

Hiring: Vegetable Gardener

Kortright Church, Guelph, ON Start Date: TBD

Job Length: 8 weeks, 35 hours per week

Deadline to apply: May 6, 2024

Kortright seeks a knowledgeable vegetable gardener to work alongside a team of volunteers to grow vegetables to help combat food insecurity in the community. The vegetable gardener will be responsible for weeding, harvesting, and watering the one-quarter acre vegetable garden on our property. The person will also coordinate with volunteer garden teams and work with an outreach liaison.

Kortright is a mid-sized, friendly church providing meaningful work experiences with opportunities for personal growth. **Responsibilities**

1. Gardening

- Assist in the planting, tending, weeding, and watering of our vegetable garden to provide fresh vegetables to people without ready access to nutritious food.
- Oversee the operation of the drip irrigation system.
- Work alongside other volunteers to maintain and harvest the crops, while helping them have a good experience.
- Work alongside volunteer garden team leaders to develop strategies for best possible crop outcome.

2. Administrative and Volunteer Coordination

- Communicate weekly with volunteer teams about gardening needs.
- Communicate regularly with the outreach liaison about relations with food security partners and about events/projects to engage the community.
- Coordinate meetings with volunteer teams to train, where required.
- Work alongside the Dovercliffe Park Community Food Cupboard at Kortright to supplement fresh produce for them when required.
- Utilize social media to promote the latest garden news and updates; advertise opportunities in more food insecure parts of the neighbourhood.
- Find ways to connect with the neighbourhood and to encourage people to engage with the garden through volunteering, donating, and so on.
- Develop good relations with summer camp families, Montessori families, vulnerable communities, and KPC families regarding picking up produce.
- Develop strategies for distribution of fall harvest and continue to build connections with the various non-profits who will be recipients.

3. Miscellaneous

- Other duties as required by supervisor, Justin Sytsma, garden team leaders, or outreach liaison.

Requirements

- Previous experience with gardening and in working with volunteers
- Be able and willing to be in outdoor environment with insects (e.g.,: potato bugs) - Ability to lift 50 lb and to work safely
- Strong organizational skills and ability to prioritize
- Personal maturity and a willingness to serve.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality
- Commitment to follow KPC's Leading with Care Policy for the care and safety of minors and of volunteers who work with minors.

Please send all resumes, cover letters, and inquiries to Justin Sytsma - justin@kortrightchurch.org