

Student Internship



Faculty of Land and Food Systems
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Truffle Association of British Columbia

Position Title: Agriculture Innovation Intern

Background

The Truffle Association of British Columbia (TABC), established in 2004, is a group of producers, mycologists, and professional agrologists and foragers dedicated to the commercial truffle industry in British Columbia, Canada. TABC's goals are to enable the truffle industry's growth and competitiveness, promote its products and community, and pro-actively seek and apply new truffle technologies and practices.

Managed by the CSFS, the Food Systems 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.

TABC has a 5-year-old English oak tree truffle orchard (truffière) at the UBC Farm which goal is to investigate the viability and horticulture practices of European culinary black Périgord truffles (*Tuber melanosporum*) in British Columbia. Working with UBC Adjunct Professor Dr. Shannon Berch and subject expert matter and business entrepreneur Doug Campbell, the Agriculture Innovation Intern will contribute to the startup of a truffle cultivation industry by assisting with the management and evaluation of the UBC Farm truffière. Depending on the Intern's interest, skills, and availability, the Intern could also leverage their mentorship by fulfilling additional responsibilities that the intern can propose and/or that are outlined with the TABC team.

Interns are expected to enroll in the Career Development Internship course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) from May to August 2018. At the end of this program, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

Duties – Required

The Agriculture Innovation Intern will work alongside the TABC UBC Farm team on the following tasks:

- Assist in managing ground cover of the UBC Farm truffière
- Assist in applying and monitoring irrigation practices at the UBC Farm truffière
- Assist in evaluating cultivated soil and implement various soil enhancement experimentations
- Optional duties may include:

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Tel: 604.822.5092, Fax: 604.822.3280, 2357 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z4

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- Gather information about truffle cultivation practices and techniques in the Pacific northwest from public sources and individual cultivators
- Enhance [TABC website](#) to expand awareness, foster interest, and disseminate and collect information about truffle cultivation in BC
- Outline future BC truffle industry investigation / research activities and potential grant applications

Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496
- Self-motivated and self-directed, with enthusiasm and initiative about helping to contribute to the possible establishment of a new industry in BC
- Efficient, organized, hard-working, and with an analytical mind
- Willingness to learn and desire to gain professional experience
- Ability to work both in a team and independently
- Ability to present findings in a clear and concise manner

Position Details

- May to August 2018
- 6 to 9 hours per week
- Flexible schedule to be determined between the intern and TABC sponsors
- Primary truffière care is performed at the UBC Farm. Optional and administrative duties performed from home. Periodic meetings with TABC sponsor(s) are biweekly or as needed (location TBD)
- This is an unpaid, for-credit, 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:** Doug Campbell, Doug@drbcampbell.com
- All applications should clearly refer to "Career Development Internship"
- Applications received by **March 23rd 2018** will receive priority consideration, but the position will remain open until filled
- Please no phone calls
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems and TABC can be found at www.landfood.ubc.ca/ubcfarm and www.bctruffles.ca/home/about.