



## CSA Assistant

**To Apply:** Email a cover letter, resume, and three references to Carly at [carly.richardson@arocha.ca](mailto:carly.richardson@arocha.ca).  
*Position is open until filled.*

### Position Summary

The **CSA Assistant** works alongside the CSA Farm Coordinator & Assistant CSA Farm Coordinator in running the Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) program in diversified organic vegetable production, assembling weekly shares, and managing markets and other sales outlets. The farm is 2.5 acres and is located at A Rocha Canada's Brooksdale Environmental Centre. Production is transitioning to no-till and includes a 170+ member CSA (vegetables & flowers), farmer's market, on-site farm stand, and restaurant sales. Other workers on the farm include summer workers, site conservation residents, and volunteers.

Start date: March 15, 2023 *or until filled*

Duration: October 31, 2023 (The end date is based on funding and could go into November.)

Compensation: FTE (40/hours week): \$17.50/hour, negotiable based on experience. Since farming is seasonal, requiring more hours in spring and summer, this position can "bank" hours from the growing season and compensate with less hours in the fall.

### Organisational Profile

A Rocha is an international Christian organisation that, inspired by God's love, engages in scientific research, environmental education, community-based conservation projects and sustainable agriculture. We envision the transformation of people and places by showing God's love for all creation.

A Rocha Canada's (ARC) Brooksdale Environmental Centre is a dynamic environmental centre with programs serving all ages and various ecosystems. Brooksdale's 27-acre property is a living lab of forests, threatened river system, wetland, heritage houses, and farm. This unique combination of sensitive wildlife habitat and agricultural land makes Brooksdale a place where critical environmental issues are researched, addressed, and solved.

The farm at the Brooksdale Environmental Centre has the following purposes:

- A. Operate a Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) program from June to December annually and sell surplus vegetables to cover the operating costs of agriculture programming at Brooksdale.
- B. Connect community member customers to the source of their food, giving households an opportunity to experience seasonal, local eating.
- C. Produce surplus food for daily meals and events at the Brooksdale Environmental Centre and provide donations to under-resourced community members through our Farm to Families program.
- D. Train eight to twelve conservation residents each year in the practical work of small-scale organic farming.
- E. Offer a "living classroom" of regenerative agriculture with a conservation focus for visitors, kid's groups, and the Brooksdale community.
- F. Complement and support A Rocha's conservation and education work, and to be a demonstration of A Rocha Canada's commitments and core values.



### Duties and Responsibilities

- Report directly to the CSA Farm Coordinator who works in collaboration with the Store Coordinator and the Agriculture Program Coordinator.
- Assist the CSA Farm Coordinator in running the CSA program, including but not limited to:
  - Crop production including seeding, planting, weeding, irrigating, harvesting, packing, and soil management (crop rotation, cover cropping, amendments).
  - Recordkeeping for field activities.
  - Assist with sales: assembling weekly CSA shares, running farmer's market stands, and coordinating restaurant deliveries.
  - Supervise, mentor, and provide instruction to others including seasonal farmworkers, conservation residents, and volunteers.
  - Interacting with CSA members and producing content for newsletters.
  - Assist in the development of farm infrastructure.
  - Organize and maintain tools and farm equipment.
  - Participate in other general farm tasks as required.
- Participate in regular ARC community events (includes some weekend work, as required) and contribute towards Brooksdale community life.
- Work in collaboration with staff for other onsite activities as needed.
- Maintain awareness and adherence to A Rocha Brooksdale Covid-19 protocols.

### Qualifications

- At least one year/season working in diversified vegetable production, preferably organic.
- Demonstrated organizational leadership experience; able to comfortably make decisions, execute tasks, and train others in a diverse and dynamic working environment.
- Customer service and sales experience, preferably within the food and/or farming sector.
- Demonstrated ability to work quickly, efficiently and calmly in physically challenging contexts for long hours in variable weather and bring tasks to completion on time.
  - Ability to work long hours (beyond 8 hours per day) June-Aug in a 'banked time' structure and working during ideal harvest times (e.g. starting harvest at 7am on hot days).
  - Ability to repeatedly lift 30-50lbs.
- Status of Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment.
- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment (meeting funding requirements).
- Has a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and is legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.
- Able to obtain a Criminal Record Background and Vulnerable Sector check.

### Preferred Qualifications

- Has Class 5 Drivers License. (*Public transportation to the centre is not easily available.*)
- Experience with no-till or minimal tillage production systems.
- Experience with farm equipment and workshop tools use an asset: tractor, rototiller, mower, etc.
- Demonstrated embodiment of A Rocha Canada's vision, commitments and core values.