



Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association / VanDusen Botanical Garden

Nature Camps Assistant – LFS 496 Summer Term 2023

Mentor: Chantal Martin from VanDusen Botanical Garden

Position Location: 5251 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V5N3M3

Hours: Starting May 2023, option for 3 months at 9 hours per week, or 3 months at 18 hours per week, or 6 months at 9 hours per week

Credits: 3 or 6 credits depending on hours

Course Background

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 their mentor, 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.

Position Details

Camps at VanDusen Botanical Garden are designed with a carefully crafted blend of science, exploration, games, and crafts that gives children the opportunity to learn and play throughout the 55-acre property, while fostering positive stewardship of the environment and an appreciation for the outdoors. As a Nature Camps Assistant, you will plan and deliver agriculture, gardening, and food-themed activities for groups of campers attending VBGA Camps programs.

Students will also have opportunities to network with other food sustainability focused organizations and develop a greater understanding of growing food in urban settings.

Learning Goals

- Organizational skills
- Research skills
- Interpretive/presentation skills
- Educational programming skills
- Communicating science skills

Qualifications

- Must be a UBC student intending to register for LFS 496 for Summer 2023 term
- Must pass a criminal record check for working with children and vulnerable populations
- Interest in and willingness to learn about urban farming, community education and nonprofits
- Education and/or experience in gardening, farming, ecology, or related fields preferred
- Willing to work outdoors in all weather conditions
- Able to follow policies and procedures to ensure participant and staff health and safety

How to Apply

Submit a resume and cover letter to cmartin@vandusen.org.

All applications should clearly refer to the “LFS 496 Career Development Course” when applying.

The cover letter should include an introduction, share why you want this position, and what you hope to gain from the position if accepted. Cover letters should be no more than 500 words.

Application deadline **March 31st, 2023**.

About

The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) and the City of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation (Park Board) are joint operating partners for VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory. The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) is a charitable not-for-profit, incorporated under the BC Societies Act. Our mission is to engage people of all ages and walks of life in the importance of biodiversity to our lives, and to foster a lifelong love of plants and gardens by virtue of their participation in our programs and services. While the Park Board oversees the Gardens facilities and collections, VBGA is responsible for education, volunteers, membership and fundraising. Learn more at <https://vandusengarden.org/>.