STEM Career Profile

# Thank you for [volunteering](https://letstalkscience.ca/volunteer/become-a-volunteer)!

Canadian youth need role models like you to help them plan their futures. Your profile will help secondary students better appreciate the wide range of interesting careers that require or benefit from a background in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

# What’s Involved?

Please complete the following questionnaire and carefully read the important information at the end of the document.

**Keep in mind that you’re writing for teens** who probably aren’t familiar with the details of your work. Try to avoid jargon and specialized terms (or explain them clearly). As much as possible, write in short, evocative sentences that will help youth picture what you’re talking about.

Photos and videos make it easier for young people to understand what a person does. Feel free to include photos you think will be of interest (e.g., your workplace, you doing a specific task, you in a volunteer activity, you engaged in a leisure activity, equipment you use, etc.). Video content is always appreciated.

# Are there any other options?

You can also fill out the **online questionnaire** at <https://letstalkscience.ca/career-profile-submission>.

Or we can arrange for **someone to interview you**. If you would like to be interviewed, please contact Craig White at [cwhite@letstalkscience.ca](mailto:cwhite@letstalkscience.ca).

# Questionnaire

Please answer in the grey areas.

|  |
| --- |
| Name |
|  |
| Email address (Will not be shared or appear in completed profile) |
|  |
| Job title and employer |
|  |
| What does your job title mean? Please describe what you do for work in one or two sentences (maximum of 150 characters). This is will be used to get teenagers to read your profile when searching. It is especially useful when the title is not something they probably understand.  Suggested length: 50 words. |
|  |
| Background information |
| Where were you born? Where did you grow up? |
|  |
| Where do you live now? |
|  |
| Do you self-identify as Indigenous? If yes, what is the name of your community? Please share as much information as you are comfortable providing. If there is more than one name for your community or its territory—such as a traditional name and a commonly used English name—we invite you to share both. |
|  |
| Where did you complete your training or education? Please provide the names of any relevant institutions and programs.  If you did not follow a formal training or post-secondary program, please describe how you prepared yourself for your current job. |
|  |
| How did you get to where you are today?  * Is this what you expected to be doing when you were in high school? * How did you decide on this post-secondary/career path? * Has your career path taken any unusual twists or turns? * How did you decide to go into this field or career? * Who influenced the decisions you made about your career? * Have you encountered any challenges or failures in your career? How did you overcome them?   Suggested length: 150 words. |
|  |
| About your career **You don’t have to answer every one of the questions individually.** Rather, please answer each of the main questions and use the sub-questions to guide your response. |
| What you do at work?  * What are your key activities during the day? What tasks do you perform? * What specific science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) skills do you use at work? * Do you use specialized equipment? * What types of problem solving do you engage in? * Do you have to make decisions? If so, what is your process? * How does a background in STEM help you with solve problems and make decisions? * Do you work as part of a team? How do you interact with your colleagues? * Do you use other languages at work?   Feel free to add photos or videos of your workplace or of what you do. Don’t forget to get your employer’s permission.  Suggested length: 300 words. |
|  |
| How does what you do affect people’s lives and make the world a better place?  * Why does your career matter? * How do the things you do or produce affect others? * How does your job “make a difference”?   Suggested length: 100 words. |
|  |
| What motivates you in your career?  * What gets you excited at work? * What makes your career relevant to you and fulfilling? * What aspects of your career are most interesting? * What do you enjoy most about your job? * What makes this career right for you? What makes it **personally** rewarding?   Suggested length: 200 words. |
|  |
| What activities do you enjoy outside of work?  * What do you do for fun? How do you relax? * Do you do any volunteer work? * Do you play any sports or enjoy other kinds of physical activity?   Pictures can be fun here too!  Suggested length: 50 words. |
|  |
| What advice would you give to a young person interested in a similar career? Suggested length: 50 words. |
|  |

## About you, when you were a teen

Help young people relate to you as a person by sharing a bit about what you were like when you were their age. On the table on next page, select only the items that apply to you and those will be displayed on your published profile.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| When I was in high school, Please select all that apply. | | | |
| I enjoyed… | | I was someone who… | |
|  | Art |  | Brought people together |
|  | Business & Economics |  | Enjoyed doing things on my own |
|  | Computer Science |  | Always wanted to be outside |
|  | Drama |  | Liked helping people |
|  | Foods and Nutrition |  | Organized activities for my friends |
|  | Foreign languages |  | Played on a sports team |
|  | Geography |  | Enjoyed working with my hands |
|  | History |  | Was motivated by success |
|  | Home Economics / Family Studies |  | Wanted to be in charge |
|  | Industrial Arts / Shop Programs |  | Liked being given specific instructions |
|  | Literature and English language arts |  | Liked being given free range to explore my ideas |
|  | Indigenous Studies / Languages |  | Engaged in volunteer activities |
|  | Physical Education / Health |  | Liked reading |
|  | Science |  | Felt at home in the outside, natural environment |
|  | Technology |  | Played video games |
|  | Math |  | Was really creative |
| Other (please specify): | |  | Never wanted to be in the classroom |
|  | |  | Always threw the best parties |
|  | Felt great satisfaction in getting good grades |
|  | Didn’t really care about grades |
|  | Wasn’t sure what I wanted to do |
|  | Learned best “by doing” |
|  | Always knew exactly what I wanted to do |
|  | Liked to take things apart to see how they worked |
|  | Liked to design or build things |
|  | Engaged in activities such as fishing, berry picking and hunting |
| Other (please specify): |  |

# Photos

To help personalize your profile, it would be great if you could provide **a recent good quality photo of yourself**, ideally one taken in the workplace (headshots are also ok).

Photos and videos make it easier for young people to understand what a person does. Feel free to include any other photos you think will be of interest (e.g., your workplace, you doing a specific task, you in a volunteer activity, you engaged in a leisure activity, equipment you use, etc.) Video content is always appreciated.

# How will my answers and photos be used?

The information and images you provide will be used to create [a career profile for our STEM Careers resource collection](https://letstalkscience.ca/explore-careers/). They may also be used to promote the free educational resources provided by Let’s Talk Science. For example, your profile might be featured in a newsletter or a promotional brochure.

**By submitting this questionnaire, you agree and confirm that Let’s Talk Science and its programs have the right and permission to use, reproduce, publish, transmit, distribute and display your photographs and your profile in whole or in part, for educational, promotional or research purposes.**

**At any time, you can request that your profile be updated or removed from our site.**

# Final steps

**Please submit your answers and photos by email to** [**cwhite@letstalkscience.ca**](mailto:cwhite@letstalkscience.ca)**.**

Once we receive your profile, we may suggest edits for clarity and readability. However, you will have an opportunity to review and approve the final version before it is published. We will also let you know where and when it has been published.

# Questions?

Please contact Craig White at [cwhite@letstalkscience.ca](mailto:cwhite@letstalkscience.ca).