



JOB TITLE: Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator

ANTICIPATED START DATE: May 15th 2018 [exact date TBD]

LOCATION: Based at one of the following campuses:

- BC: Langara, SFU, UBC, UNBC, UVic, VIU
- Manitoba: University of Winnipeg
- Ontario: University of Waterloo, University of Ottawa

Position Overview

Meal Exchange is looking for a passionate, motivated and organized student to work as a researcher and coordinator of direct Farm-to-Campus relationships and sales as part of the Good Food Challenge.

The Good Food Challenge leverages the power of youth and post-secondary campuses to create a sustainable, socially just, humane and healthy food system.

The Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator will support Meal Exchange with a thorough literature review and a nation-wide farmer survey in order to design specific standards for socially-just, ecologically-sound and humane food purchases. Additionally, the Farm-to-Campus Researcher will use the data generated by the Good Food Calculator at their campus to identify current local farm-to-campus relationships, and for identifying opportunities to strengthen and increase farm-to-campus relationships into the future. With this research and data, the Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator will design, test and strengthen a Stewardship Agreement model to form mutually beneficial relationships between farms and campuses to ensure transparency and direct farm-to-campus sales.

Major Responsibilities

The **Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator** will support Meal Exchange with a thorough literature review and a nation-wide farmer survey in order to design specific standards for socially-just, ecologically-sound and humane food purchases. With these standards, the **Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator** will design, test and strengthen a Stewardship Agreement model to form mutually beneficial relationships between farms and campuses to ensure transparency and direct farm-to-campus sales. These standards and Stewardship Agreements will be implemented across Canada to inform best practices in sustainable, socially-just, humane and local food systems, and will leverage campus purchasing power away from industrialized junk food and toward foods that nourish people, animals, the planet and local communities. The standards must be relevant to the Canadian context, responsive to the needs of the diverse communities across the country, and ambitious enough to achieve higher standards in campus food systems across Canada.

Key Roles:

Support with farmer survey, work with institutions and farms to develop stewardship agreements

- Literature review and research:
 - Complete a thorough and detail-oriented literature review on direct farm-to-sale purchases, including the possible impacts of direct purchasing on

- environmental-sustainability, social-justice and animal welfare
 - Work closely with farmers and farm workers across Canada to solicit and integrate feedback
 - Ensure that a diversity of voices are acknowledged and represented, giving space to voices that are often underrepresented or unheard, such as Indigenous land-stewards, migrant workers and small-scale farmers
- Farmer Survey:
 - Assist Meal Exchange staff to interpret a national farmer survey, including tasks such as:
 - Take a leadership role in capturing and synthesizing the survey results, as well as following up with specific farmers/farm-workers for more information
 - Create a report, both in paper and presentation, to explain the results from the survey and identify next steps
- Stewardship Agreement Model Coordination:
 - Research examples of Stewardship Agreements
 - Connect with 8-10 farmers across Canada who already sell to post-secondary institutions
 - Work with administrators, food service managers and purchasing directors at post-secondary institutions, alongside farmers and farm-workers, to design, test and strengthen the Stewardship Agreement model
 - Build awareness and capacity at post-secondary institutions across Canada to commit to the Stewardship Agreement model
 - Identify champion administrators and farmers who would be willing to test the Stewardship Agreement model for the 2018-2019 academic year

Desired Attributes/Experience/Skills:

- Must be under the age of 30, returning to campus in the fall and eligible to work in Canada to meet funding requirements
- Knowledge of and passion for food systems
- Knowledge of farms in your local region
- Experience with or excitement about self-directed research projects
- Strong team management and facilitation skills
- Confident with complex and detailed research
- Strong writing skills in the English language
- Highly organized, motivated and detail-oriented
- Able to work both independently and collaborate with others
- Excellent interpersonal, self-management, organizational and communication skills
- Ability to take initiative and engage in active learning
- Openness to new perspectives and desire to do solutions-focused work with a diverse group of stakeholders

About Meal Exchange

Meal Exchange is a national registered charity that empowers post-secondary students to take an active role in improving their local food system. Through research, educational activities and connecting with campus and community stakeholders, our programs support post-secondary students to build more just and sustainable food systems on campuses and with local communities.

Our vision is a country where everyone has access to affordable, healthy, sustainable and socially just food. Our national office, based in Toronto, provides support, resources and mentorship to students on 40 campuses across Canada.

HOURS:

- 37.5 hours/week for 8-12 weeks [exact hours dependent on Canada Summer Jobs Funding]

WAGE:

- Minimum wage in your region [wage dependent on Canada Summer Jobs Funding]

To apply

Please send a combined Cover Letter and CV to celia@mealexchange.com with the subject “**Good Food Challenge Farm-to-Campus Researcher and Coordinator, First and last name**”. Applications will be received on a rolling basis until 5pm PST on April 20th.

Funding for this position is available for students returning to postsecondary school in the fall of 2017, under the age of 30 and eligible to work in Canada.

Meal Exchange is committed to having a team that reflects the diversity of the issues and communities we work with. We welcome the wide range of experiences and viewpoints that researchers may bring, including those based on race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, ability, age and religion. We welcome both lived and academic experience, and encourage applicants to note this in their application. In our inclusive workplace, we work to assure everyone the right of equitable, fair, and respectful treatment.