

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Cheakamus Centre

Position Title: Composting Initiative Intern

Background

Cheakamus Centre is an overnight field school and environmental studies facility established in 1969 by the North Vancouver School District. The Centre is situated on 165 ha of ecological reserve located on the traditional territories of the Ch'iyák-mesh people in Paradise Valley, near Squamish BC. The Centre offers a wide variety of experiential environmental and indigenous cultural programs to children, youth and adults from the Sea to Sky corridor, lower mainland, and beyond. The Cheakamus Centre's renowned overnight field school and cultural programs include nature-based and outdoor activities tied to the new BC curriculum. Program offerings include youth leadership, outdoor recreation, and other hands-on experiences intended to instill in young learners a sense of respect and appreciation for the natural world.

The 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 work, from organic agriculture to food production methods, food-focused community engagement, and business management.

The Cheakamus Centre is currently exploring approaches to better utilizing the food waste generated by the 11,000+ students it hosts each year. The Centre houses a small animal farm, edible gardens and honeybees, which all provide unique learning experiences for students, support sustainable food system initiatives on campus, and offers interesting opportunities for food waste management. The Cheakamus Centre Composting Initiative Intern will identify best practices, required resources, and collaborate in the implementation of new food waste management initiatives on its campus.

Interns are expected to enroll in the Career Development Internship course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) during the summer 2018 semester. At the end of the 26-week program, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

Duties

The Composting Initiative Intern will work alongside the Cheakamus Centre team on the following tasks:

- Research best practices in food waste management (e.g. farm food scraps, composting);

Grounded in science. Global in scope.

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- Identify the needs and requirements of a potential Cheakamus Centre food waste management approach.
- Present the Cheakamus Centre team with a set of approaches and list of resources that will support the Centre's vision;
- Develop a preliminary cost analysis for the food waste management approach selected by the Cheakamus Centre team;
- Identify resources to support the implementation of the food waste management approach.

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496
- Ability to work both independently and as part of team.
- Capable of conducting a literature review, collating and presenting information (e.g. access to the Internet, proficiency with Excel and PowerPoint or comparable software applications).
- Explore avenues of support for required equipment, resources, etc.
- Develop draft content for social media purposes.
- Willingness to learn and desire to gain practical food systems experience.

Position Details

- May to August
- 9 hours per week
- 5 visits to the Cheakamus Centre are required (transport is not provided by the Centre)
- Most of the work can occur at a site selected by the intern.
- Flexible - schedule to be determined with the candidate
- This is an unpaid, for credits, internship

How to apply

- Apply by submitting one Adobe PDF document combining a cover letter and résumé.
- The cover letter should be maximum 500 words, state which internship position you are applying for, and 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
- **Email** your application to Sarah Bainbridge (sarah@cheakamuscentre.ca)
- All application email subjects should clearly refer to "Career Development Internship"
- Applications must be received no later than **March 1 2018**.
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems can be found at www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm. Information about Cheakamus Centre can be obtained at <http://www.cheakamuscentre.ca/>. Contact Sarah Bainbridge at sarah@cheakamuscentre.ca or 1.604.848.5668 for additional information about the role.