**JOB POSTING INFORMATION**

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| **Co-op Work Term:** | 2019 – Fall and 2020 – Winter |
| **Position Type (Disclaimer: not all types available in all programs):** | Regular Co-op, Full Time |
| **Co-op Work term Duration:** | 8 Months Full Time |
| **Job Title:** | Climate Change Researcher Co-op/Intern |
| **Job Location:** | Victoria |
| **Region:** | BC-Victoria (Capital Region) |
| **Salary/Wage:** | $1,796.77 bi-weekly ($25.66 per hour) (graduate level co-op) |
| **Hours per Week:** | 35 |
| **Number of Positions:** | 1 |
| **Work Abroad:** | No |
| **Application Deadline:** | Sunday, July 28th, 2019 (11:59 PST) |
| **Job Description:** | **Position: Climate Change Research Co-op/Intern   Ministry: Agriculture** Salary: $1,796.77 bi-weekly ($25.66 per hour) (graduate level co-op) Term: 8 months, starting early September Location: Victoria  Note: please do not apply unless you are willing to be located in Victoria     This position is a unique opportunity to build understanding of the importance of agricultural climate change adaptation and to contribute to high priority policies, programs and actions to advance climate change adaptation and mitigation in the B.C. agriculture sector. Note that the position is located in Victoria and that no relocation expenses will be paid.   **Background:** Climate change is already happening in B.C., and projections for the 2030s and 2050s point to significant impacts for agriculture, including higher than average temperatures, pest outbreaks, sea level rise, and extreme events such as wildfire, drought and flooding. For agricultural producers, climate change will result in increased management complexity, costs, and uncertainty. The Ministry of Agriculture and the agriculture industry are working together to help the sector build resilience and adapt to climate change.  The co-op/intern will work as a member of the Ministry’s climate action team, which contributes to the development of national and provincial climate change and agricultural policy/action, and administers a nationally-recognized on-the-ground climate adaptation program (see below). The team is part of the Ministry’s Innovation and Adaptation Services Branch, which provides expertise and support for: innovation, domestic and international marketing, management practices that promote sustainable and productive agrifood systems, and the maintenance of a positive regulatory environment with local governments.  The Ministry’s climate adaptation program is funded with approximately $6 million over five years through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The program is industry-led and delivered by the BC Agriculture & Food Climate Action Initiative. The program supports the development and implementation of Regional Adaptation Strategies in key agricultural areas of the province, applied research to pilot and demonstrate adaptation practices on B.C. farms and ranches, and provincially significant climate adaptation projects. This programming is recognized as the most advanced programming in Canada for agricultural adaptation to climate change.    In February 2018, the Office of the Auditor General of British Columbia released a report titled *Managing Climate Change Risk: an Independent Audit*. The Ministry of Agriculture is included in this audit, and is involved in implementing recommendations and developing the provincial government’s response to the report’s findings. Areas discussed in the report include actions addressing climate driven risks from flooding, drought, and wildfires, as well as the need for education and professional development in area of climate adaptation.  One of the audit’s recommendations included undertaking a province-wide risk assessment that integrates existing risk assessment work and provides the public with an overview of key risks and priorities. The Ministry of Agriculture has since participated in the development of a province-wide risk assessment throughout 2019. The results from this process are now being finalized, and will be used to inform the development of a B.C. Adaptation Strategy in 2020. A key area of this work will be integrating knowledge of climate impacts on B.C. agriculture into future adaptation planning.     **Description:** The co-op/intern will support the Ministry’s climate action team in two focus areas:   * Supporting the climate adaptation program funded by the Ministry and federal government, including Regional Adaptation Strategies and the Farm Adaptation Innovator Program. The co-op/intern will provide support for program activities and analysis of program outputs. * Supporting the Ministry’s contribution to CleanBC and the development of an Adaptation Strategy being coordinated by the Climate Action Secretariat, and further work on adaptation planning for B.C. and the agriculture sector.   The co-op/intern will work with leaders in the field and interface with program managers in the Ministry, other government agencies, the Climate Action Secretariat, and the BC Agriculture & Food Climate Action Initiative. They will learn about climate change and B.C. agriculture, government policy and decision making, and the Ministry’s partnerships with the federal government and the agriculture industry. They will have a dynamic positive work environment with many opportunities for growth and mentorship.   **Sample Tasks:** The following tasks show the type of work which may be undertaken in this position:   * Communicating climate change information and program goals to Ministry staff using various communication tools (presentations, infographic visuals, information notes). * Supporting development and implementation of policy and program proposals * Supporting development of briefings/presentations for senior management/executive. * Assisting the team by conducting research and reviews on climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas reduction in the agricultural industry and food system. * Reviewing, commenting on, and/or helping to develop proposals for policies and projects. * Organizing seminars on topics related to climate adaptation and other areas of policy focus. * Organizing meetings, note taking, and filing. |
| **Qualifications:** | **Qualifications:** The co-op/intern must be self-motivated, be able to work both independently and as part of a team, be flexible, creative and be able to take initiative. To be qualified, the candidate must:   * Be enrolled at a British Columbia academic institution in a graduate program in agriculture, climate change, resource management, natural sciences, Earth sciences, environmental studies/science, economics, policy, planning, or a related field. Note: highly qualified undergraduates may also be considered, at a lower salary of $1,528.58 bi-weekly or $21.83 per hour. * Have technical and subject matter expertise in agriculture and/or food systems, and be familiar with climate change adaptation, resilience, and systems thinking approaches to sustainability. * Have experience conducting research and analysis; strong verbal and written communication skills; and experience presenting findings through presentations and graphic/visual products. * Have proficiency with Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel and PowerPoint. * Have the ability to work closely with key stakeholders and partners, including the agriculture industry and the BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative. * (Preferable) have experience in environmental, natural resource, and climate adaptation policy analysis. * (Preferable) have work experience in a government setting. |