

**New Westminster Museum and Archives
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 1880s Victorian fashions. Historic costumes are an integral component of the interpretive program for Irving House and are worn by Tour Guides and Volunteers.

Activities

- Sew pieces of 1880s historic costumes.
- Fit and alter costumes for Tour Guides and Volunteers.
- Repair damaged or worn costume pieces.
- Clean and launder costumes.
- Research 1880s Victorian fashion history and assist to document styles, material types, stitching methods and accessories.

Training

- Orientation
- Artefact care and handling

Work Site

New Westminster Museum and Archives
777 Columbia Street, New Westminster, BC V3M 1B6

Irving House
302 Royal Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3L 1H7

Time Commitment

As needed, flexible hours and days.
Wednesdays – Sundays.

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

Make new friends and use sewing skills for the benefit of the community.

Staff Contact

Liz Twaites, Volunteer Coordinator, New Westminister Parks, Culture and Recreation
(604) 519-1023 or ltwaites@newwestcity.ca.

