

Canadian Organic Grower's (COG) mission is to provide education, advocacy, and leadership to help build an agricultural system that empowers farmers and consumers, enhances human health, builds community, and mitigates climate change while increasing Canadian food sovereignty (www.cog.ca).



Job Title: Growing Up Organic Workshop Facilitator

Canadian Organic Growers is seeking a workshop facilitator to implement the Growing Up Organic garden education program in the City of Ottawa.

Reporting Relationship:

Reports to and works under the direction of the Program Manager for Growing Up Organic and is responsible for leading on-site workshops in schools, adapting them to each class and school.

Wage and Hours:

This position averages 20 hours/week and is remunerated at \$27/h. This is a seasonal position, each Fall and Spring and requires planning work from home and access to a personal vehicle to travel from site to site; the employee will be compensated for mileage.

Summary:

Growing Up Organic (GUO) partners with schools to establish edible garden programs as experiential education tools for all grade levels. We provide educators with the core support and resources to start garden initiatives with confidence, and a model for integrating hands-on food literacy into their pedagogy. Our garden-based workshops are delivered on-site at school gardens, and focus on the environmental impacts of our food choices. Through our strategic focus on education, we hope to foster a generation of children and youth with greater food literacy, healthy eating habits, increased food skills and an understanding of environmental health issues. GUO runs under the umbrella of Canadian Organic Growers National (COGN) and the Ottawa - St. Lawrence - Outaouais Chapter (COG OSO).

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Provide core support and technical assistance to schools in building organic vegetable gardens (raised beds)
- Facilitate GUO workshops, in classrooms and in gardens, to students from grades JK-10, integrating themes of environment and nutrition
- Provide garden supplies/materials and professional support to partner schools

Employment Requirements:

The preferred candidate will have:

- Post-Secondary Degree or Diploma in Agriculture, Food, Education or a related field
- Hands-on experience in organic gardening or working with organic farmers and farming organizations
- Computer literacy including database management, website navigation, and Google Drive
- Experience teaching children and youth, preferably in environmental education
- Strong knowledge of organic gardening principles, food security issues, and sustainability

Core Competencies:

- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work with members, co-workers, and volunteers in a professional manner
- Ability to work under pressure, manage multiple deadlines and changing priorities with ease
- Assessing the needs of students and teachers and adapting on the spot to address these
- Highly motivated to teach children and youth food literacy, growing skills and environmental stewardship
- Strong knowledge of organic gardening principles, food security issues, and sustainable agriculture issues and environmental impacts
- Strong presentation, facilitation and public speaking skills
- Strong ability to identify challenges and opportunities, create effective plans, and deliver results
- Self-directed, exceptional time management skills, and the ability to work autonomously
- Excellent oral and written English

Other Assets include:

- French oral and written skills are a strong asset (workshops are delivered primarily in English but could be in French as well)
- Knowledge of the Ontario school curriculum is a strong asset

Working Conditions:

Work involves exposure to both indoor and outdoor settings and is subject to weather conditions. Work is subject to deadlines and interruptions. Ability to work effectively and efficiently in a flexible home office environment. The role will primarily work remotely with in-person visits to schools to deliver workshops. The position requires access to a vehicle to travel from site to site; the employee will be compensated for mileage. A police record check will be required prior to working with vulnerable populations.

Other duties:

Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice.

Equal opportunity

COG provides equal employment opportunities to employees regardless of their gender, race, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status. As such, we encourage groups who have been historically disadvantaged with respect to employment to apply for positions at COG. We offer a family-friendly environment that allows for flexible work arrangements to support staff diversity and ensure a healthy work-life balance.

If you are interested in the opportunity and have the above qualifications, please forward your resume and cover letter to the attention of the program manager, Growing up Organic via email to guo-ottawa@cog.ca.