



The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished! Inc.  
University of Regina, 3737 Wascana Parkway, Regina SK. S4S 0A2  
[www.beingastonished.com](http://www.beingastonished.com)

## **Literacy and Augmentative Communication Program Staff**

### **Employment Opportunity (Summer Student)**

#### **Background Information**

The Big Sky Centre for Learning and Being Astonished Inc. (Astonished!) is a registered non-profit charity based in Regina, Saskatchewan. We work in **inclusive community** to address barriers facing young adults with complex physical disAbilities (Core Members) by creating opportunities for teaching and learning; social, recreational and cultural engagement; and for employment and housing.

**Astonished! is currently looking for two summer students** to work with the Astonished! Program Coordinator to plan, implement, and evaluate a summer literacy program. The literacy program is open to all Astonished! Core Members and participation is limited to approximately 8 Core Members. The summer position would start the week of May 30 and would conclude the last week of August (see position details below).

#### **Astonished! Literacy Program Overview**

This is a summer program designed to explore and respond to the literacy strengths, dreams, and needs of Astonished! Core Members. Program content is shaped by individual strengths, dreams, and needs of each participant. Example dreams from last year's participants included: developing literacy skills (reading, numeracy, technology, etc.), increasing literacy skills, and simply having more time to read and/or use various forms of technology/applications.

Based on the strengths, dreams, and needs expressed, program participants will be offered individualized opportunities, group opportunities, or a combination of both. The program will be comprised of 13 sessions with each session running from 1:00-4:00 at the University of Regina (Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in July and August).

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## **Responsibilities**

- Work collaboratively with the Astonished! Program Coordinator and key volunteers to plan, implement, and evaluate a summer literacy program
- Work cooperatively and respectfully with summer literacy students.
- Conduct a literature review on disAbility, Augmentative and Alternative Communication and literacy
- Research existing literacy programs/resources and report findings to the Astonished! Program Advisory Committee
- Assess local literacy resources available to Astonished! members
- Based on the tasks identified above, make future programming recommendations to the Astonished! Program Advisory Committee
- Attend weekly planning and debriefing meetings
- Seek out and apply to various funding sources
- Plan an end of program celebration to highlight and celebrate successes

## **Requirements**

- Registered full time in the previous academic year
- Intention of returning to or starting a university program in the fall. Preference will be given to candidates enrolled in a speech language, education, social work or kinesiology program
- Interest in and commitment to working in inclusive community to address barriers facing young adults with complex physical disAbilities
- Commitment to build inclusive community
- Kind, compassionate, and caring
- Criminal record check
- Able to travel to a variety of locations in Regina
- Preference will be given to candidates who are familiar with functional literacy, research methods, and program design/evaluation
- Previous experience working with young adults with complex physical disAbilities is an asset.

## **Position Details:**

Terms of Employment: 30 hours a week primarily Monday-Friday days with occasional hours in the evenings and on weekends

Wage: \$15.00/hr

Employment term: Approximately 13 weeks with an anticipated start date of May 30 and completion date of August 26 (negotiable)

## **Instructions to Applicants**

Please send a cover letter and resume [rhea.boysen@beingastonished.com](mailto:rhea.boysen@beingastonished.com).

Applications will be considered until noon on May 13, 2016.