

**TITLE: SEASONAL PARK INTERPRETER (WAGE)**
**CLASSIFICATION: PROGRAM SERVICES 1 (PS1)**

## ORGANIZATIONAL CONTEXT

**MINISTRY: ALBERTA ENVIRONMENT AND PARKS**
**DIVISION: PARKS DIVISION**

## JOB OVERVIEW

Park Interpreters are essential frontline ambassadors and educators for Alberta Parks. Through specialized public engagement techniques, Park Interpreters promote safe and responsible outdoor recreation, and inform visitors about conservation values, biodiversity, cultural heritage, and stewardship of natural environments.

Park Interpreters develop and deliver personal and non-personal programming to attract visitation to the park system, to facilitate sustainable opportunities for park recreation, and to foster positive behaviours in support of conserving protected lands. This position enables visitors to responsibly explore and enjoy the diverse beautiful landscapes of Alberta, while promoting key messages for the responsible management and safe operations of Alberta Parks. Park Interpreters support the mandated purposes of parks and provincial recreation areas as described in the *Provincial Parks Act*.

Park Interpreters also work cooperatively with stewardship groups, partners and volunteers to build connections between local communities, key stakeholders, and the landscapes in which they live, work, and play.

The position helps develop and present engaging interpretive, outreach and education programs within the Parks Operations Division and reports to a permanent Visitor Services Supervisor/Coordinator of their assigned park or region. Seasonal Interpreters work within Departmental and Divisional action plans to provide a variety of personal programming and experiences to park visitors, students, community groups and other audiences.

Park Interpreters play a key role in raising awareness and understanding of the provincial park system and protected land management as they work with staff, volunteers and contractors to achieve Alberta Parks' vision of *inspiring people to discover, value, protect, and enjoy the natural world and the benefits it provides for current and future generations*.

## ACCOUNTABILITIES

With the guidance of the Visitor Services Supervisor/Coordinator, the position:

1. Will develop and deliver quality programming and experiences in Alberta Parks and surrounding communities that may include, but are not limited to:
  - Responsible and sustainable nature-based outdoor recreation, interpretation programs on biodiversity and conservation values, formal education initiatives, cultural and traditional land use, public outreach, and educating the public on important park safety messages and behaviors.

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- Researching potential topics, audiences, and engagement approaches that are relevant to the park location, align with educational curriculum, and support management priorities of the provincial parks system.
  - Developing or adapting detailed event or program plans that consider information flow, park resources, and interpretive techniques to ensure highly engaging interactions with audiences.
  - Leading or assisting with program preparation and logistics - such as promotions, resource preparations, props, orientation and training, audio/visual support, collection and analysis of related statistics, and safety plans.
  - Collection and handling of fees or program revenue in accordance with department policy and procedures.
  - Testing, evaluating and refining approaches for recurring programming.
  - Collecting and entering program statistics.
2. May lead or assist in the organization and delivery of programming or training for staff, volunteers, partners or contractors.
3. May assist in the creation, production, distribution and delivery of marketing services including, but not limited to:
- Providing information at park sites such as trails, campgrounds and/or visitor centres.
  - Print, audio, visual or social media/advertising.
  - Messaging associated with temporary, fixed or digital signage.

#### Ministry Specific Accountabilities:

Park Interpreters connect visitors and communities to the diverse recreational opportunities, natural and cultural history of Alberta, and our provincial parks system. They bring enjoyment, meaning, and safety to visitor experiences. They are required to:

- Exercise their knowledge in the development and delivery of interpretive programs/experiences that capture and hold audience's attention. Audiences can vary considerably in age, cultural background, interests, knowledge as well as cognitive and physical abilities.
- Credibly convey complex concepts on an extensive range of recreational, ecological, and cultural topics.
- Perform their work in a wide variety of outdoor conditions - including the variability of outdoor settings and venues.
- Perform work that enhances the marketability of park sites and services.
- Work closely with partners, volunteers, contractors, and a variety of staff.
- Ensure that all work-related activities are performed in accordance with OH&S legislation and guidelines.

#### JOB REQUIREMENTS

To excel in this position, Seasonal Interpreters should possess:

- Two-years of post-secondary study or equivalency in a related field (natural sciences, education, outdoor recreation, communications, history, performing arts, etc.). Directly related experience or education will be considered on the basis of one year of experience for one year of education or one year of education for one year of experience.
- Some knowledge and/or skill in interpretive programming including the use of interpretive media, interpretive techniques such as props, advanced communications skills, and audience engagement.

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- Knowledge of and experience in the skills of the performing arts which may include acting, voice, movement, music, and singing.
- Knowledge and personal experience in responsible group management and safe outdoor recreation.
- Knowledge and understanding of Indigenous culture and the cultural history of Alberta.
- Knowledge of paleontology (for candidates seeking employment at Dinosaur Provincial Park)
- Skills in project planning, special events, and/or interpretive scriptwriting.
- Knowledge of Alberta's fish, wildlife, plants, ecosystems, and biodiversity.
- Well-developed organizational and time management skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills with a focus on presentation skills, facilitation and visitor interaction.
- Knowledge of Alberta's provincial parks and protected areas system, as well as Alberta Parks' mandate.
- Experience leading/mentoring staff.
- Standard First-Aid certificate with CPR.
- Valid full or Graduated Class 5 driver's license. Class 4 license required for some parks.
- Defensive driving certificate.

Knowledge of Alberta's Provincial Park system, archeology, paleontology, and outdoor skills are considered assets.

### BEHAVIOURAL COMPETENCIES

- **BUILD COLLABORATIVE ENVIRONMENTS** by promoting collaboration and commitment, encourage broad thinking on projects, work together to eliminate barriers to progress, and facilitate open and respectful dialogue.
- **CREATIVE AND PROBLEM SOLVING** using a wide range of communication techniques to promptly and professionally address issues.
- **AGILITY** to think creatively while working in a changing work environment.