Cheakamus Centre

Position Title: Garden & Farm Lead

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 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 Centre houses a small garden comprised of edible plants, farm, and honeybees, all of which provide unique learning experiences for over 12,000 students and adults each year, and supports sustainable food system initiatives on campus. The Cheakamus Centre Garden & Farm Student will implement new practices, maintain the gardens, assist with animal husbandry activities, provide tours and workshops, and outline opportunities for the future.

Students are expected to enroll in the Career Development Course (LFS 496 - 3 credits) during the summer 2020 semester. At the end of the 26-week program, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.
Duties
The Garden & Farm Lead will work alongside the Cheakamus Centre team to:

- Implement campus renewal activities related to the gardens and farm;
- Maintain the gardens (8 beds) and assist with animal husbandry activities;
- Deliver tours and share information with children, families and adults as part of the annual Open House, Friends of Cheakamus events, summer programs, and campus rentals;
- Provide professional development workshops for the culinary team to facilitate the development of a calendar of seasonal activities: planning, implementation, and maintenance schedules;
- Provide recommendations for new programs and identify opportunities for the future.

Preferred Qualifications
- UBC student eligible for LFS 496;
- Garden and farm experience in an educational setting;
- Public speaking and community engagement experience;
- Dynamic approach – ability to assist in the development of overarching foods systems goals while responding to daily needs;
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team.

Position Details
- May to August 2020 timeframe
- 35 hours per week – hours are flexible
- On-campus accommodation and meals may be available
- This is an unpaid, for-credit placement

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 career development 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 Course”
- Applications must be received no later than March 15, 2020.
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems can be found at ubcfarm.ubc.ca, information about Cheakamus Centre can be obtained at cheakamuscentre.ca. Contact Sarah Bainbridge at sarah@cheakamuscentre.ca or 1.604.848.5668 for additional information about the role.