LFS 496 Career Development

Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

**Position Title:** Community Kitchen

**Background**

Located on unceded Musqueam territory, the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (CSFS) at UBC Farm 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 at UBC Farm 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 Land & Food Systems Career Development Course aims to engage UBC students with their local food system and create opportunities to experience the working environment of a food sustainability focused organization. Students 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 UBC Farm Community Kitchen Initiative is a monthly gathering where community members (e.g., students, faculty, staff and neighbors) come together to prepare a meal as a group. The initiative generates enthusiasm and community around preparing food and sharing cooking skills and knowledge, but it also helps enhance community food literacy while encouraging advocacy on issues of public concerns including environmental stewardship, healthy diets and lifestyles, and social development. The Community Kitchen student will play a vital role in managing the monthly community kitchen by: planning and leading the community kitchen cooking; coordinating and recruiting participants, and helping communicate the kitchen’s benefits via social media. The Community Kitchen Student is an enthusiastic and dedicated food lover and UBC Farm ambassador who is ready to engage the community about the UBC Farm’s role in food literacy and community development.

Students are expected to enroll in the Career Development 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 Community Kitchen Student will work alongside the farm supervisor and other farm staff on the following tasks:

- Coordinate and execute Community Kitchen sessions 1-4 times per month; including the tasks and responsibilities outlined below.
• Managing administration of online registration via WordPress, and reminders for each community kitchen event’s participants.
• Select and grocery shop for recipes that will keep a group of 10-15 people engaged and learning new cooking techniques
• Coordinate with the UBC Farm team to use farm vegetable culls to emphasize local, seasonal eating
• Assist in promoting the community kitchen, both on and off campus, to ensure each event has full attendance. Target key demographics for food insecurity (families, grad students, underserved communities)
• Assist in exploring potential partnerships and sponsorships with other groups (Sprouts, Agora, Indigenous Research Partnerships, Vancouver Food Bank, etc.) and coordinating crossover events.
• Foster dialogue around food security and food literacy with community kitchen participants

Preferred Qualifications
• UBC student eligible for LFS 496
• Comfortable working with large groups of people in a kitchen, batch cooking and capable of ensuring the success of the planned recipes
• Capable of using excel and Google docs
• Food Safe level 1 is preferred, but not mandatory
• Ability to work both in a team and individually

Position Details
• May to December 2019
• 6-9 hours per week
• Flexible schedule to be determined with the candidate.
• This is an unpaid, for UBC credit course

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 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: Jaylin Melnichuk, Jaylin.melnichuk@ubc.ca
• All applications should clearly refer to “Career Development Course”
• Applications deadline is March 15, 2020
• Please no phone calls
• More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm can be found at ubcfarm.ubc.ca