

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Position Title: Main Mall Community Garden Coordinator

Background

Located on unceded Musqueam territory, the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS) is a unique research center that aims to understand and fundamentally transform local and global food systems towards a more sustainable, food secure future. The CSFS is a living laboratory committed to finding solutions to both local and global challenges facing food systems sustainability and translating solutions to improve personal, community, and environmental health.

The LFS Career Development Internship aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Interns work alongside food systems practitioners and faculty to increase their understanding and knowledge of food systems research, from organic agriculture to food production methods, food-focused community engagement, and business management.

The Main Mall Community Garden is a proposed temporary garden to be installed on Main Mall at Agronomy Road. Its goal is to generate a vibrant community in the heart of campus and to advocate for the centrality of food in campus community and learning. It will be open to all campus community members. The role of the Garden Coordinator will be to facilitate community building, ensure that the garden is maintained at a high aesthetic and functional standard, and otherwise oversee the success of the project. The Garden Coordinator will exert a form of leadership which is effective in delegating and enforcing responsibility, but also in creating a sense of genuine community, cohesion, and fulfillment for each of the gardeners.

Interns are expected to enroll in the Career Development Internship course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) twice: once in the Summer semester and once in Winter 1 semester. At the end of the 26-week program, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

Duties

The Main Mall Community Garden Coordinator will work alongside the community garden team, consisting of primarily student gardeners and campus stakeholders, on the following tasks:

- Check on the garden every morning to verify whether the garden needs watering, pruning, or weeding; that the site is generally neat and tidy and that no acts of vandalism have occurred; and that the compost has been adequately dealt with by the community members.
- Inventory check on all purchased and donated tools weekly and ensure they are properly stored

Grounded in science. Global in scope.

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www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm

- Facilitate interaction among all community garden members during orientations, using online platforms, in the garden, and at events
- Administer a Google Drive folder open to all garden members with garden plot maintenance schedules, plans, and member contact information
- Main point of contact for gardening troubleshooting concerns (pests, diseases)
- Chair and coordinate the garden's existing steering committee, monthly garden planning meetings, and monthly advisory committee meetings
- Maintain a daily photo diary, blog or public Facebook page that is accessible to the public on the progress of the garden, and the garden's main email account.
- Serve as the main point of contact for membership and waitlist inquiries, collaboration inquiries, the media, Campus and Community Planning, UBC Building Operations, and all other external events.
- Manage the budget and make all necessary purchases for the garden
- Manage volunteer engagement

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496.
- Ability to work both in a team and individual setting
- Comfortable using social media for project updates
- Strong leadership and organizational skills
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Gardening skills are an asset

Position Details

- May to December 2016
- 6-9 hours per week
- Flexible schedule to be determined with the candidate
- This is an unpaid, for-credit, internship

How to apply

Along with your resume please write a brief letter (max. 500 words) outlining the following:

- Which internship position you are applying for
- What you hope to gain from such an experience or how you feel this experience would contribute to your overall learning and education at UBC
- Specific interests or areas that you would like to learn more about

Email:

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- Acceptable formats include text (within the body of the email), Microsoft Word 2007 or earlier, or Adobe PDF
- Applications must be received no later than **March 5th 2017**
- Please no phone calls
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm can be found at www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm