

Volunteer Job Description: Transition Streets Facilitator

What is Transition Streets?

Transition Streets is bringing neighbours together to get better acquainted while learning collaboratively how to save money, reduce environmental footprints, and improve their quality of life. It's a program that aims to empower them to create positive and long term environmental and social change by working together.

This award-winning program has been adapted for Guelph from the famous Transition Streets program in Totnes, England. Transition Streets Guelph is a collaboration of eMERGE Guelph, Transition Guelph, and researchers at the University of Guelph.

Facilitator Role:

You will be supporting families and "street-level" neighbourhood groups in conducting their biweekly (every two weeks) or monthly Transition Streets gatherings.

During the gatherings, your role will include:

- Guiding the group through the Activity Book and helping the group stay focused on the topics
- Ensuring that everyone's voice is heard
- Ensuring that the group honours its communication commitments
- Keeping the meetings on track and timely
- Ensuring that the group has a scribe (you are not a note-taker)
- Keeping the gatherings fun, lighthearted and positive
- Encouraging the group to make its own decisions, but guiding them towards the more effective ones suggested (you are not the decision-maker for the group)
- Act as a conduit between the group and eMERGE and Transition Guelph
- Distributing the research study material according to procedure

In preparation before and after the gatherings, your role will include:

- Reviewing the Activity Book Chapter for the upcoming gathering
- Familiarizing yourself with the Resources sections in the Activity Book
- Familiarizing yourself with any unfamiliar concepts found in the Chapter
(The TS and eMERGE Guelph team members will be on hand to support you with this!)

Time commitment:

2-3 hours each week, over a series of 7 meetings (bi-weekly or monthly).

Training and Compensation:

This is a volunteer position that you will leave with invaluable high-level facilitation experience. You will be fostering positive social and environmental change while growing your own community-embedded outreach skills. A full-day training session will be scheduled for all facilitators when recruitment is closed. Lunch and beverages will be provided.

Qualifications:

You are friendly, professional and patient.

You are organized and punctual.

You are comfortable in groups being both a leader and observer.

You enjoy fostering social and environmental change in positive, encouraging ways.