

NEWS RELEASE

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New program offers paid training to launch 15-30 year olds into world of work

VICTORIA, BC – Beacon Community Services today announced a new, free youth employment program -- 'JETS' (Jumpstart Employment, Training & Skills) provides 15 to 30 year-olds with skills-building workshops, career exploration, resume and cover letter support, interview practice, and a plethora of job search skills.

“Through JETS, staff and participants work together to strengthen skills and overcome the barriers that might otherwise hinder people from getting or keeping a job,” says Beacon CEO Bob Boulter.

“It’s already been gratifying to see participants’ progress and success, and know they’re better equipped to move forward in their lives.”

Participants are paid a living allowance that equates to minimum wage while they learn job-ready skills for real-life application. JETS ‘graduates’ may also be eligible for Wage Subsidy placements to increase their prospects of being hired.

Hosted at a Beacon site in Victoria, with strict COVID protocols in place, the 7 to 8 week program offers both in-person and online components, including support with appropriate technology. The Beacon Community Services’ JETS team also mentors and assists participants to acquire the skills and confidence to apply for employment.

JETS is open to youth who are legally entitled to work in Canada. Interested youth are interviewed before being accepted into the program, which runs every 12 weeks with 10 participants at a time.

For more information, youth should visit www.beaconcs.ca or email program administrators at JETS@beaconcs.ca.

JETS is funded by the Government of Canada’s Youth Employment and Skills Strategy.

About Beacon Community Services:

Beacon Community Services is a community-based charity dedicated to helping people and improving lives in the Greater Victoria and Gulf Islands areas.

With approximately 600 volunteers and 250 staff, the charity delivers a vast array of services and programs in the fields of Child, Youth and Family Services; Counselling and Mental Health Services; Subsidized Housing; Seniors Services, Supports and Recreation; Assisted Living and Licensed Dementia Care; Volunteer Services; and Employment Services training and supports.

For more information, please visit www.beaconcs.ca

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