

# *Living Sky Wildlife Rehabilitation*



## Wildlife Rehabilitation Internship Opportunity

### **Rationale:**

One of the goals of LSWR is public education, and what better way to do this than to invite the public to experience the animals first-hand as volunteers. Additionally, for those students entering Veterinary School, a Veterinary Technician program, or majoring in a Biology or Wildlife program, the opportunity to observe and participate in rehabilitating Saskatchewan wildlife will provide invaluable information and skills for use in their future professions. All animals will benefit from having more people who are comfortable dealing with wildlife and who know how to manage human or domestic animal encounters with wild animals.

### **Organization Background:**

Living Sky Wildlife Rehabilitation is located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. We provide care to orphaned, ill and injured wildlife with the goal of returning the animals to the wild. Our primary focus is working with birds and small mammals. Larger animals are accepted, assessed, stabilized and transferred to the appropriate rehabilitator in the province.

The spring and summer are the busiest seasons for wildlife rehabilitation. We received almost 1300 animals in 2019, with about 200 of those being mammals.

The work is intense, fast-paced and repetitive, as well as demanding, but also very rewarding.

### **Internship Description:**

The internship placement is one-month minimum (two is recommended) during June, July &/or August, working up to 40 hours a week, including evenings and weekends. A placement of up to two months is recommended to experience the full range of wildlife arriving as different species come at different times in the season. If necessary to accommodate work schedules, a part-time placement can be discussed. The placement is unpaid.

Interns can expect to participate in all animal care activities. Some of the skills learned will include individual species identification and natural history, proper husbandry techniques, animal handling, tube-feeding of birds, medication administration, and various other procedures. Interns will receive daily one-on-one training and supervision.

**Those interested in working with Rabies Vector Species (RVS) are required to have their Rabies pre-exposure series prior to starting the internship.**

### **Intern job duties:**

- ✓ Answering phone and admitting new animals.
- ✓ Assisting staff with examination and assessment of arriving animals
- ✓ Setting up appropriate housing based on the natural history of the individual species.
- ✓ Preparing species specific food
- ✓ Animal care: handling and restraint, tube-feeding of birds and hand-feeding mammals.
- ✓ Medical care: administering daily medications
- ✓ Cleaning tasks: cage cleaning, laundry, washing dishes, sweeping and mopping floors.
- ✓ Assisting with the releases of rehabilitated wildlife.
- ✓ Other tasks as required.

### **Abilities and experience required**

- ✓ Ability to speak, read and write the English language fluently.
- ✓ Ability to work independently and as a team member.
- ✓ Ability to perform tedious tasks for long periods of time.
- ✓ Ability to do outdoor work in all types of weather.
- ✓ Ability to perform physically demanding tasks, such as cleaning, lifting (up to 40 pounds), climbing stairs, etc.
- ✓ Ability to work quickly and efficiently while precisely following directions and procedures.
- ✓ Basic knowledge of Saskatchewan wildlife species is an asset
- ✓ Demonstrated interest or education in wildlife rehabilitation, conservation, biology, ecology or zoology
- ✓ Applicants must be 18 years of age or older (others may still volunteer)

Prior experience with handling wildlife is highly desirable. The most important assets are a strong work ethic, natural history background, enthusiasm, commitment, flexibility and a desire to learn.

### **Amenities:**

Accommodation cannot be provided.  
Interns must provide their own transportation.

### **Application Instructions:**

Please contact us at [LSWR@sasktel.net](mailto:LSWR@sasktel.net) for an application.

Send completed application, resume, a short description of your interest in the internship and three references to:

Jan Shadick  
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Canada