

AMBASSADOR VOLUNTEERS

Roles & Responsibilities

Enhance visitor experience at Bow Habitat Station! Encourage visitors of all ages to get hands-on as they explore the Discovery Centre and Aquariums, or while they practice casting a line into the Kid's Can Catch Trout Pond. This role requires direct engagement with Bow Habitat Station staff, volunteers and visitors.

Bow Habitat Station offers three unique ambassador volunteer opportunities:

1. Discovery Centre Ambassador

Deliver environmental information and educational activities related to the display content in the Discovery Centre Galleries: Water for Life, Aquatic Alberta, Fish Forever, Stewardship and Fantastic Forests.



Tasks may include:

- Greeting visitors in the Discovery Centre and providing directional information
- Sharing historical information about the facility
- Highlighting key exhibit elements
- Delivering fun facts and current scientific knowledge related to display content
- Delivering educational activities at a Discovery Cart (i.e. scavenger hunts, bio facts, water science demonstrations)

2. Aquarium Ambassador

Deliver environmental information and educational activities related to the display content and wild caught fish in Bow Habitat Station's Fantastic Fish Gallery and Aquariums.



Tasks may include:

- Deliver gallery specific information/details
- Greeting visitors in the Discovery Centre and providing directional information
- Sharing historical information about the facility
- Highlighting key exhibit elements
- Delivering fun facts and current scientific knowledge related to display content
- Delivering educational activities at a Discovery Cart (i.e. scavenger hunts, bio facts, fish spawning activity, magnetic fishing game)
- Share knowledge of Alberta's sportfish and aquatic ecosystems
- Highlight key species and provide identification tips/tricks

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3. Trout Pond Ambassador

Deliver responsible angling messaging and educational activities relevant and related to the Kids Can Catch Trout Pond. Experience angling in Alberta or knowledge of Alberta's fishes is considered an asset, but not required.



Tasks may include:

- Greeting visitors at the Kids Can Catch Trout Pond
- Providing information about Bow Habitat Station, the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery and Provincial Stocking Program
- Sharing knowledge of Alberta's sportfish, aquatic ecosystems and current sportfishing regulations
- Highlighting key species and provide identification tips/tricks
- Encouraging visitors to practice angling with their own equipment or with gear rented from Bow Habitat station
- Demonstrating responsible angling best practices, including how to read the regulations, side arm casting, landing techniques and release techniques
- Delivery of enhancement activities (i.e. bean bag toss, casting practice)

Qualifications for Ambassador Volunteers

- Must complete a clear police information check and vulnerable sector check prior to first shift.
- Willingness to provide positive and constructive feedback related to shifts and tasks.
- An engaging and welcoming personality.
- Enjoy working with the public and talking with a variety of age groups.
- Enjoy working with younger age groups (typically ages 3-12).
- Ability to help maintain a respectful learning atmosphere.

Typical Shift Availability

- Discovery Centre Ambassador and Aquarium Ambassador shifts are typically offered year-round on Tuesdays through Saturdays (and Sundays from May through October) between 10:00am and 4:00pm; and on the third Thursday evening of each month between 5:00pm and 8:00pm.
- Trout Pond Ambassador shifts are seasonally offered between May 15 and October 31, typically between 10:00am and 4:00pm; and on the third Thursday evening of each month between 5:00pm and 8:00pm.

Minimum Shift Requirements

Ambassador volunteers are required to fulfill a minimum shift requirement of nine hours per calendar year.

Training

- Must attend a Prospective Volunteer Orientation at Bow Habitat Station prior to first shift (approx. 1 hour).
- Must complete Occupational Health and Safety Training at Bow Habitat Station prior to first shift (approx. 2 hours).
- One mandatory training session is required for Trout Pond Ambassador Volunteers focused on reading and understanding Alberta's fishing regulations, engaging with visitors, and special policies and procedures for tasks at the Kids Can Catch Trout Pond. (approx. 2 hours)

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- One mandatory training session is required for Discovery Centre Ambassador and Aquarium Ambassador Volunteers focused on specific learning activities and their objectives for each grade/age group. Tips and strategies for engaging with various age groups, and methods for maintaining a respectful learning atmosphere will also be provided (approx. 2 hours).
- Task specific training available, as needed.
- Optional volunteer training sessions available throughout the year to further develop knowledge of Alberta's ecosystems, local biodiversity, public communication, group management and delivery strategies.