

Project Coordinator – Benchmarks of Historical Thinking

Benchmarks of Historical Thinking is a collaboration between the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness, in the Faculty of Education at UBC, and the Historica Foundation, based in Toronto. The project is designed to foster a new way to conduct history education—with the potential to shift how teachers teach and how students learn, in line with recent international research on history learning. The project now seeks a dynamic, self-starting coordinator who will mobilize enthusiasm and support for the project across Canada as well as provide expertise and guidance for Ministry personnel and teachers who participate.

The Project Coordinator will report to both Peter Seixas, Director of the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness and to Jill McCaw, Director, School Programs, Historica Foundation. The Coordinator will have a broad mandate for raising the profile of the Benchmarks of Historical Thinking project in educational settings across Canada. This role will demand identifying opportunities for promoting the Benchmarks, initiating and maintaining contact with key provincial/territorial and local personnel, designing activities, including workshops, symposia and conferences and providing expertise and support for school leaders who are incorporating Benchmarks into curriculum and instruction. These duties will require travel. A key mode of communication and publication will be the Benchmarks website (www.historybenchmarks.ca), and the Coordinator will be responsible for maintaining and updating content (no technical skills required) as well as setting and achieving website usage targets. Reviewing and editing of website lesson materials submitted by project participants will also be the Coordinator's responsibility. The Coordinator will be responsible for liaison with other organizations, key among them 7th Floor Media (the Benchmarks website designer), and The History Education Network (THEN/HiER). Finally, the Coordinator will be responsible for identifying grant possibilities and writing grants.

This position requires an undergraduate degree in History, Humanities, or Education (Social Studies), or related field. The candidate must have demonstrated excellent oral and written communication skills, interpersonal, organizational and problem solving skills, and strong personal initiative. Experience and facility with the Benchmarks of Historical Thinking, either in classroom or professional development settings, is strongly desirable. Desirable assets include: a graduate degree in history or history education, ability to read, speak and write French, grant-writing experience and project management experience in an educational setting.

The Coordinator will be based in Vancouver. Compensation will be on a contractual basis, with no additional benefits beyond the contract amount of \$6666 per month. Payments will be invoiced on a monthly basis, to the Historica Foundation. The contractor will have no formal affiliation with UBC, but will have shared access to a Benchmarks-dedicated office area in the Centre for the Study of Historical Consciousness. The Coordinator will begin work upon availability, and, subject to a three-month performance review, will continue for one year, with a possibility of renewal for an additional year. Currently available funding is for two years.

Applications should include a covering letter, names of three references, and a c.v. and should be sent electronically to Peter Seixas at peter.seixas@ubc.ca. Interviews will be arranged after April 15, but we will continue to accept applications until we identify an outstanding candidate.