



NIIWIN WENDAANIMOK FOUR WINDS PARTNERSHIP

Director of Operations

The Niiwin Wendaanimok (Four Winds) Partnership is seeking a **Director of Operations** to join their team!

Guided by the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin the Sacred Law of the Anishinaabeg, in April of 2021 the Niiwin Wendaanimok Partnership successfully established an Anishinaabe Guardians Program (Anishinaabe Aki Shkabewisag), to monitor the traditional waters and lands of their territory as a highway construction project began in the territory.

Traditionally, Shkabewisag were responsible for upholding ceremonial protocols and interpreting and implementing Anishinaabe laws under the guidance of Elders. Their role also included protecting traditional resources such as maanomin, blueberries, and other land-based practices, managing and safeguarding the land, and ensuring sustainability. They supported ceremonies by tending fires, overseeing sacred protocols, and guiding offerings of food and semaa (tobacco) during feasts.

Since time immemorial, the Anishinaabe Aki Shkabewisag have been guided by the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin (MAI) – the Great Earth Law, the traditional resource law of the Anishinaabeg. This law outlines the right way of living in harmony with the Earth, grounded in the Seven Grandfather Teachings—Humility, Bravery, Honesty, Wisdom, Truth, Respect, and Love—and the principles of Weweni (take our time), Bebekaa (do it right), Biizindun (listen), and Kegogtachken (do not be afraid).

Today, the Shkabewisag carry forward this responsibility by monitoring the lands, air, soils, and waters in their territory—for the people, by the people, and with the people—guided by the vision:

As long as the sun shines, the rivers flow, and the grass grows, the Anishinaabe Aki Shkabewisag will uphold and implement the Manito Aki Inakonigaawin, the Great Earth Law.

Responsibilities

- Lead and mentor the Shkabewisag team, ensuring effective implementation of program vision, workplans, training, and workplace health and safety requirements.
- Oversee environmental stewardship, monitoring, and compliance activities across Treaty #3 lands, including Harmonized Impact Assessments and mitigation measures.
- Build and maintain relationships with Elders, Knowledge Keepers, community members, governments, consultants, contractors, and project proponents to advance program objectives and opportunities.
- Collaborate with Elders Council, Environmental Sub-Committee, and program leadership to guide program direction and operationalize environmental monitoring initiatives.
- Develop funding proposals, manage contracts, prepare reports, and support program sustainability through funding and partnership opportunities.
- Coordinate with internal and external stakeholders to implement program plans, monitor performance measures, and ensure timely reporting to leadership, Chiefs, and partner communities.
- Support community engagement activities, presentations, ceremonies, and knowledge-sharing initiatives in collaboration with Elders, Protocol Advisors, and community representatives.

Skills & Qualifications

- Strong knowledge of Territory 3 and Anishinaabe Communities
- Willingness to learn Anishinaabemowin
- Willingness to embrace and participate in traditional training, knowledge sharing, and language learning initiatives.
- Experience in developing, implementing, and following work-plans, budgets, and timetables.
- Experience leading/managing a team
- Proficient computer skills, including Word, Excel, and Outlook
- Experience developing and implementing engagement strategies and program plans is an asset
- Post-secondary degree or diploma in Environmental Studies, Management, Business Administration, or equivalent work experience would be considered an asset
- Valid Driver's License
- Clean Criminal Record Check

If you want to send an application directly via email, please contact Robyn Houle at:
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Please visit <https://niiwinwendaanimok.com> for more information, or scan the QR code!

