ROYAL ALBERTA MUSEUM

Invertebrate Zoology Collection Volunteer

Join our Invertebrate Zoology department to learn more about Entomology, collections management and help update database and inventory records.

Tasks

- Help with the ongoing reorganization of the museum's collection of pinned insects
- Transferring pinned insect specimens from old, substandard drawers into the museum's modern unit tray system, preventing deterioration of invaluable collection specimens

Qualifications

- Appreciation for insects and taxonomy
- Basic understanding of the principles of biological classification is an asset
- Good organizational skills, maintaining the taxonomic order and physical organization of the specimens you will work with
- Excellent fine motor skills (a steady hand and the ability to handle small and fragile specimens without damaging them)
- Good vision or fully corrected vision (i.e., ability to read specimen accession numbers printed at font size 3.5 error-free)
- Good orthographic skills transcribing unfamiliar scientific names from specimen labels
- Ability to stay focused on repetitive tasks

Responsibilities

- Successfully complete required training
- Adherence to databasing and taxonomic conventions
- Adherence to specimen handling, conservation and security guidelines

Rewards

- Experience in a field directly related to your studies or interests
- Hands-on experience in the day-today operations of a state-of-the art scientific collection
- Training in standard collection management techniques such as handling & preparing specimens
- Satisfaction of contributing to development and maintenance of a museum collection of international significance
- <u>Volunteer experience will help in these areas of skills development:</u>
    - Fundamental Skills (managing information)
    - Personal Management Skills (flexibility, adaptability, and time management)

Time Commitment

- One shift per week (5-6 hours) for a minimum of 6 months
- Weekdays; Tuesday – Friday between 10:00am-5:00pm