

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Welland Orchard Coordinator

ABOUT THIS OPPORTUNITY:

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.

The Welland Legacy Park houses a community orchard that is among the largest & most diverse in Canada. Together with the Town of View Royal and dozens of volunteers, LifeCycles is working to create a new model of public park stewardship, protecting and nurturing this local treasure.

The park was once the backyard of Rex Welland, a well known local conservationist. For over twenty years Rex transformed his yard into a mixed orchard featuring more than 150 fruit trees & vines, and built a collection of 100 varieties of rare heritage apples. Rex was passionate about native bees and took meticulous notes on their habits and life cycles. To ensure the orchard would be used as a public resource Rex placed the land in trust with The Land Conservancy and gifted the property to the Town of View Royal. LifeCycles is humbled to be a part of this legacy. Rex's passion, enthusiasm and dedication to ecosystem health inspired many, and with the help of our many volunteers we are working to build a public park that fulfills his dream.

We are seeking someone to support the maintenance of the Welland Community Orchard throughout the year. This person will play an important role in helping fulfill our dual mission of stewarding the orchard and educating the public on fruit tree cultivation and care. The candidate will be responsible for the care of all plants on site, and will be expected to work independently AND with community volunteers to maintain the orchard to a standard befitting a public park.

Learn more about our work at lifecyclesproject.ca

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Demonstrable knowledge of and passion for fruit tree care
- Extensive experience and/or education in horticulture, agriculture, landscaping or gardening
- Able to work independently and as part of a team

- Methodical, detail oriented, and observant;
- Strong organizational skills for keeping track of instructions and schedules
- Able to reliably commute to the various work sites
- Open to working some weekends
- Experience working in a physically demanding setting
- Willingness to work hard for the satisfaction of a job well done in all weather conditions
- Must have a valid Driver's License
- Awareness of food security issues and sustainability on Vancouver Island and in BC

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Orchard Management

- Ensure the Welland Legacy Park and its 200+ trees are maintained and improved using organic, holistic, regenerative and/or non-toxic approaches that are suitable to a public space
- Coordinate and manage Welland Legacy Park supplies and tools; repair or replace when needed
- Assess and maintain existing infrastructure on site; upgrade and identify new infrastructure requirements as needed so the site is safe for park users, volunteers and plants
- Maintain irrigation system and seek opportunities to improve water use on site
- Identify opportunities to increase plantings, for orchard health and community engagement
- Oversee the maintenance of the native pollinator program
- Coordinate with Fruit Tree Project to harvest and distribute excess fruit
- Coordinate the propagation and care of small Fruit Tree Nursery on site
- Monitor and evaluate the heritage apple collection; identify apple varieties for propagation
- Manage compost toilet system safely & to a standard befitting a public park
- Liaise with View Royal Parks Supervisor to manage waste, water, and infrastructure needs

Program and Volunteer Coordination

- Coordinate and run 1 volunteer work party per month, ensuring dates are established and published through LifeCycles networks
- Liaise with LifeCycles staff to support program development and delivery at Welland Community Orchard
- Field inquiries to welland@ email address and communicate upcoming opportunities to be involved to interested volunteers, using LifeCycles volunteer database

- Support community facilitators in hosting the following 4 workshops/year: dormant pruning, summer pruning, grafting and native pollinators
- Attend LifeCycles bimonthly staff meetings to provide report on events and activities at Welland

POSITION DETAILS

Start date: ASAP

Hours/week: 25 hrs/week year-round

Wage: \$ 22-25.00 / hour

Send applications by email to info@lifecyclesproject.ca.

We will begin reviewing applications on **Sunday, July 10, 2022** and will continue to accept applications until the position is filled.

Please email your application resume and cover letter (ideally as one pdf) with the subject line: "Welland Orchard Coordinator". **Please include 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, LGBTQIP2SA 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.