

Spring Residency Application

March 1 – May 31, 2027 · Four to six residents · Seton Portage, BC

Fill this in and email it to info@earthkin.ca by December 1. Give yourself about an hour. Write plainly — we're reading for honesty and fit, not for good writing. Questions marked with an asterisk need an answer; the rest are optional.

If you have questions before you apply — about the road, your shelter, whether this residency is well suited for you — write to info@earthkin.ca. We will also schedule a video interview with all applicants.

SECTION 1

Who you are

Full name *

Name you go by

Email *

Phone *

Where you're based *

Town and country.

Age *

Residents must be 18 or over.

Anything of yours online

Optional. A site, a profile, work you've made. Not required and not weighted.

Emergency contact — name, relationship, phone *

SECTION 2

Outdoor Living Experience

You don't need to have prior experience practicing earthskills — you'll be receiving instruction on that during the residency. It is important that you have some experience being outdoors before as you will be primarily based outdoors for three months. At the beginning of the residency in March expect temperatures to drop to just below zero at night. By May, expect to be wearing shorts and a t-shirt. We will send a detailed packing list to help you prepare to be comfortable with outdoor living here.

Describe your outdoor experience *

Camping, backcountry, tree planting, trail work, farming, hunting, living in a vehicle — whatever it's been. Include specifics about how long and how recently.

Longest continuous stretch living outside or off-grid *

Coldest conditions you've camped in *

What season was it in and what did you use for shelter?

Any land skills you already have

Fire, hide work, tracking, foraging, plant medicine, hunting, building, textiles. "None" is a perfectly good answer.

SECTION 3

Your shelter

You will have access to a covered outdoor kitchen with a 3-burner stove and running water (which comes from a mountain spring), composting toilets, laundry and wifi. Housing isn't included in tuition — but you can bring your own or rent from us.

- Bring your own shelter — no charge. Many kinds of shelters work here. People have lived in a tent for a season and been fine. Canvas tents are another popular option that allows for more storage space and the possibility for running a small wood stove.
- Wall tent with small wood stove, 1 available — **\$300 a month, \$900 for the season.**
- Yurt, 2 are available — \$1,500 a month, \$4,500 for the season. There is a 20 ft yurt and a 16 ft yurt. Both are fully furnished with a kitchenette, wood stove, private outhouse, and shared outdoor hot shower. The big one has more space and a small kitchenette set-up. The small one has a large outdoor kitchen.

What shelter option are you most interested in? *

- ☐ I'll be bringing my own shelter
- ☐ I'd like to rent the wall tent (\$300/mo)
- ☐ I'd like to rent the 20 ft yurt (\$1,500/mo)
- ☐ I'd like to rent the 16 ft yurt (\$1,500/mo)

☐ I'm not sure yet — it'd be helpful to discuss the options further

Tell us about your shelter choice *

If you're bringing your own tent, van, truck camper, or trailer, tell us more – what make or model is your shelter? Do you already own it? If you're renting from us, what makes you think that's the right call.

How will you stay warm and dry? *

We are located in the valley bottom in a semi-arid environment. The climate here is mild but the residency involves living three months outside. Heat source, insulation, sleeping system and its rating. Milder than people expect, but still three months of living outside.

What vehicle will you arrive in? *

Make, type, 2WD or 4WD. A 4x4 or AWD vehicle is ideal for the unpaved roads out here.

SECTION 4

Why this, why now

Why are you considering taking this three month residency? *

What compels you to make this choice? What is happening in your life right now that makes this opportunity seem right for you?

What would you want to be different about you by May 31? *

Are there specific skills you are interested in or experiences you would like to gain? Is there a way of relating to land, people, or yourself that you are striving towards?

Have you been to an Earthkin course, gathering or event?

If so, which one, and when?

SECTION 5

Community Work Exchange

This place runs on participation. We balance caring for the commons with tending to our personal tasks. Not everyone does everything but everyone contributes in some way.

Ideally people naturally step in where they are called and capable. This might look like:

- Gathering and preparing wood for winter
- Tending the hearth space by cleaning and beautifying it
- Leading or helping with communal projects (see below)
- Participating in the basic functions of an off-grid homestead. This looks different in every season. In winter, water needs to be hauled, the stove needs to be lit in the commonhouse each morning etc.

In addition to the necessary tasks of maintaining home, we ask residents for the duration of their stay to participate three days each week in one of our communal projects. The communal projects for spring 2027 include spring are permaculture based, firesmarting and prescribed burning, garden projects, firewood and ecological restoration.

What physical work experience do you have? *

This can include paid or voluntary experience. Is there physical work you enjoy or prefer to avoid?

Experience with tools, fire or land work

This can include chainsaw, hand tools, fencing, planting, gardening, burning, machinery etc. Let us know if you have any skill certifications. "None" is fine.

Is there anything about your physical condition we should know about? *

This includes injuries, limitations, things that flare up, or work you should avoid. Sharing this information is helpful for us as we coordinate work that suits people's physical condition. Say "nothing" if there's nothing.

SECTION 6

Living with people

Four to six of you, outside, for thirteen weeks, eating together almost every night. This is part of the residency, not an optional extra — but you don't need to arrive knowing any of it.

— Heart circle, weekly — checking in on how each of us is actually doing.

- Art of Council — a relational practice for being heard, and for working conflict through rather than around it.
- Circling — sharing deeply what it's like to be you, drawn out by the attention of the others.
- Morning movement, most days — martial arts, strength and mobility, parkour. No background needed.

Do you have any experience living in a community or in a shared, intimate setting? *

Examples could be shared houses, crews, expeditions, communities, or family. Describe your experience and the duration you lived in it for.

Tell us about a time when living or working closely with people became challenging *

What happened? What was your part in it and how did you respond?

Do you have experience with group processes that help guide interpersonal living dynamics?

For example group council, circling, forum etc.

Movement and training background

Martial arts, strength, climbing, sport, dance etc. Morning movement runs most days and covers martial arts, strength and mobility, and parkour.

Cooking *

We eat together almost every night and the cooking duty rotates among all residents on the land. How are you in a kitchen, and what would you happily cook for 12 people?

Are there any skills you would like to share or offer to the group? *

Residents are encouraged to bring the gifts that they carry. This could be a skill, a craft, music, a practice, a body of knowledge, or something you make. It doesn't have to be earthskills related and it doesn't have to be impressive. What would you want to share over thirteen weeks?

SECTION 7

Practical

Can you commit to all 13 weeks? *

- ☐ Yes — March 1 to May 31, all of it
- ☐ Yes, but I'd need to leave briefly (explain below)
- ☐ No — I could only do part of it

Any dates you'd need to be away

How would you get here? *

Tell us your travel logistics.

Dietary needs *

Food is provided — This includes organic meat and vegetables and bulk dry good staples. Tell us what you can't eat. We're a long way from a grocery store, so we'll be straight with you about what we can manage.

Bringing anyone or anything? *

No dogs — that one is firm. Partner, child, a lot of gear: ask rather than assume. [State the policy on partners and children.] Say "no" if not.

First aid training

Level and expiry, if you have any. We're [X hours] from a hospital.

Tuition is \$4,500 CAD — \$1,000 secures your spot, \$2,500 paid in total by March 1, then \$1,000 a month. *

- ☐ That schedule works for me
- ☐ I can pay in full up front
- ☐ I'd need to discuss the schedule
- ☐ I'd need to ask about reduced cost or work trade

SECTION 8

Last things

One reference *

Name, relationship, email. Someone who has lived or worked closely with you.

Anything else you want us to know

Before you send

- ☐ I understand housing isn't included in tuition — I'm either bringing my own shelter or paying rent for one on site.
 - ☐ I'm ready for three five-hour work days a week, and instruction weekends three times a month, for thirteen weeks.
 - ☐ I understand morning movement, weekly heart circle, Art of Council and circling are part of the residency, along with shared meals and shared cooking.
 - ☐ I understand there are no dogs on site, and no alcohol or substance use during work or programming.
 - ☐ Everything I've written here is true, including the parts about my experience and my shelter.
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Signature and date

Email to info@earthkin.ca by December 1, 2026