

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY School Farm Assistant

ABOUT:

LifeCycles is a charitable society working to cultivate community health by connecting people with the food they eat and the land it comes from. We support the region in growing, accessing and eating local food in ways that foster biodiversity and enhance our urban environment. Learn more about our work at lifecyclesproject.ca

This position has been created to support the expansion of LifeCycles schoolyard farming initiative. This position will provide a role that is well-rounded from seed to harvest. The School Farm Assistant will work directly with the School Farm Coordinator to manage our growing three-four school farms. During the spring, they will assist with weekly harvest workshops with students at our school farm sites. During the summer, they will also be responsible for overseeing the market operations and involvement of youth from our Seed the City program in weekly produce sales.

[SEED THE CITY](#) is a program for high school students to gain experience in urban farming and gardening, earn credits towards graduation, explore career pathways in horticulture, and become part of the local food movement in their city. This program is a partnership between LifeCycles, [TOPSOIL Innovative Urban Agriculture](#), and the Greater Victoria School District.

Applicants must be eligible under Canada Summer Jobs guidelines. Applicants must be between 15 - 30 years old, and be Permanent Residents / Canadian Citizens.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- The position will primarily involve outdoor work and will require the ability to lift 20-30 lbs as well as climb stairs, walk, kneel, or squat, bend, and shovel.
- Carry out general site maintenance at schoolyard micro-farms including watering, planting, harvesting, and weeding
- Assist with facilitating weekly harvest sessions at school micro-farm sites with small groups of students
- Assist with tasks related to food packaging, distribution, and produce sales
- Support with digital data entry to track harvest, sales, and distribution
- Prepare and transport produce to a market stall once a week
- Oversee market operations and involvement of youth in weekly produce sales
- Assist with social media and communications as needed
- Assist with other LifeCycles projects as needed, such as maintenance tasks in the Welland Community Orchard

QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge and experience in farming, agriculture, horticulture or a similar field
- Awareness of food security issues and sustainability on Vancouver Island and in BC
- Well-organized, able to prioritize tasks, flexible to changing work schedules, and able to meet deadlines
- Experience working with youth and people from diverse backgrounds
- Creative, self-confident, highly motivated, with great leadership and problem-solving skills
- Must be able to work independently and in teams
- Class 5 Driver's license and clean driving record is an asset
- Current First Aid certification or willingness to obtain
- Ability to communicate well both verbally and in writing
- Experience with managing and operating a stand at a farmer's market or other retail experience, an asset
- Knowledge of digital tools (Zoom, Google Suite, Canva) and social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) are beneficial, but not required

POSITION DETAILS

Approximate start date: **Early May 2022**

Approximate hours/week: **30 hrs/week for 16 weeks, with a possibility of extending (pending funding)**

Wage: **\$19.50-21.00 / hour**

This position is dependent on funding from Canada Summer Jobs.

All work will be conducted with adherence to current COVID-19 safety protocols.

Send applications by email to info@lifecyclesproject.ca by April 19th

Please email your application materials (resume and cover letter, ideally as one pdf with the subject line: "School Farm Assistant" ****Please include only your last name in the filename(s) of your application materials.****

LifeCycles Project Society is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage women, people of Indigenous ancestry, people of colour, LGBTQQIP2SA individuals and members of other diverse communities to apply for careers with our organization. LifeCycles runs programs on unceded Coast Salish Territories, specifically of the Lekwungen and W_SÁNEC peoples.

We thank everyone for their interest, but only those selected for interviews will be contacted.