

Conservation Fellowship: Kenauk Institute and Vassar College Partnership

Start Date: May 1, 2023

Application Deadline: February 15, 2023

Please send cover letter and resume to Jennifer Rubbo, jerubbo@vassar.edu

Job Description

Position summary and qualifications: The Conservation Fellowship is a partnership between Vassar College and the Kenauk Institute in Quebec, Canada for Vassar graduates. During this two-year fellowship, the Conservation Fellow will apply an interest and passion for the natural sciences to conservation management and environmental education and outreach. The fellow participates in educational efforts, ecological research, data collection, and conservation management at the Kenauk Institute and at Vassar College. While at Vassar College, they will work with both the Director of the Environmental Cooperative and the Director of the Preserve. The fellow will develop and assist with environmental education programs for audiences of all ages and participate in management and stewardship of the Preserve. Fellows are expected to progress to a leadership role over the course of the two years.

Kenauk Institute description: The Kenauk Institute is a charitable organization on the property of Kenauk in Montebello, Quebec, Canada. Kenauk is one of the largest private nature reserves in North America encompassing 65,000 acres of pristine forest nestled between Ottawa and Montreal. Several companies exist on the property, where daily operations require a unique approach to management that supports the integration of multiple industries. The Kenauk Institute is the custodian of the property and, as such, informs the activities of all other Kenauk companies to ensure conservation is always a priority. The other active companies include: Kenauk Nature, the high-end outfitter with chalets for rent and ecotourism activities for guests; Kenauk Canada, the forestry operations, and; Kenauk Agriculture, the on-site fish hatchery used for stocking lakes. The mission of the Kenauk Institute is to use scientific research and environmental education to ensure the legacy of this pristine wilderness for centuries to come. Thanks to a partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada, multiple universities including Vassar College, and a dedicated team, we hope to accomplish the permanent protection of the world's largest temperate forest dedicated to research, education, and conservation. While at the Kenauk Institute on-site accommodations will be provided. Food is not provided, communal grocery shopping with split cost-sharing and meal preparations is done as a team with the other staff and interns.

Roles and Responsibilities (Vassar):

- Develop outreach programs for the Vassar community and general public that focuses on common research themes between Kenauk and Vassar
- Assist in the development and implementation of environmental education programming for local schools
- Assist the Director of the Preserve at Vassar with conservation management, including invasive species management, ecological surveys, and land stewardship

- Help with the oversight of Vassar students at the Environmental Cooperative and at the Preserve
- Facilitate knowledge sharing of applicable ideas from Kenauk

Roles and Responsibilities (The Kenauk Institute):

- Help with data collection, logistics, and management of all Kenauk Institute research projects
- Lead all aspects of an independent research project of your choosing and give a powerpoint presentation on this project during the Kenauk Institute's annual scientific conference
- Help coordinate and facilitate educational programs
- Help integrate conservation with the other Kenauk company operations and activities when necessary
- Help with the management, control and removal of invasive species on the Kenauk property
- Help with day-to-day operations, including the maintenance and cleaning of equipment and facilities
- Facilitate knowledge sharing of applicable ideas from Vassar

Qualifications:

- A graduate of Vassar College with a degree in a natural science, education, or related field
- Passion for conservation, biology, research, and teaching
- Ability to deal with working long hours in the field under extreme conditions (bugs, heat, cold etc)
- Works well in a team, positive, enthusiastic, solution-oriented, problem solver, takes initiative
- Interest in teaching natural sciences at the K-12 level, including program coordination and curriculum development
- Interest in implementation of conservation management, stewardship and research.
- Driver's license and vehicle required

Special Instructions to the Applicant:

This is a two-year, shared position with the Kenauk Institute (<https://institutkenauk.org>), with time spent at both sites.

Compensation:

This is an exempt position with a salary of \$55,500/yr plus a full benefit package. Compensation for gas/mileage to and from the Kenauk Institute is included.