

Christina Chowaniec

2354 W 8th Avenue, Vancouver, BC, V6K 2A9, 778-865-3597 Email: chrischowaniec@hotmail.com

Work Experience

May 2010 to Present – Founder & Operator, Dam Good Trips, Inc.

Dam Good Trips specializes in creating self-guided hiking, canoe & kayak packages for exploring Vancouver and the BC Coast. Each trip DGT creates is tailored specifically to fit a group's experience, skill and comfort level. DGT matches the needs of each individual client with the many paddling and hiking destinations available in BC and then equips them to do it. Alone. Unguided. But well prepared and informed about the challenges. DGT takes care of the packing, preparation, route planning, food, transportation and gear. Clients get the convenience of a fully planned and outfitted package tour with the independence and flexibility of a custom designed trip. (<http://damgoodtrips.com>).

May 2015 to October 2016 – Western Canada Operations Supervisor, Alta Expedition

Alta Expedition is an inbound tour operator specializing in guided BC hiking and mountain biking tours. I supervised the guides for all of the western area departures, hired them, scheduled them, ensured they had the equipment they needed, scheduled the vehicles and trailers, troubleshoot any problems on trip and ensured post trip reporting was complete. I was also responsible for park permitting, vehicle registry and licensing, gear purchase, staff evaluations, and ensuring compliance with federal/provincial guidelines in my territory. (<http://altaexpedition.com>).

April 2012 to October 2016 – Instructor, Deep Cove Canoe & Kayak Centre (seasonal)

Deep Cove Canoe & Kayak Centre is one of the largest kayak schools in Canada. As an instructor I was responsible for the safety and enjoyment of participants while they were in a lesson or on tour. I taught both children and adults in a variety of environments: from guided group programs and recreational level lessons, smaller tours and overnight experiences, corporate team building and races. I ensured that all clients had a safe and positive paddling experience.

August 2011 to 2015 – Production Coordinator, Merging+Media Conference (contract)

Merging+Media is designed to promote the understanding of cross-media production in the media industry. It provides industry awareness and opportunities for partnerships to develop between media sectors as well as the opportunity to engage with the top innovators of conventional and interactive media.

November 2008 to May 2010 – Community and Communications Coordinator, DigiBC

Digital Media and Wireless Association of BC (DigiBC) is the industry association representing more than 400 wireless and digital media companies in BC. I was responsible for the execution of DigiBC's marketing and communication initiatives. It was a creative and logistical role that included coordinating and managing DigiBC's events; planning and implementing DigiBC's signature event, the Vancouver Interactive Digital Week; liaising and communicating with members, sponsors, vendors, and internal teams; developing all communication materials, newsletters, website copy, media announcements and corporate documentation.

July 2008 to November 2008 – Intern, Community Relations and Content Support – NowPublic

NowPublic was a participatory news network that mobilized an army of reporters to cover the events that define our world. I was responsible for recruiting citizen and mobile journalists on the web for NowPublic.com, sourcing multimedia footage; writing and editing breaking and continuing news stories and building and maintaining a network of contributors in order to provide first-rate news coverage.

September 2007 - Consultant – Kyrgyz Community Based Tourism Association

With the support of a grant from the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) I completed a voluntary consultancy for a NGO in Kyrgyzstan where knowledge of Canadian sustainable tourism practices and marketing techniques were shared in order to strengthen the professional capacity of the industry in Kyrgyzstan.

November 2005 to June 2007 –Executive Services Associate - MIGENIX Inc.

MIGENIX Inc. is a Vancouver based biotechnology company focused on the treatment of infectious and neurodegenerative diseases. I worked with the executive team in areas of Corporate Communications and Marketing and Business Development. My role included drafting and issuing press releases; developing promotional and product materials for road shows and conferences; assisting in development of annual report and proxy circular materials; quarterly financial reporting; in and out-licensing activities; liaised with legal experts and managed the company database.

May 2004 to June 2005 –Executive Assistant - BIOTECCanada

BIOTECCanada is the national industry-funded association representing the broad spectrum of biotech constituents including emerging, established and related service companies in the health, agricultural, and industrial sectors. I was responsible for running committees; liaising between the private sector and government; and the private sector and the general public; coordinating meetings between senior members of industry, Federal Ministers, Members of Parliament and senior bureaucrats; planning and implementing large scale networking events; developing guiding principles for the amelioration of financing, HR and intellectual property protection for biotechnology in Canada.

Winter 2004 Contract 1 – Research Analyst - Ottawa Life Sciences Council (OLSC)

Co-authored a report on the Eastern Ontario Biotechnology Cluster and developed economic strategies to enhance the growth of a biotechnology cluster in Eastern Ontario.

Winter 2004 Contract 2 –Project Manager - Vitesse Re-Skilling (National Research Council)

Project leader and manager of a team that designed and implemented a detailed, industry standard training curriculum for biomanufacturing.

Winter 2003 – Researcher - India

Designed and conducted an independent project dealing with contaminants in the drinking water; worked closely with rural communities, NGOs and university professors.

Summer 1998-2001 – Tree Planter – Canoe Guide – Northern Ontario

Worked for many years in remote areas in northern Ontario. As a tree planter and wilderness canoe guide.

Education

- Banff Centre – Adventure Film Makers Workshop, November 2010
- BCIT–Marketing (MKTG 2203), Dec 2009, Organizational Behaviour (ORGB 1105), April 2007
- B.Sc. Honours Biological Science - University of Guelph, February 2004
- High School Diploma; Ontario Scholar - Lisgar Collegiate Institute in Ottawa, June 1999

Certifications

- Paddle Canada Level 1 Sea Kayak Instructor / Level 2 Skills certification
- Sea Kayak Guides Alliance of BC (SKGABC) Level 1 Sea Kayak Guide
- Advanced Wilderness First Aid
- VHF Radio Restricted Operator Certificate (Maritime) – DSC endorsement
- Pleasure Craft Operator Card (Boat license)

Films & Publications

- Documentary “[No Experience Required](#)” (31 mins) about 700km kayak trip from Vancouver Island to Alaska in summer 2010. Screened at film festivals including *2011 Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival* “Best of the Fest” and *Mammoth Film Fest*
- Feature articles regarding 2010 sea kayak expedition to Alaska (*Vancouver Courier* – July 2011 & *Vancouver Province* – April 2011)
- Feature Articles based on travel experiences in Kazakhstan (*RealTravel* - Nov 2008), Pakistan (*Vancouver Sun* - Feb 2008); Kyrgyzstan (*Vancouver Province* - Jan 2008); Western China (*AsiaNetwork* - Winter 2007)