



Profile

Eastern Slopes Landscape Protection Coordinator

Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative

February 15, 2023

About the Organization

Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative (Y2Y) is a joint Canada-U.S. not-for-profit organization with a mission to connect and protect wildlife habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive. We are the only organization dedicated to securing the long-term ecological health of this entire region. We take a scientific and collaborative approach to conservation and highlight and focus on local issues that affect the region. Since 1993, Y2Y has worked with more than 460 partners to stitch together this landscape, including scientists, conservation groups, landowners, businesses, government agencies as well as Indigenous Peoples (First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and Native American).

For more information, please visit y2y.net.

Position Description

Y2Y is seeking an **Eastern Slopes (Alberta and Montana) Landscape Protection Coordinator**.

This position is responsible for building the relationships and implementing the strategies required for Y2Y to effectively support Indigenous communities, including Stoney Nakoda and others in the eastern slopes of Alberta and Montana's Crown of the Continent, in advancing Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA) or related Indigenous-led conservation initiatives. Reporting to the Director of Landscape Protection and working closely with the Y2Y Landscape Protection and Policy Teams, this position will support Y2Y government relations, policy, and communications work to "build the case" for Indigenous-led conservation in Alberta and Montana and monitor and respond to threats and opportunities from government policy, direction, and implementation in Alberta, Montana, and with the Government of Canada.

Specifically, this position will be responsible for contributing to the following bodies of work in a way that is consistent with Y2Y's theory of change, principles for engaging with Indigenous people, and our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion:

- Identify opportunities for Y2Y to support Indigenous-led conservation and build and maintain relationships with Indigenous communities in Alberta and Montana by:
 - participating in community events;
 - sharing opportunities, threats, and Y2Y's work in relation to those;
 - seeking shared interest and opportunities to support Indigenous-led conservation;
 - working with contracted Indigenous community leaders and other contacts (existing and new) to build meaningful relationships.
- Support Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCA) development and advancement (including raising public awareness and support) in Alberta while exploring and supporting Indigenous-led conservation efforts in Montana in collaboration with Indigenous Nations and allied organizations and individuals, including in respect to conservation science, public engagement and communications, government relations, and strategic advising.

- Monitor policy development, direction and implementation impacting Alberta protected areas, including regional land-use planning, parks policy, and tourism and recreation policy.
- Coordinate with Y2Y teams and ENGO partners and build new collaborative relationships to take appropriate action on policy development, direction and implementation.

The location for this position is flexible but must be within Alberta. This individual will report to the Director of Landscape Protection and will support Y2Y's work to ensure wide-ranging wildlife have sufficient core habitat.

Responsibilities

The Eastern Slopes (Alberta and Montana) Landscape Protection Coordinator will:

- Work to build and maintain relationships with Indigenous communities in Alberta and Montana:
 - Attend powwows, big camps, rodeos, presentations or other events hosted by Indigenous communities;
 - Facilitate conversations with Indigenous contacts that highlight opportunities for Y2Y to support Indigenous-led work, or for Indigenous contacts to collaborate on Y2Y-led work;
 - Act responsively to engage Indigenous leaders and other contacts (and to initiate new relationships) regarding relationship-building opportunities, the nature of which we do not yet know.
- In collaboration with Indigenous individuals, organizations and nations, help make the case for Indigenous-led conservation initiatives by:
 - Gathering existing research and summarizing as needed (e.g. wildlife movement data), including coordination with Y2Y's science and knowledge team.
 - Collaborating on government and public relations strategy (e.g., coordinating between municipalities, provincial ministries and Indigenous governments; pursuing legislative or policy mechanisms for designating IPCAs and equivalent designations on the U.S. side);
 - Coordinating with ENGOs and community groups (e.g., building supportive coalitions and executing stakeholder outreach);
 - Supporting fundraising efforts (e.g., through direct granting or grant application support);
 - Building public support for IPCAs through strategic communications (e.g., public presentations and communications).
- Working closely with the Y2Y Landscape Protection and Policy Teams, monitor policy and land-use developments in Alberta and Montana, and coordinate/collaborate in response to emergent threats to core habitats.
- Monitor policy development, direction and implementation impacting Alberta and Montana protected areas, including coal, regional land-use planning, parks policy, and tourism and recreation policy and provide bi-weekly updates for Director, Landscape Protection and Alberta-based program staff summarizing key developments, if any.

Candidate Profile

- A clear commitment to Y2Y's vision and mission;
- Strong personal support for Indigenous-led conservation;
- Knowledge of and personal commitment to supporting Indigenous rights and governance as well as Indigenous-led conservation, especially in Alberta or Montana;
- Experience with effective engagement in governmental decision-making processes;
- Effective communication skills;
- Experience in advocating for landscape protection or other conservation projects, preferably in Alberta and/or Montana;
- Experience engaging with Indigenous and non-Indigenous government agencies at various levels;
- Demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion through continuous development, modelling inclusive behaviours, and proactively managing bias;
- Experience serving as a productive member of diverse and successful teams, coalitions and collaborations;
- Ability and interest to travel throughout the eastern slopes region of Alberta (and possibly Montana) with some regularity.

Terms of Employment

The location for this part-time position or contract (20 hours/week) is flexible but should be based within Alberta;

Salary is commensurate with experience, ranging from \$30,000-36,000 CAD annually for 20hrs/week.

This is a parental leave coverage position: term of employment will extend to March 2024 and may be evaluated for possible extension beyond that date.

Additional Information & To Apply

At Y2Y we value diversity — in backgrounds and in experience, and we need people from all backgrounds to help achieve our mission of connecting and protecting habitat from Yellowstone to Yukon so people and nature can thrive. Y2Y's team is empathetic, caring, and supportive. We are intentional about the team and culture that we are building, seeking team members that are not only strong in their own aptitudes but care deeply about supporting each other's growth.

Y2Y is an equal opportunity employer and committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion in our workplace and in science, conservation, and society. We strongly encourage applications from members of groups that are underrepresented and/or excluded from these sectors, including but not limited to Black, Indigenous, and people of colour, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community. All of our employee's points of view are key to our success, and inclusion is everyone's responsibility.

To explore this opportunity further, please send a cover letter and resume with title formats as follows: “(Last Name) (First Name)” - Cover and “(Last Name) (First Name)” - Resume Subject: “Your Name” – Application for Y2Y Eastern Slopes Landscape Protection Coordinator to careers@y2y.net.

We thank all applicants but only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls please. Application review begins upon receipt and applicants may be contacted before the closing date.

Questions about the position can be directed to Scott Brennan, Y2Y’s Senior Director of Conservation Programs, at scott@y2y.net. Short, preliminary interviews may be held via conference call or Zoom.

If you anticipate needing accommodations for any part of the application or interview process you may contact, in confidence, Robyn Barton, HR Consultant at robyn@y2y.net.