

Fields Forward Community Liaison Full Job Posting

Position: Fields Forward Community Liaison

Organization: Kootenay Employment Services Development Society

Location: Creston & District, British Columbia

Type: 15-20 hours a week; term position until December 31, 2018

Compensation : To be determined based on qualifications and value

The Kootenay Employment Services Development Society is seeking a Community Liaison for Fields Forward - a partnership which supports food systems development in the communities from Yahk to Riondel. The Fields Forward network will include agriculture and community organizations, farmers, processors, retailers, restaurants, government, and other stakeholders.

Job Summary:

The Community Liaison will provide coordination support for the Fields Forward partnership. They will work closely with a volunteer Community Impact Team made up of local individuals with experience in the agri-food sector and/or economic development. They will also work with the wider network of partners and engage with the community at large.

Key Responsibilities:

The Fields Forward Community Liaison will:

- Manage and administer the Fields Forward partnership;
- Establish and maintain strong working relationships with agriculture and community organizations, farmers, processors, retailers, restaurants, government, and other stakeholders;
- Convene Community Impact Team and Fields Forward Network meetings, attend relevant community meetings;
- Actively foster communication, cooperation, coordination, and trust building among the Community Impact Team and Fields Forward Network;
- Update the community (regularly) on Partnership status and opportunities for participation in Partnership activities; through the website, newsletters, social media, and press releases;
- Tracking and reporting on defined progress indicators; and,
- Event planning and presenting at workshops.

Key Skills and Qualifications:

The ideal candidate will have:

- Relationships with Creston & District food systems (agriculture and community organizations, farmers, processors, retailers, restaurants, government, and other stakeholders.)
- A proven ability to multitask, consistently meeting or exceeding deadlines and goals;
- A proven capacity to work effectively with diverse groups and individuals;
- Excellent written, verbal, and digital communication skills;
- Experience planning and managing events;
- Experience managing volunteers; and,
- Comfort navigating uncertainty, working independently, and holding flexible hours.

Background – Fields Forward:

The partnership was formed to focus the work of local food systems partners around four core goals:

1. Increasing economic development in Creston & District's farm and food sector;
2. Creating and maintaining meaningful, sustainable local jobs in the farm and food economy;
3. Developing locally-appropriate food production, processing, storage, distribution, and sales; and,
4. Improving access to healthy local food for all Creston & District residents.

In order to fulfill its purpose, Fields Forward will promote and facilitate:

- Long-term visioning, short-term planning, and ongoing strategic action in service of local agri-food system development;
- Open communication and information sharing, cooperation, and coordination among local public, private, non-profit, and other stakeholders in local agri-food system development;
- Integrated, collaborative approaches to local agri-food system development, where appropriate;
- Leveraging resources from within and beyond the district in service of partnership goals;
- Resource optimization among Fields Forward partners, and, where appropriate, others;
- Networking and promoting Creston & District as communities with rich agri-food heritage, activity, and potential.

The Fields Forward network will include agriculture and community organizations, farmers, processors, retailers, restaurants, government, and other stakeholders.

Application Process:

Please submit:

- A resume, CV, bio, and/or LinkedIn profile
- The name and contact information of two references who can speak to your professional qualifications
- The name and contact information of one reference who can describe your involvement in community
- A cover letter describing your interest in the position and why you feel you would be an ideal candidate

Closing date: Sunday January 21, 2018

Inquiries and applications can be directed to:

Heidi Germann

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