KPU | Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University is currently seeking applicants for the position of *Farm Hand- Tsawwassen Farm School.*

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems (ISFS) is a research and outreach institute based on KPU's Richmond, BC, campus. Through our integrated program of applied research, extension programming, and community engagement, we investigate and support regional food systems as key elements of sustainable communities. We focus predominantly on British Columbia but also extend our programming to other regions. More information is available at www.kpu.ca/isfs.

The Tsawwassen Farm School

The Tsawwassen Farm School is a collaboration between the Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN) and the Institute for Sustainable Food Systems (ISFS) at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU). The first of its kind, the school fuses sustainable agriculture and traditional indigenous food systems as tools to build community and create dialogue around land stewardship for the future. The school program is open to all with curiosity on how to feed a growing population while restoring the land. The program curriculum takes place on traditional TFN lands on a 20 acre Certified Organic farm that boasts a medicine garden, a 2-acre mixed fruit orchard, a market garden, farm animals and incubator plots for continuing students. The Tsawwassen Farm School is a gathering place to raise awareness around human scaled alternative food production systems. More information is available at http://www.kpu.ca/tfnfarm.

Position Description: Farm Hand– Tsawwassen Farm School
Wage: $14/ hour
Hours: 25-40 per week
Contract: Casual Service Contract, As soon as possible to October 15th, 2017 *End date negotiable*
Supervisor: Dr. Kent Mullinix (ISFS Director), Corine Singfield (Farm Manager)

We are looking for an enthusiastic and self-motivated individual to fill the position of Farm Hand. In this position, you will assist the Farm Manager, Head Farmer and other farm staff in managing a 4-acre vegetable garden, 2-acre orchard and livestock. This position requires someone with some farming experience, a team player and who is outwardly passionate and knowledgeable about sustainable local foods.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist the Farm Manager and Head Farmer in executing the farm operation plan for the season
- Help harvest, wash, sort and prepare produce going to Farmers Markets, CSA, and restaurants
- Assist with going to Farmers Markets, doing deliveries of CSA
- Participate in all farm operations from seed planting, to weeding, to harvesting, to selling
- Follow the farm's integrated pest management and certified organic growing practices
- Take part in the feeding, cleaning and moving of the farm's livestock including chickens, pigs and ducks
- Assist in the management of the orchard
- Participate in the events, feasts, volunteer days hosted by Tsawwassen Farm School
- Assist in providing mentorship to farm school students as needed
- Perform farm tasks with the use of farm tools and machinery as needed
- Be knowledgeable in the farm school program and farm products to help with promotion and answering of customer inquiries

Qualifications

- No prior farming experience required
- A keen interest in small-scale agriculture production
- A keen interest in sustainable agriculture and community building projects
- A willingness to learn and become an integral part of the farm team
- Ability to work independently
- Ability to work outside under all weather
- Respectfully interact and communicate with staff, students and the public
- Interest in working with a diversity of people including the Tsawwassen First Nation community
- Great organizational skills
- Class 5 driver's license is an asset
- Valid First Aid Certificate an asset

To apply for this position, please submit your resume to Corine Singfield (Farm Manager, ISFS) at corine.singfield@kpu.ca and copy Caroline Chiu (Farm School Coordinator, ISFS) at caroline.chiu@kpu.ca Application will be open until position is filled.