/hr (\$175/day x 4 days month). Work hours can be flexible (evenings, weekends, etc.). You will be working under the mentorship of the Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs as well as Dr. Heather Harris, retired university professor and genealogical expert who gave two weeks of testimony during the Delgamuukw-Gisday'wa Court Case.

Location: open to House Group members regardless of where they reside (work can be done remotely, virtually)

Suggested qualifications for Wet'suwet'en Genealogy Program

Interns:

Knowledge of Wet'suwet'en culture, especially social structure (kinship system, kin terms, hereditary system, houses, clans, house chiefs and members)

-ability to speak, read and write in Wet'suwet'en is desired

Good **English reading and writing skills**

-basic **computers skills**

-especially use of Word

-ability to **record (sound/video) and transcribe interviews**

Knowledge of **protocols**

-understanding and respect for ownership of Wet'suwet'en knowledge (intellectual property)

-how to politely approach, speak to and thank, chiefs, elders and other community members for providing information

Ability to undertake **research from documents and interviews**

-ability to find relevant written documents: published, community-produced reports, previously recorded interviews/documents, archival documents etc.

-ability to discern project-relevant information in documents

-ability to identify appropriate individuals to approach for information

-willingness to learn from and integrate traditional Wet'suwet'en and non-Wet'suwet'en sources of data

Ability to **record and organize data** in reports and databases

-and to organize and file data so that it is accessible and usable to current and future researchers and future generations of Wet'suwet'en

Ability to **communicate knowledge** gathered in the project, as required, to chiefs, house and clan members, project staff, community members and others face-to-face and in various forms of media

Ability to work cooperatively and respectfully with Genealogy Program and other personnel

-to be reliable

-accountable to the community

-dedicated to the project

-and to appreciate that it is an honour and a privilege to be trusted with

Wet'suwet'en knowledge passed on through generations to help ensure the well-being of current and future generations

Awit Zah!!