

# RDCO Job Description



**Position Title:** Indigenous Park Guardian / Park Patroller Student

**Division:** Parks Services

**Reports To:** Manager of Parks & Resource Operations

**Date:** June 26, 2018

## Job Purpose/Summary:

The Indigenous Land Guardian / Park Patroller Student will assist Parks Services staff by acting as parks guardian in sharing traditional ecological and cultural knowledge of the Okanagan syilx territory and stewardship within Regional Parks. Youth in this position will also have the opportunity to develop a document in consultation with syilx elders to determine which aspects of their culture they can share with regional district staff and the public so we can enrich our existing program base to showcase our local syilx heritage. The term for this position requires a commitment to working a 40 hour week which includes working weekends, evenings, and holidays. This position can extend into the Fall of 2018 on a part-time basis and would include weekend work.

## Principal Accountabilities:

1. Contribute to ensuring park safety by obtaining a good working knowledge of RDCO Park Bylaws and in concert with functional and direct supervisors, advise the public of bylaw and safety requirements when appropriate;
2. In partnership with Regional Parks and Westbank First Nations assist in the creation of unique programs for the public to promote awareness and stewardship within our Regional Parks and the unceded Okanagan syilx territory.
3. Patrol one or more Regional Parks on foot, by vehicle, by bicycle, or by boat and provide information and assist injured, disorientated, or lost park users;
4. Assist in the education and awareness of the public about their understanding and knowledge of the syilx language, culture and values;
5. Have a visible presence within the Regional Park system to observe, record and report broken, damaged, or dangerous park conditions, environmental and cultural concerns
6. Promote public and staff safety in compliance with the Regional District Regulatory Bylaws as well as the RDCO Occupational Health and Safety Policy;
7. Assist and participate in the implementation of the Regional Park Risk Management program; public safety and wildlife monitoring programs;
8. Act as an ambassador for the RDCO and Westbank First Nations in sharing information in regards to park signage that incorporates syilx language, culture and history and traditional knowledge of the area;
9. Other duties as assigned.

## Knowledge, Skills & Experience

### Educational Background Required:

- Between the ages of 18-30 years of age;
- Enrolled in high school or a post-secondary educational program in the Fall of 2018 such as:
  - First Nations Stewardship Program
  - Natural/ Sustainable Resource Management
  - Fish, Wildlife, Recreation Management
  - Natural Resources
  - Biology
  - Environmental Sciences
- Valid First Aid and CPR certificate.
- Bear Awareness training preferred.
- Valid BC Driver's License and provision of a Driver's Abstract with a satisfactory current driver's profile.

### Experience Required:

- Strong workplace safety practices.
- Good understanding and knowledge of Indigenous culture, in particular syilx;
- Understanding of park regulation/bylaw awareness within a park environment.
- Understanding of conservation of natural areas and resource inventory.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Organized self-starter.
- Ability to work with minimal supervision.

### Working Conditions:

- **Physical Effort:** Low to high physical effort while working in all types of terrains while in the parks. Some heavy lifting may be required. Extended periods hiking, biking in all types of terrain.
- **Physical Environment:** Field work with exposure to all weather conditions.
- **Mental Stress:** Frequent interaction with park patrons. Multiple projects. Public complaints and concerns.
- **Sensory Attention:** Must be aware of physical surroundings. Multi-tasking.