



WILDLIFE PRESERVATION CANADA

5420 Highway 6 North, Guelph, ON N1H 6J2

admin@wildlifepreservation.ca

wildlifepreservation.ca

1-800-956-6608

Position: Lead Bumble Bee Breeding Technician, Wildlife Preservation Canada

Project: Native Pollinator Initiative

Location: Based in southern Ontario. The position will require regular commuting to work on property of African Lion Safari in Cambridge, Ontario

Type of position: Full-time (37.5 hours /week)

Duration: March 1 – October 28, 2022, with possibility of extension

Rate of pay: \$16-18 /hour depending on experience, plus 4% vacation pay

Hours of work: Exact schedule is flexible to meet the needs of the project. Some evening and weekend work will be required, particularly in the spring and summer

Position Summary:

Wildlife Preservation Canada's (WPC) Native Pollinator Initiative is seeking a Lead Bumble Bee Breeding Technician to assist with activities related to their Native Pollinator Initiative in southern Ontario. The technician's primary role will be to lead and carry out husbandry and research activities at WPC's Bumble Bee Conservation Lab, including related data collection and management. The goal of this program is to develop effective conservation rearing techniques for at-risk bumble bee species. The technician will also be involved in other program activities as required, including assisting with wild bumble bee surveys in southern Ontario, outreach and training, data entry, management, and analysis, and report and manuscript writing. This position offers a unique opportunity for hands-on work with at-risk and declining pollinator species, as part of a holistic and multi-faceted conservation recovery program.

Major Responsibilities:

- Lead and carry out WPC's bumble bee conservation rearing, which includes detailed colony observations, colony care and husbandry including food preparation and feeding, data collection and entry, and protocol development
- Participate in other Native Pollinator Initiative program activities as required, including wild bumble bee surveys, data compilation and analysis, science communication and outreach programs, and report preparation
- Contribute to WPC's communication efforts, including social media, blogs, newsletter articles, etc., as directed



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Required Skills and Experience:

- Possess a basic understanding of pollinator biology, conservation, and ecology
- Completion of a relevant college or university program (e.g., biology, ecology, environmental science, wildlife biology, zoology, or other similar disciplines)
- Strong interest in ecological field research, including species at risk issues
- Ability to work both in a team and independently. Recognizes when clarification of correct procedures is necessary
- Detail-oriented and able to accurately enter, manage, and analyze data
- Willing and able to travel long distances across southern Ontario by car
- A valid Ontario driver's licence (G-class) and access to your own vehicle. Mileage will be compensated for any field work at \$0.43/km
- Physically fit and able to endure hiking outside in rough terrains, variable weather conditions, and with exposure to biting and stinging insects.
- Able and willing to work long hours (up to 12 hours/day), including some evenings and weekends
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint)

Highly Preferred Skills and Experience:

- Science communication skills, including virtual and in-person presentations
- Proven comfort handling bumble bees in both field and lab settings
- Plant and insect identification skills, with an emphasis on pollinators (especially bumble bees) and pollinator-friendly plants
- Experience conducting biological surveys and working with species-at-risk.
- Familiarity and experience with animal husbandry principles
- Personable, with good communication skills, a positive attitude, and highly self-motivated
- Valid First Aid and CPR certification is an asset

Skills and Knowledge to be Gained From this Position:

- Insect husbandry
- Science communication
- Lab management
- Understanding species at risk recovery processes



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- Problem solving
- Data management
- Experimental design
- Bumble bee and wildflower identification
- Population surveying
- Blog writing

Eligibility:

This position will be partially funded through ECO Canada's Science Horizons Youth Internship <https://eco.ca/environmental-professionals/employment-funding-and-job-board/apply-for-job-funding/>

To be considered for this position, candidates must meet the following requirements:

- Be age 30 or younger
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or hold refugee status in Canada
- Have a post-secondary accomplishment (some exceptions apply)

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

Saving endangered species is strengthened by and requires the contributions of people of diverse backgrounds, heritage, knowledge, experiences, and identities. WPC value the diversity of the people we employ and that we work with. We strive to promote equity, diversity and inclusion in our workplace. We are committed to selecting and developing employees to create a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization and therefore encourage applications from all qualified individuals.

Health and safety:

Health and safety training will be provided by the Lead Biologist and the Conservation Outreach and Field Biologist and will include identification of safe practices while working with stinging insects, carrying out fieldwork, and during a pandemic. The position will be covered by Ontario Workers' Compensation and the employee must travel in vehicles with adequate insurance during employment. The employee will agree to adhere to all health and safety protocols and regulations (e.g., internal WPC guidelines, Government of Ontario Occupational Health and Safety regulations).



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This position requires travel across southern Ontario, work in close proximity with other staff inside a trailer at partner facilities, participation in outreach events, and regular interaction with other WPC employees and volunteers. In addition to following WPC's safety guidelines for operating during a pandemic, the selected candidate must therefore be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to ensure the health and safety of our employees, our volunteers and partners, and the communities we operate in.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Sarah MacKell, Lead Biologist, sarah.mackell@wildlifepreservation.ca. Applications must be received by **11:59 pm EST, January 28th, 2021**. Please submit your application as a **single PDF or MS word file attachment** and include in the email subject heading **"WPC Lead Bumble Bee Breeding Technician"**.

We thank you for your interest and for applying. However, please note that only individuals selected for an interview will be contacted.