

JOB POSTING

Job Title: Ecological Research Manager

Full-time, casual contract, 8 weeks, 35 hours per week

Start date: Week of April 29, 2026

Total pages in posting: 4

Date Posted: April 17, 2026

Application Deadline: April 24 Friday at noon

What is OPIRG? OPIRG-Guelph (Ontario Public Interest Research Group) is a student-funded non-profit organization which is committed to facilitating the active participation of volunteers in addressing critical social and environmental issues of public interest. OPIRG Guelph works on a variety of environmental and social justice issues of public interest by conducting research, developing popular education materials, and engaging in activism. We help individuals to become active in their community by providing information through our Resource Library and opportunities for hands-on training and activism.

OPIRG welcomes the contributions that individuals from marginalized communities bring to our organization, and invites aboriginal people, people of color, women, gays, lesbians, bisexuals, queer-oriented people, transgendered people, transsexual people, intersexed people, working-class people, single parents, members of ethnic minorities, immigrants and people with disabilities to apply. We encourage applicants to describe the contributions and experiences they, as individuals, who identify with marginalized communities would bring to the OPIRG organization in their cover letter.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Help Speed River Project Coordinator and Community Park Steward to develop and implement habitat protection and river restoration activities such as invasive species control and running community awareness activities such as native trees planting and wild flower planting, pollinators friendly activities, bird house establishing, workshops on native plants ID, regular shoreline cleanup and monitoring, running Ecological and Heritage Walking Tour for promoting local conservation activities and nature walk for wellbeing.

- **Ecological Research Manger will perform lead roles in organizing, marketing and delivery of the Speed River Ecological Heritage Walking Tours, and involved in**

other river rehabilitation activities as mentioned above during the period of 8 weeks.

- Become familiar with OPIRG's mandate, structure, and policies as they relate to the position and participate in training.
- Work with OPIRG Speed River project's Coordinators and volunteers to deliver and plan shoreline Clean Up and walking tour during the months of May and June 2026.
- Updates Tour Planning documents and background information.
- Keep an organized workspace, including organized physical and digital files.
- Assist in logistical aspects of the events including, pre- and post-event inventory, promotion/marketing, set-up, and take-down, etc.
- Following events ensure the organization and storage of equipment and files.
- Prepare reports on the data and evaluation forms collected at the events.
- For the Walking Tours work with OPIRG Guelph staff to develop and implement a marketing strategy and schedule for Ecological Heritage walking tours.
- Organize a schedule for tour guides and an appreciation event.
- Review previous documents and the updates of our Ecological Heritage Walking Tour Guide
- Help to Plan and create tree planting and ecological Heritage Walking Tour events during May and June 2026
- Coordinate and create a promotional plan around local community and volunteer to discuss the compelling history of the rivers, and native and invasive plant species.
- How human settlement affected the health of the river and what is being done to revitalize the river ecosystem, as well as discuss possible nature-based climate solutions.
- Teach about specific plants that line the river and discuss its ecological history and heritage features to tour attendees.
- Prepare a report on the data and feedback forms collected at the events and summary of activities and reflection on accomplishments and challenges.

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- Excellent oral communication skills and high level of comfort speaking publicly to large groups.
- Strong written communication skills.

ADDITIONAL ESSENTIAL SKILLS

- **Problem solving and decision making.**
- **Demonstrated ability to work independently.**
- **Job task planning and organizing.**
- **Significant use of memory. And finding information.**
- **Computer use – word processing, email, spreadsheets.**
- **Demonstrated interest in social justice, anti-oppression (racism, sexism, homophobia, etc.) and environmental issues.**
- **Travel to various locations in Guelph.**

ASSETS

- **Experience of planning special events.**
- **Experience working as a volunteer or staff person in a similar type of non-profit organization. Experience with promoting events education in a relevant field.**

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

OPIRG has applied for a Canada Summer Jobs grant to cover some of the costs of the walking tour part of this position. A requirement of the funding is that the applicants all meet the following criteria:

- **Be between 15 and 30 years of age.**
- **Be Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or persons on whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act.**
- **Be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial/territorial legislation and regulations.**

Job Specifics:

Full-time, Casual Contract for 8 weeks,

Possible start date: Week of April 27, 2026,

Wages: \$23.00/hour for 35 hours/week

Application Process: Interested applicants should deliver a resume and cover letter, And two references (with phone numbers) to OPIRG-Guelph no later than Noon, On Friday, April 24, 2026. Applications may be submitted by email or in person only.

Please include an answer to the following question (250 words maximum).

**1. Please describe when you were unprepared for a presentation or event. Then tell us about a successful event or presentation where you were well prepared and why that made a difference about 1 full page or more. Please send applications to the: OPIRG Hiring Committee
OPIRG – Guelph**

Address: 1 Trent Lane, University of Guelph, Guelph ON N1G 2W1

Email: speedriver@opirgguelph.org

Office hours: Monday 2pm-6pm Tuesday-Thursday 10 am-6 pm

No phone calls, please. Only those applicants selected