



STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Community Gardens Coordinator (Student Summer Job Position)

Application deadline: May 23rd, 2012 at 5 pm EST

Location: Parkdale, Toronto

Start date: June 4, 2012

Contract length: 12 weeks

Compensation: \$13.25 per hour, 35 hours per week

Greenest City is a non-profit charitable organization in Parkdale which offers a variety of food-based initiatives to bring people together. Current projects include community and educational gardens, gardening and cooking workshops, after-school youth programs and community art. www.greenestcity.ca

❖ Position funded through Service Canada, Government of Canada

The successful candidates for this positions must meet **ALL** of the Canada Summer Jobs eligibility criteria:

- be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment;
- have been registered as full-time students in the previous academic year and intend to return to school on a full-time basis in the next academic year;
- be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act; and
- be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial/territorial legislation and regulations.

*Only students who meet these criteria can be considered.

Greenest City and Service Canada encourage students with disabilities, Aboriginal students and students who are members of visible minority groups to apply.

Job Description

The **Community Gardens Coordinator** will contribute to both a positive and productive growing season by supporting volunteers in Greenest City's three gardens, including the H.O.P.E. (Healthy Organic Parkdale Edibles) Community Garden in Masaryk Park, the Youth Learning Garden, and the Milky Way ESL garden that uses containers. Garden spaces cover a variety of plants, with an emphasis on food production. Native planting beds are also maintained. The position involves both regular garden maintenance activities and organic gardening education for community gardeners of all ages and levels of experience.

Tasks & Responsibilities include:

- Create garden work plans outlining necessary tasks and activities to be completed in each of Greenest City's three gardens and native plantings
- Carry out garden maintenance activities as necessary, including planting, watering, weeding and general handy-work
- Maintain productive compost bins with volunteers
- Establish seed-saving practices
- Harvest, distribute, and preserve produce for use in food programs
- Initiate direct communications to gardeners, including group list emails, bulletin board updates, and phone calls
- Take the lead on weekly work parties in the H.O.P.E. community garden, including supporting gardeners and setting up monthly community potlucks
- Support weekly activities during Youth Garden Drop-ins
- Provide gardening advice to community gardeners
- Source and create accessible educational resources as necessary
- Organize and deliver hands-on gardening workshops for community
- Meet with and support community garden Steering Committee
- Maintain volunteer files and track participants
- Be available to work regular Tuesday and Wednesday evenings

Skills and Qualifications:

- Readiness to work outdoors and get your hands dirty
- Hands-on gardening experience required
- Education/training in horticulture, especially organic food-growing practices and container gardening, an asset
- Knowledge of native plants useful
- Ability to identify and solve garden problems
- Interest in environmental and food issues, and willingness to promote local sustainable food
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work with a wide variety of people
- A positive and kind way with community volunteers and partners
- Demonstrated ability to work within a diverse community (people of different ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds)
- Ability to speak a language relevant to the South Parkdale neighbourhood is a strong asset
- Resourceful, self-starter that can work with minimal supervision when needed
- Familiar with MS Office computer applications

How to apply: Please submit a **resume and cover letter** to summerjobs@greenestcity.ca by Friday, May 23rd, 2012 at 5pm EST. Indicate the job you are applying for in the subject line.

Late applications will not be accepted. We regret that only those applicants being considered for the position will be contacted to set up an interview time. **No phone calls please.**

Greenest City is committed to Employment Equity and encourages applicants from equity seeking groups to self-identify.