

Job Opportunity: Forest Stewardship Co-ordinator at Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute

Location of Project and Field Work:

Field work will focus in Queens and Annapolis counties as well as other areas within the Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve (SNBR), Nova Scotia. Field sites will include private woodland in the SNBR. Office and laboratory work will be conducted at the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute in Kempt, Queens County, Nova Scotia.

Description of Work:

The co-ordinator will contribute important information to a project that is one element of a large multi-faceted program focused on improving landscape connectivity in SNBR. Particular duties include the following:

- ✓ Organize woodland demonstrations and community workshops with foresters and the public to map physical barriers, define values and attitudes, get community input into prioritization of zones, identify stewardship tools, and educate people about certification, sustainable forest management techniques, and local research projects
- ✓ Write proposals, progress reports, and final reports for funders
- ✓ Highlight woodlands to be showcased in the media as models demonstrating stewardship tools
- ✓ Work with partners to understand how best to advance landscape connectivity for patches of old forests in southwestern Nova Scotia
- ✓ Participate and help organize working groups with multiple partners
- ✓ Work one-on-one with private landowners to implement stewardship tools
- ✓ Aid in the preparation of policies and procedures manual for a FSC Group Entity
- ✓ Develop GIS maps to help prioritize areas for landscape connectivity
- ✓ Lead the development of a stewardship recognition program for landowners to acknowledge landowner commitment
- ✓ Represent MTRI at workshops, meetings, and conferences
- ✓ Learn old forest scoring protocols and conduct field work to complete an appropriate sample of old forests on private land

Wages:

\$14-16/hour depending on experience and education, 35 hours/week for a six month term with possibility of extension starting approximately September 20th 2010.

Education requirements:

College and university graduates are encouraged to apply. Specialization in forestry, environmental science, and/or biology is preferred.

Skill and knowledge requirements:

- Forestry
- Communication skills
- Workshop planning and delivery
- Tree, plant, fish, and bird identification
- Outdoor field work and orientation skills
- Writing skills
- Computer word processing and data entry
- Knowledge about Forest Stewardship Certification and forest harvesting relative to the Acadian Forest
- Knowledge about Nova Scotia's Forest Ecosystem Classification

Preferred experience:

- Forestry management and planning with small woodland owners
- Ecological field work including water quality monitoring and/or work with wildlife
- Communication and outreach work with the public
- GIS map creation using ArcGIS 9
- Preference may be given to unemployed or underemployed graduates under 30 years of age.
- Preference may be given to applicants who have been pre-approved for the ECO Canada internship program (www.eco.ca)

Personal suitability:

Applicants must be self-motivated, have a driver's license and access to a vehicle for field work, must be adept at tedious fieldwork and data collection, work well as a member of a team, communicate well with others, and have living accommodations in or near Kempt, Queens County. Some positions have age restrictions because of funding sources.

Candidates will be rated based on education, skills, experience, and personal suitability.

Application deadline is September 8th, 2010. Applications can be emailed to info@merseytobeatic.ca. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.