



Seed Collector

Volunteer Position Description

Organizational Profile:

The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association, a registered charitable organization, delivers educational programs and Garden projects at VanDusen Botanical Garden, a 55-acre botanical garden and Bloedel Conservatory, a domed, lush tropical rainforest paradise in the heart of Vancouver. As Vancouver's 'green heart,' we help to protect the globe's biodiversity while acting as an oasis of calm in a busy city, providing a place for people to connect with nature and find peace in a world of plants and beauty.

Purpose:

Plant conservation is one of the cornerstones of Botanical Gardens worldwide. Seed collectors collect, catalogue and preserve many varieties of seeds produced in the Garden. Seeds are sold in the Garden Shop, online (vandusenseeds.org), and sent to international seed banks to help preserve the globe's biodiversity.

Responsibilities:

- Collect, clean and package garden seeds in accordance with accepted protocols.
- Work with other seed collectors to create a relaxed, jovial yet productive atmosphere.

Skills, Attitudes, Knowledge Required:

- Enthusiasm for nature and the environment
- Willingness to learn and adhere to seed cleaning protocols
- Takes initiative and solve problems creatively in collaboration with other seed collectors

Training and Orientation:

- Orientation to VanDusen Garden and the roles volunteers play at the VBGA
- Role specific training and support from the Seed Collector group leaders.

Time Commitment:

- Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. – 12 p.m. or Sundays, 9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. year round
- A minimum of six month commitment

Supervisory Relationships/liaison: Candidate will be supported by Seed Collector senior members

Authority/Decision Making: Must be comfortable following guidelines, making decisions, and problem solving with minimal supervision.

Volunteer Benefits:

- Opportunity to work with a team of passionate volunteers in a well-respected non-profit
- Opportunity to work intimately with plants through their seasons in a world class botanical garden.
- Contribute your time and talents in an impactful way for a worthwhile cause
- Reference letter

To Apply: Please email your resume and cover letter to Heidi Jakop at hjakop@vandusen.org