

## Volunteer Job Description

### Historic Costume Assistant

Costume Assistants will sew identified pieces of clothing or textile materials necessary for the interpretive costume program. Historic costumes assist to recreate an authentic Victorian experience for visitors to Irving House. Costumes are selected and constructed to replicate authentic 1860's fashions. Historic costumes are an integral component of the interpretive program for Irving House and are worn by Interpretive Guides and Volunteers.

#### Activities

- Sew pieces of historic costumes.
- Fit and alter costumes for Interpretive Guides and Volunteers.
- Repair damaged or worn costume pieces.
- Clean and launder costumes.
- Research Victorian fashion history and assist to document styles, material types, stitching methods and accessories.

#### Work Site

New Westminster Museum and Archives  
302 Royal Avenue,  
New Westminster, BC, V3L 1H7  
604-527-4640

#### Time Commitment

Two or three hours per week, flexible hours and days.  
Wednesday – Sunday, 11:00 am – 4:30 pm.

#### Qualifications

- Proficiency reading and understanding patterns.
- Proficiency measuring and cutting fabric.
- Advanced sewing skills.
- Knowledge and skill in fitting and alterations.
- Interest in fashion history, historic clothing and textiles.

#### Benefits

Help bring history to life by creating fashion embellishments for interpretation and teaching. Make new friends and use sewing skills for the benefit of the community.

#### Staff Contact

Colin Stevens, Manager, New Westminster Museum and Archives 604-527-4639  
[cstevens@city.new-westminster.bc.ca](mailto:cstevens@city.new-westminster.bc.ca) Revised: 2005-12-20