



Marketing + Development Assistant – Canada Summer Jobs

About the Vancouver Writers Fest

The Vancouver Writers Fest connects people to exceptional books, ideas, and dialogue through year-round programming that ignites a passion for words and the world around us. Our activities include our flagship, annual literary Festival: one of the largest and most prestigious in North America. Tens of thousands of readers visit the cultural hub of Granville Island and venues around Vancouver to connect with local and international authors during this week-long event.

Throughout the year, we offer free and paid events with established and emerging authors, including Books & Ideas on Granville Island; Incite, presented in partnership with the Vancouver Public Library; My Roots, a writing workshop for immigrants to Canada; and Special Events across Vancouver.

We encourage readers of all ages to explore the power of storytelling, and books. Our youth education programming includes Festival events; Writers in the Classroom, which brings authors into schools for interactive events; and an annual Youth Writing Contest.

Job Description

The Marketing + Development Assistant will be instrumental in helping with preparations in the lead up to the 2026 flagship Festival of the Vancouver Writers Fest. Reporting to the Marketing Manager and Development Manager, the Marketing + Development Assistant will support communications across digital and print initiatives, assist with database maintenance, and help with sponsor research and outreach.

The spring and summer months are an exciting time at the Vancouver Writers Fest as we prepare to launch the Festival, and this is an excellent opportunity to develop marketing and admin skills while learning more about all that goes into producing a literary festival.

Responsibilities may include:

- Social media design, copywriting, scheduling, and engagement, in collaboration with the Marketing Manager.
- Creating event graphics that are consistent with the brand style guide, with oversight from the Marketing Manager.
- Assisting the Development Manager with sponsor and partner outreach, creating sponsor and partner contracts, and collecting sponsor and partner assets for promotion around Festival events.

202-1398 Cartwright Street
Vancouver, BC V6H 3R8

writersfest.bc.ca

We are grateful to live, create and work on the unceded ancestral and living territories of the x̱w̱m̱əθḵʷəy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and Səḻiḻw̱ətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) people.

- Assisting the Development and Marketing Managers with updating the sponsor database and tracking and implementing sponsor deliverables.
- Assisting the Development Manager with maintaining and updating the membership database.
- Assisting the Artistic Director and Programming Coordinator with organizing author and book assets.
- Adding and updating content on the VWF website using Wordpress.
- Coordinating email marketing campaigns using Mailchimp.
- Assisting with accessibility initiatives, including the creation of Simple Text Guides (screen reader friendly versions of our Festival Program Guide).
- Assisting with the preparation and distribution of our Festival Program Guide. This includes updating the existing distribution spreadsheets with up to date information; reaching out to community centres, libraries, and other establishments for program guide stocking; addressing queries from distribution volunteers; and assisting with guide mailouts.
- Assisting the Volunteer Managers with developing print and digital assets for volunteer recruitment and appreciation.
- Promotion of special events, including submitting events to event listings, and arranging cross-promotions.
- Potential to work special events outside of regular office hours.
- **And assisting with other tasks that arise as needed by the Festival managers and directors. We're a small, close-knit team that pitches in wherever needed, so be prepared to learn about various elements of festival and event planning!**

Qualifications:

- Experience with website builders/web content management systems. Experience with using Wordpress is a particular asset.
- Experience with using databases and/or donor management systems. Experience with using Airtable is a particular asset.
- Experience with using email marketing platforms. Experience with using Mailchimp is a particular asset.
- Familiarity with Adobe Creative Cloud software, with a focus on InDesign. Photoshop, Illustrator, and Premiere Pro are all assets as well.
- Experience with Google Drive including Docs and Sheets, and Microsoft Office including Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.
- Familiarity with performing online research.
- A strong command of the English language. Grammar enthusiasts and eagle-eyed proofreaders are encouraged to apply!



- Excellent attention to detail, interpersonal skills, and ability to meet deadlines in a fast-paced working environment.
- An eye for design and what looks good. Previous experience with graphic design is an asset.
- Professional experience with social media is an asset.
- Photography skills are an asset.
- Experience with planning events is an asset.
- A love of reading, especially contemporary books, will serve you well in this role!

This position is funded by Canada Summer Jobs. To be eligible, applicants must:

- be between 15 and 30 years of age at the beginning of the employment period;
- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment;
- have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.

Conditions and remuneration:

The contract for this position runs for 16 weeks from May 4 to August 21, full-time at 30 hours per week from Monday–Friday. The candidate will work from our office on Granville Island.

The remuneration is \$24/hour.

The length of this position may be adjusted depending on funding results, which are pending.

How to apply:

Please submit your cover letter and resume to info@writersfest.bc.ca as a single PDF document with the email subject line “Marketing + Development Assistant Application – [Your Name]”.

Label your PDF file “Marketing Development Assistant Application_[Your Name]”.

Deadline to apply: Monday, April 6, 2026 at midnight

The Vancouver Writers Fest strives to create a welcoming and accessible space for everyone to engage with ideas that can transform our world. We are an equal opportunity employer, and committed to supporting an inclusive, diverse, and accessible environment. We recognize and value the diverse experiences that each member of our team brings, and we encourage applications from members of underrepresented groups, and anyone who is excited about joining our team.



If you experience any accessibility barriers in applying for this position, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at info@writersfest.bc.ca to discuss how we can better support you.

We thank all those who apply. Only applicants who are selected for an interview will be contacted.