Sustainability Peer Educator Description

So you want to make the world a more sustainable place?

You are a motivated SFU student, community member, citizen of the world, and altogether amazing human being. You want to address the social, environmental, and economic challenges you see in order to make your school, community, and world more livable. You want to make a difference and create positive change in the world while developing your sustainability skill set.

The Sustainability Peer Education Program, co-run by Embark Sustainability and SFU’s Sustainability Office, will give you a place to do this. Over this eight-month program, you will develop the tools, resources, and knowledge needed in order to dream up and develop your own sustainability initiative at SFU. You will also be an integral part of a group of students that are motivated to make SFU a more sustainable community.

As a Sustainability Peer you can expect to:

- Think critically and innovatively about sustainability while developing a deeper awareness of the context in which sustainability initiatives can grow;
- Participate in a series of weekly workshops that will broaden your understanding of sustainability as a concept and practice (such as sessions on anti-oppression, addressing food waste, social justice movements, and communicating about sustainability);
- Consider sustainability through a lens of reconciliation and decolonization. Explore the connections between land and water, social sustainability, justice, and Indigenous peoples and worldviews in Canada;
- Build community through connections with sustainability-minded students and a network of sustainability professionals; and
- Start or contribute to an initiative that creates sustainable change at SFU and beyond. Examples of past projects include a reusable coffee cup sharing program, a food waste recovery program, and a dialogue & storytelling event about sustainability.

Push the limits of your professional and personal growth by learning skills that you can take with you on your journey beyond SFU and the Peer Education Program. Communications, system mapping, gap analysis, and project management will be explored through a sustainability lens.

This program is a part of Peer Education, a collaboration with Student Engagement & Retention at SFU. Embedded within your role will be a focus on your personal development, including goal-setting and connecting with an experienced Peer Educator, your Peer Coach.
Time Commitment

- Two (2) consecutive terms (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020)
- Approximately 48 - 80 hours per semester (or 3 - 5 hours per week), starting in the Fall semester. This includes weekly meetings and workshops, project research, planning, and attendance at special events.
- Students will have the opportunity to volunteer for longer than 2 semesters if desired.

Mandatory Training

- 6 hours of online preparation for Core Training (content that all Peer Educators cover)
  - Available in August 2019 and must be completed before Core Training
- 3 hours of Core Training (all programs):
  - September 4, 2019 5:30pm – 8:30pm at Burnaby Campus
- 4 hours of Sustainability-specific training in late August
  - Date, time, and location to be determined
- 4 hours of additional training at Peer Education Professional Development Day, in the Spring term.

Required Meetings

- Weekly meetings (including workshops and work sessions) in Fall and Spring on Wednesdays at 4:30pm - 6:30pm, starting September 11th, 2019.
- Three 30-minute meetings per term with a Peer Coach, at mutually convenient times.

What we are looking for in our future Peers:

- An enthusiasm to learn about sustainability-related issues, and an excitement to contribute to addressing them
- Good time management skills and ability to balance academic and extracurricular commitments with expectations of the Peer Educator role
- A strong team player, willing to work cooperatively and respectfully in a small team-based setting with other Sustainability Peers

Additional application information

Please note that you need to submit the following items with your application

- Your Resume
- Sustainability Peer Educator Application Form

You can upload these documents and create your Application Package in your myDocuments area in myInvolvement. Applications for this role are due by July 7, 2019 at 11:59 pm.
If you have questions about the program, please contact Ruth Elizabeth Briggs (Programs Manager at Embark) at programs@embarksustainability.org or Kim Thee (Manager, Student Learning and Leadership | Sustainability Office) at kthee@sfu.ca

For more information about Embark: http://www.embarksustainability.org/

For more information about the SFU Sustainability Office: https://www.sfu.ca/sustainability/contact/SustainabilityOffice.html

If you have questions about using myInvolvement, please contact the Student Engagement Administrative team at involved@sfu.ca