

Alika Maharaj

I am an aspiring geologist, and a full-time HBSc student at the University of Toronto, with a passion for mineral identification, field mapping, and exploration. I thrive in hands-on fieldwork, analyzing geological formations and understanding the Earth's geological history. Outside of academics, I enjoy fishing, hiking, kayaking, and connecting with nature.

EXPERIENCE

Thesis Research, University of Toronto — *Undergraduate Researcher*

2024 - 2025

Conducted an independent thesis investigating the effects of high-energy environments and sediment grain size on insect disarticulation during transportation. Developed skills in experimental design, data collection, statistical analysis, and scientific writing.

Fieldwork, Peterborough — *Field Researcher*

2025

Collected snowpack data, including density, and used Google Earth and ArcGIS for mapping. Worked collaboratively to highlight how localized data points fail to represent larger areas, a key issue in predicting snow cover and mitigating ice jam risks.

Fieldwork, White Fish Falls — *Exploration Geologist*

2024

Completed a two-week geological field course in Whitefish Falls, ON, mapping rock units, structural features, and geological contacts. Analyzed the geological setting of Sudbury, Manitoulin Island, and surrounding regions. Utilized compass bearings and navigation techniques for precise field mapping and data collection.

British Swim School, Mississauga — *Swim School Instructor*

2023 - 2024

Responsible for teaching children and adults vital water safety and survival skills.

Bailey's Bites, Mississauga — *Small Business Owner*

2020 - 2023

I opened my own small business, selling specialty treats and desserts for pets.

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SKILLS

- Core logging
- Mineral and ore identification
- Field mapping and structural measurements
- Problem-solving and collaboration in fieldwork and research
- Navigation and bearings in field work
- Igneous facies identification
- Tectonic setting analysis
- Tenacious work ethic
- Geochemical data interpretation
- Statistical analyses (R programming)
- Entrepreneurship
- Organizational skills
- Data management
- Scientific writing
- Independent thinking and research
- Conservation strategies

CERTIFICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- First Aid with CPR-C
- Silver in English Olympiad Competition
- Full colours in volleyball

Tutor Doctor, Mississauga — Tutor

2020 - 2025

Responsible for tutoring primary school and middle school students.

EDUCATION

University of Toronto, Mississauga — Bachelor of Science

2022 - 2025

I am currently completing a double major in Earth Science and Biology.

University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg — Bachelor of Science

2020 - 2022

Before moving to Canada, I was in the process of completing a major in Biochemistry.

LANGUAGES

English - Fluent

Afrikaans - Beginner

REFERENCES

Sheila Ballantyne, P.Geo

sheila.ballantyne@utoronto.ca

Peter Liberty, PhD

Candidate

p.liberty@mail.utoronto.ca