

## **Nursery Sales & Production Assistant Apprenticeship**

### **About the Apprenticeship:**

This apprenticeship is well suited for individuals with a strong work ethic and friendly personality who are seeking a career path in ecological food production. The apprentice will work closely with the Nursery Manager to manage sales of farm and nursery goods in our outdoor retail nursery, as well as sow & grow a wide variety of annual vegetable starts, and other related duties. Most days of this apprenticeship will be fun and enjoyable. Some days may be challenging, wet and monotonous. And, we will be serving coffee!

### **Position Details**

This is a part time, short-term position. The working hours are as follows, with some flexibility for the right candidate.

Employment period: week of March 8<sup>th</sup> to week of June 21<sup>st</sup>

Schedule:

- March 3 days/week (flexible which days)
- April & May, Wed-Fri 10 am - 6:30 pm; Sat 10 am - 2:30 pm
- June Wed-Fri 10 am - 6:30 pm (some flexibility around hours)\*

Wage: \$16-18 depending on experience + plants and food

Work will be outdoors at the Mason St. Farm site at 1015 Balmoral Rd., Victoria BC.

\*In the month of June, nursery sales begin to slow down, at which point you will assist with the farmers on crop processing and packaging in the harvest shed as well.

### **What will you learn?**

You will work in all areas of our small, community-oriented Nursery business with a major focus on sales and customer support. This is a dynamic position that requires you to interact with our customer base, which often involves answering garden questions and engaging in general plant-related education. You will also support in the production of the many thousands of plants we grow primarily from seed each Spring. You'll be exposed to a wide variety of vegetable plants, and work closely with our knowledgeable Nursery Manager who is available for questions and plant geekery of all kinds.

### **Experience & Qualifications**

Ideally our applicants will possess some of the skills & experience outlined below, although not all are required:

- Customer service or public engagement experience
- Comfortable asking for help
- Experience and working knowledge of vegetable gardening
- Experience working outdoors in a related field
- Able to lift 50 lbs

- Willing to work outdoors in most weather conditions
- Excellent attention to detail; ability to stay focused on repetitive tasks
- Strong ability to multitask, **especially to talk and work at the same time**
- Self-motivated and able to work without supervision
- Strong observational skills
- Able to take initiative and problem solve independently as needed
- Excellent follow through on tasks
- Quick at picking up systems and learning new things
- Capable of taking direction & integrating feedback
- Comfortable working with a diverse group of people

### **Application Process**

Please fill out the application below and send it along with a resume to [masonstreetfarm@gmail.com](mailto:masonstreetfarm@gmail.com) Shortlisted applicants will be contacted for a paid working interview mid to late February. We aim to finalize the position by the end of February.

## **2021 Nursery Apprenticeship Application**

**Please try to keep your answers brief.**

1. **In 100 words or less, tell us a little bit about yourself.**
2. **Why do you want to be an apprentice at the Mason Street City Farm?**
3. **What skills and experience have you developed that pertain to this position?**
4. **Tell us about your experience working in customer service.**
5. **Are you able to comfortably lift 50 lbs?**
6. **Are you comfortable with working outdoors in all weather conditions including cold?**
7. **Tell us about your work ethic.**
8. **Will you be available for a short working interview within the last 2 weeks of February?**
9. **Please provide one employment reference.**

Please email this application to [masonstreetfarm@gmail.com](mailto:masonstreetfarm@gmail.com) with '2021 apprenticeship application' in the subject line.

### **Volunteer Farm Internships** (also available)

We are offering 1-2 month volunteer internships throughout the 2021 growing season. The position requires a one half day per week commitment to join the farm crew. Please email us at [masonstreetfarm@gmail.com](mailto:masonstreetfarm@gmail.com) with subject line '2021 Internship' if you're interested in signing up.

Thank you!

Julia Ford  
Nursery Manger

Jesse Brown  
Director, Mason St City Farm

