Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

**Position Title: Regenerative Agriculture Assistant**

**Background**

The Institute for Sustainable Food Systems’ Tsawwassen Farm School (TFS) is a 20-acre certified organic working and educational farm located on traditional Tsawwassen First Nation lands. The farm boasts a traditional medicine garden, a mixed fruit orchard, a market garden, and livestock. The Farm also hosts a cohort of in-training farmers who actively learn about human scaled alternative food production systems. 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 Tsawwassen Farm School manages the production of 30 crops using organic practices. The Regenerative Agriculture Assistant will assist the TFS team with the management of its field production, e.g., seeding, planting, harvesting, packaging, distributing, and selling. The assistant will have the opportunity to gain knowledge and hands-on experience with organic and regenerative production practices, educational programming execution, and Indigenous community engagement.

Students are expected to enroll in the Career Development Course (LFS 496 - 6 credits) in their respective programs. At the end of the 13 or 26-week placement, students will be eligible to receive course credit towards their UBC degree.

**Duties**

The Regenerative Agriculture Assistant will work alongside the TFS team on the following tasks:

- Assist the farm team in executing the farm operation plan for the season
- Assist with the preparation of produce going to various marketing channels
- Follow the farm’s integrated pest management and certified organic growing practices
- Assist with livestock management - feeding, cleaning and moving the animals on pasture including chickens and pigs
- Participate in the events, feasts, workshops hosted by Tsawwassen Farm School
- Perform farm tasks with the use of farm tools and machinery as needed
- Provide customer service inquiries related the farm when necessary
- Participate in classes that will further the assistant’s learning
- Be involved with communicating with First Nation members
Preferred Qualifications

- UBC student eligible for LFS 496
- A keen interest in small-scale agriculture production
- A keen interest in sustainable agriculture and community building projects
- Comfortable working with farm animals
- Farming experience is an asset
- Interest in working with a diversity of people including the Tsawwassen First Nation community
- Ability to work independently, as a team player and to work in all weather conditions
- Class 5 driver’s license is an asset
- Be willing to commute or drive to Tsawwassen

Position Details

- May to August 2020
- Number of hours is dependent on length of the placement and number of credits:
  - 3 credits over one semester (May to August 2020), for a total of 126 hours (or average of 9 hours per week)
  - 6 credits over one semester (May to August 2020), for a total of 252 hours (or average of 18 hours per week)
- Flexible schedule to be determined with the candidate.
- 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 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: Sarah Clements: sarah.clements1@kpu.ca, and Daniel Garfinkel: daniel.garfinkel@kpu.ca
- All applications should clearly refer to “LFS 496 Career Development Course”
- Applications deadline March 15, 2020
- Please no phone calls
- More information about the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at UBC Farm and Tsawwassen Farm School