



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

Success Story

Miss Kate taking a group of campers to a canoe and kayak clinic and the Yorkton Canoe and Kayak Club out at York lake!

YEE gives Saskatchewan youth new professional experiences

KATE ERHARDT LEARNED A VARIETY OF skills that will help her as she enters the working world — including how to prepare for a job interview, email etiquette, and forming professional relationships with others – when she worked as a Youth Program Team Lead for the City of Yorkton during the summer of 2023.



CITY OF YORKTON,
SASKATCHEWAN

Canada

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Kate Erhardt, Youth Program Team Lead for the
City of Yorkton during the summer of 2023

“I live in a really small rural community in Saskatchewan, and most of the jobs I’ve had before were just kind of word-of-mouth,” she explains. “This whole experience was super awesome, and not like any of the jobs I’ve had before.”

Erhardt’s role was funded by the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association’s Youth Employment Experience program. This program, funded by the Government of Canada is designed to help build skills and remove barriers to employment for youth. The program further builds capacity in the parks and recreation sector by providing mentorship support to each youth throughout their work experience.

As part of her job, Erhardt worked both behind the scenes and on-the-ground for the city’s summer day camp, S-CAPE, which is geared towards children aged six to 12.

She says she developed newsletters about the camp for children and their parents, connected with the community’s businesses to plan the camp’s field trips, and communicated often with parents — which gave her valuable hands-on experience with developing marketing and communications skills.

In addition, Erhardt worked with children enrolled in the summer day camp as an “extra set of hands.”

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tasks and all the marketing things I had to do — as well as taking charge with the kids.”

Jessica Resler, Aquatic and Youth Coordinator for the City of Yorkton, supervised and mentored Erhardt throughout the summer.

She says it was wonderful to have Erhardt on the team, because she had a lot of the qualities Resler was looking for.

“I was super surprised at her marketing capabilities and her autonomy,” she says. “I felt really confident that she would do an excellent job.”

While Erhardt was a natural fit within the team, Resler says she also grew as an employee throughout the summer.

“I saw her maturity develop over the summer. Kate held herself to high standards and really stepped into that manager-like role. I didn’t expect that from her by the end of the summer,” Resler says.

She adds that the funding also made a positive impact on the City of Yorkton — including the children who participated in the summer day camp, as well as their parents.

“This funding meant we could increase our programming, and deliver a really solid program that had lucrative communication that was more thorough than we would have had in the past,” Resler says. “We were really lucky that we got the opportunity to tap into this funding. It really did mean a lot to us here at the city.” 