

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH & CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (EDIP)

In partnership with host economic development offices/agencies, the Applied Research and Innovation Centre at Selkirk College administers the pilot Economic Development Internship Program as part of the Rural Dividend Funded *Local Government Economic Development Capacity Building project*. Three (4-month) Economic Development Internships will be sponsored from May to August 2020. One internship will be funded for each of the following regional districts: Regional District of East Kootenay, Regional District of Central Kootenay, and Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

The internship program promises to provide a high level of professional development and training that will prepare students for roles in economic development. The program is expected to provide interns with the knowledge and experience they need to decide if a career in economic development is the right for them. Economic development sponsors will work with their intern to develop a work plan that addresses the area's economic development priorities and complements the broader local government economic development program. Students will be located at the sponsor economic development office.

The internship program objectives are:

- To act as a pathway to accelerate operational learning
- To provide results focused professional training
- To make economic development a career of choice by financially supporting internship opportunities for post-secondary students in the Kootenay region
- To promote career development, advancement opportunities, and quality of life in the Kootenay region
- To help interns develop competencies essential to a career in economic development

Internship opportunities are not intended for positions otherwise covered by collective agreements. Host organizations are responsible for undertaking consultation with their respective unions to clarify the objectives of this program.

Program Eligibility and Requirements

To sponsor an intern, **economic development organization applicants** must meet the following requirements:

- Have a mandate to support economic development in the Kootenay region
- Have the ability to provide regular supervision to the student
- Have a work space for the student to work from

To apply to the Economic Development Internship program, **student applicants** must meet the following requirements:

- Current post-secondary student or recent graduate (within the last 2 years)
- You are legally entitled to work in Canada.
- Available to complete the specified 4-month placement.

Applications and Selection

Economic development agencies interested in sponsoring a student intern are invited to apply by submitting their applications here:

Student internship positions will be posted, screened, and shortlisted by each participating economic development agency. Selection will be based upon a range of considerations, the most significant being:

- Alignment with the skills and abilities needed to successfully complete the internship as identified by the host regional district
- Academic achievements
- Professionalism
- Maturity
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated interest in local government
- Flexibility and reliability
- Ability to multitask in a fast paced environment
- Strong analytical, problem solving, research and project management skills

Remuneration

Each sponsor organization will receive \$10,000 to implement the internship. Eligible expenses include student wages and travel expenses only.

Key Dates

March 2, 2020	Call for proposals announced
March 20, 2020	Deadline for interested economic development offices to submit applications
March 27, 2020	Economic development sponsors are announced
May 2020	Interns begin 4-month placement with their host economic development organization