

## **SPEC Climate-Smart Urban Agriculture Field School Coordinator**

**Position Type:** Part time, 17-22 hours per week

**Location:** Vancouver, BC

**Duration:** ~ 8 months

**Compensation Amount:** \$22/hour for graduate students; \$18/ for undergraduate students

### **SPEC Background:**

The Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC) works to educate, activate and empower citizens in the Vancouver Region to reduce their ecological footprint and build healthy, liveable communities (<http://www.spec.bc.ca/>). Through public education programs and advocacy, SPEC works to raise public awareness of environmental issues and encourages policies and practices that lead to urban sustainability. Our programs focus on three main areas: transportation, food consumption/production and energy.

### **Position Description :**

As part of our commitment to raising awareness of urban agriculture and climate change, the intern will be responsible for coordinating workshops and public outreach events and for developing the ***SPEC Urban Agriculture Field School: Climate-Smart Food for Cities*** program. Through hands-on learning both in the classroom and in the field, the SPEC Field School will use the “climate smart agriculture” concept as a framework around which to engage urban residents in all aspects of the agri-food system, including food production, processing, transportation, consumption and waste. The intention of the program is to teach participants food-related skills with the goal of mobilizing and inspiring them to make sustainable food behaviour changes.

### **Responsibilities:**

A high level of responsibility and capacity to work independently is expected from the intern. The intern will require strong communication skills in order to clearly communicate complex concepts such as climate change, sustainability, and agri-food systems to students, SPEC members, volunteers and the general public. Specific duties will include:

- Developing curriculum, promoting the program, recruiting students, coordinating program volunteers Assisting with the development, promotion and delivery of urban agriculture and sustainability workshops;
- Developing the SPEC Field School such as coordinating workshop curriculum and planning for student recruitment;

- Maintaining the SPEC container demonstration garden (including planting, harvesting and watering as well as coordinating volunteers to assist with these tasks);
- Developing outreach and workshop materials;
- Communicating project information on SPEC website/blog, newsletters and with the media.

### **Qualifications:**

**In order to be considered for this position, applicants must be currently enrolled as a student in a graduate or undergraduate program (preferably at the post-secondary level).**

The intern will require an educational background and/or experience in the environmental sciences, agriculture, social sciences or education. Specific training and resources on climate-smart agriculture can be provided by the supervisor given that the candidate is equipped with an appropriate background in these fields.

Other qualities that are considered valuable include:

- Experience designing and delivering workshops;
- Experience supervising and mentoring volunteers;
- Experience in vegetable gardening;
- Excellent computer skills including word processing and design programs;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- Excellent interpersonal, time management, problem solving and organizational skills
- Experience working with non-profit organizations

Interested candidates should forward a resume and cover letter by Friday, May 13, 2011 to:

Tara Moreau, Vice-President, SPEC

Email: [taramoreau@gmail.com](mailto:taramoreau@gmail.com)

Please include the job title in the subject line of your email.

We thank all applicants for their interest in this position however we will only be contacting those selected for interviews.

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Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions  
([www.pics.uvic.ca/](http://www.pics.uvic.ca/))**