

## **VOLUNTEERING WITH THE TAMIL STUDIES CONFERENCE**

Organizing and hosting this international conference requires the labour of many and every year 20-30 youth volunteers help to conceptualize, plan and then host the conference. They are also mentored in acquiring skills and experiences related to organizing these conferences.

Volunteers play a role in planning and implementing fund raising, website and graphic design, community outreach, student outreach, media work, event planning and academic planning.

Volunteers who work on the conference for more than a year have the opportunity of becoming volunteer coordinators and play a leadership role along with the academic organizers.

### **Who are we looking for as volunteers?**

Young students or working adults starting from High School seniors.

Please note that you don't have to be Tamil, you don't have to know Tamil, and you do not have to be a student in the humanities or social sciences, and you do not even have to be a student but can be in full time work.

### **The primary requirements are:**

- intellectual curiosity about the fields that constitute Tamil Studies.
- ability to work as a member of a team.
- responsible: prompt communication and meeting obligations you commit to.
- a good sense of humour.
- professionalism: learn to work to the standards of an international conference.

### **Time Commitment:**

Volunteers must be able to contribute 6 hours per month of their time to help plan, coordinate and implement various tasks related to the conference. The time commitment will be greater around the conference.

All volunteers are expected to help throughout the full conference programme in 2009, from Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> evening to Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> evening. Volunteers must also attend two training sessions on the afternoons or evenings of Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers will have at least one intake interview, sometimes two, and a probationary period of at least 3 months.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for the 2009 conference please fill in the application form and email it to: [info@tamilstudiesconference.ca](mailto:info@tamilstudiesconference.ca)

**TAMIL STUDIES CONFERENCE, MAY 21-23, 2009**

**VOLUNTEER APPLICATION**

**Name:**

**Affiliation:** (Students should state their institution and field of study, others should state their field of work and organization)

**Email:**

**Telephone:**

**Postal Address:**

Please note that all the fields above must be completed.

**Languages that you speak:**

**Why are you interested in the Tamil Studies Conference?** (What areas of study interests you most or what personal/social/cultural/political interests draw you to the conference).

**Other Comments/Questions:**