

# Environmental Youth Alliance Board of Directors

Published 20-May-21 by [Sara Fralin](#)

EYA welcomes inquiries from potential board members. We are looking for people interested in a leadership role who bring the following lived and/or work experience:

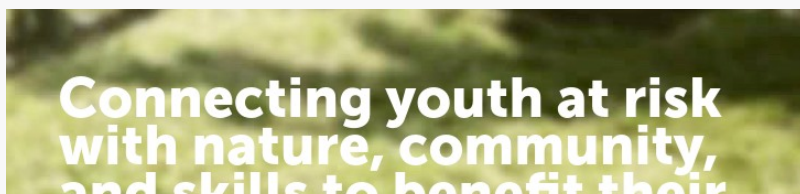
- Teaching in the VSB alternative school system / teaching youth facing barriers
- Social work / supporting youth in care
- Non-profit / charity operations
- Traditional / cultural / ancestral knowledge
- Decolonizing / anti-racism
- Society governance / board leadership
- Fundraising – especially individual / corporate giving
- Communications / marketing

Learn more here: [Join the EYA board – Environmental Youth Alliance](#)

Board of Directors posting: [New Board Posting \(Oct 2 '20\) \(eya.ca\)](#)

What we do: EYA engages youth in Vancouver, BC, targeted by systemic barriers to become environmental stewards. We provide trauma-informed, land-based education and paid job training programs that engage youth to connect with nature, community, and skills through hands-on activities like growing native plants, stewarding urban wildlife habitat, and learning about plants as food and medicine. Our programs braid ecology and Indigenous knowledge systems through visits from Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers. Find out more about our team and work: [www.eya.ca](http://www.eya.ca)

What you'll do: As a Board Member at Large, you'll work with other EYA directors to provide proper governance and oversight to the organization. You'll also use your knowledge, skills, and lived experience to support EYA staff as we actively work to develop and decolonize our youth programs, operations, and fundraising.



and skills to benefit their  
lives and steward  
the land.

## WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1989, The Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA) is an award-winning youth-serving charity based in Vancouver, BC, with a vision that all youth can experience the transformative power of nature. We engage local youth at risk ages 14-20 in free experiential nature stewardship programs in urban inner city parks, green spaces, and public schools.

## THE NEED

There is a persistent gap in opportunities for youth at risk to lead and contribute their abilities to nature stewardship initiatives in their communities. In Vancouver's Eastside and the Downtown Eastside in particular, there are limited biodiverse green spaces; youth face multiple barriers to accessing nature and civic engagement, including poverty, unstable housing, substance abuse, and health challenges.

Further, youth today are spending more time on devices, less time outdoors, and less time interacting face to face than any other generation. The use of devices has been linked to unprecedented rates of anxiety, depression, and loneliness in youth, as well as decreased confidence, independence, and social skills. In fact, some researchers believe the iGeneration is on the brink of a mental health crisis.

There is growing evidence that spending time in nature is essential for healthy mental, emotional, and physical development of youth. Access to nature reduces stress & anxiety, and increases self-esteem, resilience, learning, and creativity!

tags : board, environment, indigenousknowledge, land, volunteer, youth