

Brooksdale Summer Farm Assistant

Position Summary

The **Brooksdale Summer Farm Assistant** works in collaboration with the Brooksdale Farm Coordinators, the Brooksdale Farm Store Manager, and other Brooksdale staff in assisting crop production and farm sales on the 2.5-acre farm at the Brooksdale Environmental Centre. Production includes over 200 varieties of vegetables and herbs along with seasonal flowers. Sales include a 170+ member community-supported agriculture program (CSA), farmer's market, and on-site farm stand.

Location: Brooksdale Environmental Centre, Surrey, BC.

Start and End Date: Start date: Between May 28th to June 25th, 2024
End date: 8-16 weeks depending on funding, ending August 30th at the latest.
Possibility of full/part-time extension to the end of October.

Hours/Days Worked: Full-time (5 days/week, 35-40 hours/week, Tuesday to Saturday).

Wage: \$19 per hour.

Closing Date: Until the position has been filled.

Note: Anticipated 6 positions pending funding approval. These positions will be partially funded by the Canada Summer Jobs grant, and are contingent on funding approval.

To Apply: Email a cover letter, resume, and three references (saved together as a single PDF) to csa@arocha.ca. Please save the PDF file name with your name and "**Brooksdale Summer Farm Assistant**." Clearly detail your experience and qualifications in your letter.

Email subject line should clearly refer to the Brooksdale Summer Farm Assistant position. Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

These positions are contingent on Canada Summer Jobs funding approval.

Organisational Profile

A Rocha is an international environmental conservation organisation which, inspired by God's love, engages in scientific research, environmental education, community-based conservation projects and sustainable agriculture. We envision a world where nature flourishes as people live equitably and sustainably.

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 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, farmer's market, on-site farm stand, and

restaurant sales. Other workers on the farm include agriculture team staff, other summer workers, site conservation residents, and volunteers.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Report directly to the CSA Farm Coordinator and work closely with the Brooksdale Sustainable Agriculture Team.
- Assist in all aspects of crop production, including but not limited to:
 - Bed preparation, seeding, planting, weeding, irrigating, harvesting, and post-harvest processing, and packing. Record keeping for all required field activities.
 - Bouquet-making based on interest.
- Assist with communication, sales, deliveries, and management of produce going to the CSA, farmer's market, and on-site farm store.
- Provide field supervision and instruction to volunteers.
- Participate in other general farm tasks as required.
- Work in collaboration with Brooksdale staff for other on-site activities as needed.
- Awareness and adherence to A Rocha Brooksdale's Health and Safety Protocols.

Qualifications

- Demonstrated ability to work outdoors quickly, efficiently, and calmly in physically challenging contexts in variable weather and bring tasks to completion on time.
 - Ability to repeatedly lift 30-50lbs.
- Introductory food literacy knowledge and agriculture technical skills an asset in the areas of:
 - General agricultural production, soil and landscape management, and/or farm equipment use and maintenance in a mixed farm setting.
 - Local and organic food concepts and/or food preparation.
- Strong organizational, leadership, communication (written & oral) skills:
 - Able to identify and prioritize tasks with minimal supervision, work independently, and take initiative.
 - Able to resolve interpersonal conflicts professionally; Excellent collaboration skills.
 - Able to comfortably make decisions and execute tasks in a diverse and dynamic working environment.

Applicant must:

- Be between 15 and 30 years of age at the start of the employment;
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of employment;
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada following relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations; and,
- Obtain a Criminal Record Background and Vulnerable Sector check.

Preferred Qualifications

- At least one year/season in diversified vegetable production.
- Experience working within the not-for-profit sector.
- Food Safe Level 1 certification.
- First Aid and CPR certifications.
- Demonstrated embodiment of A Rocha Canada's Vision, Commitments and Core Values.
- Familiarity with A Rocha Canada's Vision, Commitments and Core Values.