

Editor-in-Chief, The Sputnik

Job Description and Priorities

Position Description:

Hired by the President/Publisher, Board and Executive Director, the Sputnik Editor-in-Chief is responsible for overseeing the production of The Sputnik newspaper on a monthly basis, ensuring all deadlines are met, and is responsible for overseeing all other WLUSP Brantford Operations.

The EIC hires and supervises the work of all Brantford Student Publication managers, staff and volunteers. In addition, the EIC is responsible for completing the budgeting process. The EIC will assist the Executive Director in the management of day-to-day Brantford business operations.

The Sputnik is the official student newspaper for the Laurier Brantford campus. Print issues of the newspaper are released monthly with online-specific content being created as needed. The Editor-in-Chief will oversee the publication of 8 print issues from September-May, the content, design and upkeep of thesputnik.ca website, and also the Sputnik's social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and any other relevant platforms.

Reports To: President and Publisher

Supervises: The Sputnik Editorial Board, The Sputnik Volunteers, Brantford Photography Manager, Brantford Advertising, and Brantford Distribution Manager.

Term of Office: May 1, 2020 to April 30, 2021 for 15 hrs/week

Responsibilities:

1. Responsible for hiring The Sputnik's Editorial board and overseeing the hiring process for general volunteers
2. Ensure all volunteers are properly oriented and trained
3. Meet regularly with The Sputnik's Editorial board
4. Manage all directly reporting staff and ensure the effective supervision of all staff and volunteers
5. Ensure that all Sputnik staff and volunteers are informed of and compliant with WLUSP policy and code of conduct, etc.
6. Facilitate all human resource activities and professional development activities across Brantford departments, including, but not limited to the hiring and termination of staff and volunteers alongside the WLUSP HR Manager
7. Oversee and participate in activities undertaken to recruit and orient new Sputnik staff and volunteers
8. Conduct mid-year reviews with members of The Sputnik's Editorial Board and relevant staff
9. Assist the President and Executive Director in preparing the interim and operating budget for Brantford departments

10. Supervise budgetary compliance and bring any desired amendments to the President and Board of Directors in accordance with WLUSP policy and by-laws
11. Assist the President and Executive Director in the negotiation of contracts relating the matters of Brantford operations
12. Act as a liaison and mediator between Brantford departments and between WLUSP Brantford and WLUSP Waterloo
13. Assist members of the Corporation in relations with the university and other outside organizations
14. Represent the Corporation in relations with the university and other outside organizations
15. Coordinate public relations activities and represent WLUSP Brantford to the media
16. Attend all staff meetings unless due warning is provided to the WLUSP President
17. Attend all meetings and conferences on behalf of WLUSP as required
18. Ensure that The Sputnik is sent to the printer on time
19. Responsible for the overall production for The Sputnik newspaper and thesputnik.ca website
20. Manage and oversee all uses or representation of The Sputnik logo or brand
21. Ensure that Student Publications is operating in accordance with its existing by-laws, policies and guidelines
22. Advise the President in response to any matters pertaining to Brantford operations affecting the legal status of the corporation, including but not limited to: matters of libel, employment contract disputes, and other legal matters
23. Participate in the hiring of relevant staff in the months preceding the term of office and the last months of term of office
24. Prepare a year-end transition report for the next EIC of The Sputnik
25. Any other reasonable duties as required by the President and/or Executive Director

About department head positions:

A publication's department head is responsible for ensuring the production of their publication and, where applicable, their publication's website. They are responsible for maintaining deadlines, overseeing production, maintaining consistent quality, preventing any instance of libel or plagiarism, preparing budgets, and managing staff and volunteers.

These roles give you the opportunity to grow your professional skills and challenge yourself in an environment focused on growth and development by creating high-quality products that are enjoyed by the Laurier and Brantford community.

This position will provide a great opportunity to build experience in media, student journalism and creative fields, and allow you the chance to be a part of one of the most inclusive, friendly, and fun organizations on the Laurier campus.

Application requirements:

If you would like to apply for this position, please send an email to president@wlusp.com with the following requirements:

- Subject line “The Sputnik Application: Editor-in-Chief”
- Resume (1 page, PDF)
- Platform (30-page maximum, PDF)

A platform is your vision for the upcoming year. Include your goals for the publication, your experience/what you’ll bring to the role, departmental structure, capital asset improvements and any details you feel should be included in your document.

- Clearly state your name, year of study, contact information and the position you are applying for on a cover page
- Clearly label the sections of your platform
- In your platform, clearly outline all positions and roles within the publication you are applying for. As well, clearly state any changes you wish to implement within those positions or roles if applicable

Upon applying for the position, if successful, you will be contacted by Aaron Waitson, the current President and Publisher, to set an interview date/time.

