



**MARS**  
WILDLIFE RESCUE CENTRE

MARS VISITOR CENTRE  
GUIDE/WILDLIFE EDUCATOR  
2022

Title: Visitor Centre Guide/Wildlife Educator

Type: Full time/temporary (starting May, latest end Sept. 3rd)

Schedule: Thursdays through Sundays, holiday Mondays 7.5 hours day/ 30 hrs/week for 8 to 16 weeks

Number of positions available: 4

Compensation: \$16.50/hour

Closing: Open until filled

MARS (Moutainaire Avian Rescue Society) Wildlife Rescue Centre is a busy wildlife rehabilitation and education facility located in Merville on Vancouver Island, BC. The MARS hospital treated over 1400 patients in 2021, including raptors, waterfowl, songbirds, raccoons, and fawns. We have been rescuing and rehabilitating wildlife since 1995.

[Our mission: to conserve and protect wildlife and its natural habitat through wildlife rehabilitation and education.](#)

The MARS Visitor Centre was established to complement our mission statement, and officially opened in June 2019. It features an exhibits hall, interactive displays, and a wildlife-themed gift shop. As well as our indoor offerings, we provide guests with outdoor tours and a chance to see eagles, owls, and other native birds that are resident educational ambassadors.

**The Guide/Wildlife Educator** will work at the MARS Visitor Centre in support of our education program as a member of a team. They will conduct small group, pre-booked tours, and scheduled school and summer camp tours. They may attend public events that promote wildlife conservation and support fundraising for MARS. They will greet and orient guests, provide ecological interpretation through a conservation lens, manage guest and wildlife safety, and support sales in the gift shop. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to gain valuable experience with education and tourism, as well as gain knowledge about local wildlife ecology and conservation.

### Responsibilities

- Assist in the implementation of the MARS wildlife education program with supervision from the education coordinator and visitor centre manager, and guidance from volunteer educators, gift shop volunteers, and ambassador bird handlers.

- Lead small group tours of MARS (outdoor and indoors) for people of all ages and abilities.
- Assist with planning and implementation of programs or activities at the MARS site that are engaging, convey our messages of wildlife and habitat protection, are age appropriate for various groups, and are well suited to the seasonal conditions.
- Supervise guests to ensure their safety and the safety of animals on site. Ensure standards of safety (including Covid protocols) are maintained for all program attendees in buildings, on trails, and surrounding the ambassador bird enclosures.
- Monitor and assist in reporting on program attendance and property activities for board reports including recommendations for ongoing program improvements, and future site development.
- Assist in promotion of MARS tours.
- Support the educational and fundraising activities of the special events team on site and at community events, and of the education steering committee at the MARS Visitor Centre.
- Assist in gift shop duties, including display of inventory and sales of merchandise to fund rehabilitation programs as needed. Assist with sales handling and donation processing.
- Assist with design and organization of displays, including setup and takedown of outdoor education displays
- Assist the special events team to engage the public about wildlife and human impacts on them. Process sales and donations at scheduled events.
- Help maintain a clean visitor building with light custodial duties (daily cleaning of washrooms, sweeping, dusting, disposal of garbage etc.).

### **Eligibility**

This position is dependent on funding from the federal Canada Summer Jobs program. To be eligible for this funding, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment;
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment;
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.

### **Requirements**

- A background in education, tourism, biology, or environmental studies;

- Strong interpersonal communication & story telling skills; comfort in speaking with the public;
- Energetic, flexible, positive, creative, prepared to work with diverse populations;
- Cash handling experience an asset;
- Must live locally, have a valid driver's license, and provide own transportation to and from work;
- The successful candidate will need to submit a Criminal Record Check before starting work.
- The successful candidate will need to submit proof of vaccination against Covid 19.

### **Application Instructions**

To apply for this position, please email your resume and cover letter (as .pdf files) to [info@marswildliferescue.com](mailto:info@marswildliferescue.com) with your name and "Visitor Centre Guide/Wildlife Educator" in the subject line. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews.