

2023 CROTEAU LAKE GROUPSITE HOST INFORMATION AND FILLABLE APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in the Croteau Lake Host Program in Strathcona Provincial Park. We hope this information will help you decide if this volunteer opportunity is right for you.

Applicants must be aware that this area is remote and hosts need to be prepared with backcountry hiking, camping, and outdoor skills to ensure a good experience and reduce the risk of encountering problems. Hosts must be willing and prepared to provide basic labour to help maintain the group site and to be comfortable meeting and greeting park visitors at the backcountry site to provide information as needed.

Since the inaugural year in 2019, the annual cycle begins with the submission of an application in February and March, with decisions and scheduling offers to follow in May. We would like all potential hosts to commit to a minimum of one week time slots (arriving and departing on Thursdays). However, we may consider shorter periods if the weekend is included.

Generally, the responsibilities of the hosts are to greet visitors, inform groups about camping and park etiquette, maintain group site facilities, advise Area Supervisor and Park Rangers about activities and/or issues observed, and work on any approved or assigned special projects appropriate to each host.

A Croteau Lake Host manual and visitor orientation sheet will be provided to each confirmed host. This will provide more detail about park information and hosting duties. Here are some points that lay out the basics:

- Supplied equipment includes: a wall tent on wooden raised tent pad; camp cots; cooking stove & fuel along with cookware and place settings; lantern; table and chairs; lockable large metal box for storage; pop-up tent for outdoor kitchen; water filter and large water container; cleaning supplies; tarp; tools.
- Hosts are required to pack in their own food, sleeping bag, sleeping pad (cots are not insulated) and personal items needed for the duration of their hosting shift. The relatively easy trail hike to Croteau Lake is approximately 6 Km with elevation gain of 250m.

- Valid Occupational First Aid (OFA) Level 1 First Aid Certificate or equivalent is required for at least one adult host. A first aid kit is provided by BC Parks.
- A 1-week minimum term for Park Hosts is preferred, but we may consider shorter terms as long as a weekend is part of the stay. Hosting periods start on the day you hike in, and end on the day you hike out. Hosting periods typically start and end on a Thursday.
- Please ensure you are available and committed to hosting the week you apply for. Although cancellations are understandable under certain circumstances, this creates difficulty for the Strathcona team and we rely on hosts keeping to the schedule.
- Due to the remote location, there must be two adults in the hosting party. This application is on behalf of yourself as the primary host and the other adult co-host(s) in your party.
- All adults must consent to and pass a Vulnerable Sector Criminal Records Check – more information will be provided to applicants.
- Park hosts will be required to participate in a teleconference orientation session prior to hosting.
- Pets are not permitted under this volunteer program.
- Preferred experience and qualifications include a combination of wilderness hiking, camping, customer service, and public engagement work.
- Hosts are expected to be in good health and capable of physical exertion. Hosts should be willing to do light duties as required.
- Successful applicants to this program will sign a BC Parks Volunteer Agreement.
- An InReach satellite communication device will be provided for required daily safety check-ins. Note - Cell service is sporadic depending on service provider but can be accessed in certain locations.
- There is no electricity at Croteau Lake.

We will contact all interested applicants. In the month of May a schedule will be populated with successful candidates on a first-come basis and those applying later will be wait-listed for their preferred dates. Confirmed hosts will be sent an orientation manual and an invitation to attend a pre-season teleconference session with the BC Parks team.

Thank you very much for your interest in this volunteer host opportunity. We look forward to connecting with you.

Sincerely,

Jessie Moore
Strathcona Area Supervisor

How to Apply

Interested parties are asked to:

1. Complete the fillable form on the following page;
2. Save the PDF file with your name as primary applicant in the title (i.e. *JANE SMITH 2023 Croteau Lake Host Application.PDF*)
3. Email your saved PDF to Strathcona Senior Ranger Mattias Morrison at Mattias.Morrison@gov.bc.ca. If you have questions or need help with this application, please call Mattias at 250-331-9984
4. Your application will be reviewed, and BC Parks staff will follow up with instructions for adult hosts to complete a volunteer agreement; an electronic criminal records check; and an invitation to provide a copy of valid first aid certification.

CROTEAU LAKE GROUP SITE HOST APPLICATION

Primary Applicant Name _____ Date _____

Email _____ Birthdate _____

Address _____ City/Prov _____ Postal _____

Why would you like to be a host?

Please describe your relevant work experience with the public.

Please describe your backpacking and camping experience.

First choice availability for 1-week hosting period: (check all that apply)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Late June | Early July | Mid July | Late July | Early Aug | Mid Aug | Late Aug | Early Sep | Mid Sep | Late Sep |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|

Second choice availability: (check all that apply)

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Late June | Early July | Mid July | Late July | Early Aug | Mid Aug | Late Aug | Early Sep | Mid Sep | Late Sep |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|

Valid first aid certification type and expiry (i.e. OFA1 expires Aug'24) _____. Please contact us if you need first aid training. BC Parks can pay course tuition for a volunteer host.

Other people hosting with you – please include full names / address / birthdate / phone / email.

Up to 3 other people. *As the primary host applicant, you are responsible to find at least one adult co-host.*

Save the PDF file with your name in the title (i.e. *JANE SMITH 2023 Croteau Lake Host Application.PDF*).
Email your saved PDF to Strathcona Senior Ranger Mattias Morrison at Mattias.Morrison@gov.bc.ca. If you require help with this application you can call 250-331-9984. If there is other information you would like us to know, please include details in the email. Thank you for applying!