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# Employment Opportunity

## Aquatic Ecology Technician 3

### *Parks & Environmental Services – Environmental Protection*

Competition	<b>19/057</b>
Status	<b>Regular Full time</b>
Hours of Work	<b>70 hours bi-weekly</b>
Rate of Pay	<b>\$39.53- \$44.82 per hour</b>
Review of applications begins	<b>This position will remain open until the successful candidate is found</b>
Notes	

#### **Summary**

The Aquatic Ecology Technician 3 is responsible for the overall operation of the Aquatic Ecology Section. This position provides aquatic phytoplankton, cyanotoxin, zooplankton, periphyton, invertebrate and vertebrate analysis and interprets, summarizes and reports on short and long-term data trends for water bodies under CRD jurisdiction. The position also assists with the technical direction of the Aquatic Ecology Monitoring Program.

#### **Duties & Responsibilities**

- Provides identification of species in biological samples (phytoplankton, zooplankton, periphyton, aquatic invertebrates and vertebrates).
- Conducts cyanotoxin testing on raw and treated water samples.
- Prepares biological samples for analysis using a variety of techniques.
- Quantitatively, qualitatively or semi-quantitatively analyses samples using a variety of equipment and procedures.
- Examines samples microscopically; maintains a photo-micrographic record of samples analysed.
- Interprets and reports on short/long-term biological data trends.
- Liaises with aquatic ecology scientific community for review of techniques, accuracy of species identifications, data reporting methods and data interpretation.
- Analyzes customer complaint samples using a variety of techniques.
- Assists in development of sampling and analytical procedures as well as monitoring strategies for phytoplankton, cyanotoxins, zooplankton, periphyton and invertebrates.
- Reviews and develops Standard Operating Procedures.
- Makes recommendations on laboratory analysis projects; contributes to projects as required.
- Implements, documents and executes quality assurance/quality control plans and procedures.
- Maintains laboratory equipment in good working condition.
- Maintains laboratory budget; provides input into the laboratory budget.
- Provides training to aquatic ecology laboratory staff in biological species identification and relevant analytical and other laboratory procedures.
- Creates and maintains laboratory files within the Records Classification System.
- Participates in quality assurance activities, including internal/external audits and proficiency testing

## General

- Maintains strict adherence to safety requirements.
- Follows all aspects of the laboratory quality system.
- Follows all policies, procedures and standards of the CRD.
- Performs other related duties as required.

## **Qualifications**

- Completion of a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with specific courses in freshwater phycology, invertebrate zoology and limnology.
- Minimum 5 years' related experience in freshwater phycological taxonomy.
- Excellent communication (verbal and written), interpersonal and customer service skills.
- Experience with freshwater phytoplankton, zooplankton, periphyton and aquatic invertebrate/vertebrate species identification (taxonomy).
- Experience in developing and managing a quality assurance and quality control laboratory program.
- Experience with standard methods for analyses of phytoplankton, zooplankton and periphyton populations.
- Knowledge of sampling and data handling techniques.
- Proficiency with software programs including word processors, spreadsheets, library catalogue systems, specialized software programs, and laboratory information systems.
- Experience working with quality systems in a laboratory setting.
- Experience with use of digital camera and imaging software.
- Experience with conducting scientific literature reviews.
- Biological and technical project management skills.
- Experience with use of water quality information system for production of data reports, maintenance of support file tables and entry of biological data.
- Experience with a variety of microscopy techniques and photo-micrographic skills.
- Experience as chief phycologist or equivalent and in conducting aquatic ecological laboratory analyses without direct supervision.
- Experience with use of a Records Classification System.
- Excellent problem solving, troubleshooting and decision making skills.
- Knowledge of WHMIS as it pertains to an analytical laboratory setting.
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## **Applications**

To apply for this exciting opportunity, please submit your resume and covering letter online at [www.crd.bc.ca](http://www.crd.bc.ca) under "Careers".

**The CRD wishes to thank you for your interest and advises that only those candidates under active consideration will be contacted.**

