



Manitoba Beekeepers' Association

Knowledge Research Transfer Program Program Lead Position Description

Beekeeping in Manitoba

Manitoba's beekeeping industry consists of over 850 beekeepers, 114,000 colonies and is valued at \$30 Million annually for honey and an additional \$120 M for the added value to crops that benefit from honey bee pollination. There are approximately 225 commercial beekeepers in Manitoba that are responsible for producing 95% of the 19 million pounds of honey produced in Manitoba annually. In addition to Manitoba's commercial beekeeping industry, Manitoba also has a thriving backyard beekeeping sector. This sector not only brings value to the industry through additional honey production but also through greater public interest, pollinator advocacy and value-added innovation.

Purpose

The main focus of the KRTP Program Lead will be to provide leadership and expertise to facilitate the enhancement, sustainment and growth in the beekeeping industry in Manitoba. This program has been developed to provide Manitoba beekeepers with industry services through Education, Demonstrative Research, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Monitoring, Best Management Practices (BMPs) Development and Communication. The KRTP Lead will work towards bridging the knowledge gap between research and its practical adaptation in order to develop training and BMPs for Manitoba beekeepers to become more self-sufficient and profitable. This position involves working with a wide and diverse group of stakeholders, which include the beekeeping industry, all levels of government, different commodities groups and universities.

Responsibilities and Activities

The main responsibility of the program Lead will be to develop and deliver training and demonstrative research activities that the KRTP Steering Committee and the Board of Directors of the MBA deemed important for the advancement of beekeeping in Manitoba. The KRTP Lead will:

- Work directly with beekeepers to develop an IPM monitoring strategy and develop Best Management Practices (BMPs) specific for Manitoba beekeeping.

- Identify, evaluate, field test and communicate new and emerging technologies to determine suitability for Manitoba's conditions and beekeepers' management systems to enhance the growth and sustainability of Manitoba's industry.
- Coordinate and present at technical meetings, workshops, association meetings and other activities to industry stakeholders to enhance the health of honey bees, honey bee breeding, pollination and honey production opportunities in Manitoba.
- Develop content for online and social media training and sharing platforms for new and experienced beekeepers.
- Identify and apply for project funding for KRTP's educational and research activities.
- Manage summer student staff and KRTP activity budgets.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Minimum M.Sc. in apiculture/entomology. Candidates with other relevant combinations of education and experience may be considered.
- Demonstrated experience working with bees and beekeepers, preferably in a commercial setting.
- Extensive knowledge of honey bee biology, beekeeping and fundamentals of Integrated Pest Management practices.
- Strong research background in apiculture with the ability to design and execute research projects.
- Experience in doing basic laboratory experimentation and WHMIS training
- Experience using computers for literature searches, data collection, statistical analyses and communication (social media and web development)
- A strong knowledge of grant writing and project management techniques and tools, with strong organizational, planning and management skills including; human resources and budget
- Exceptional problem-solving skills, innovative, proactive, and responsive to change
- Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines
- An ability to effectively communicate via writing and oral presentations
- An ability to develop, design and execute training events
- Good leadership and partnering skills
- Ability to perform independently with minimum supervision
- Ability to lead a team and supervise staff
- Valid and clean driver's license.
- Clean Criminal Record Check
- Willingness and ability to travel widely across the province
- Willingness and ability to work with hazard substances
- Willingness to work weekends when required and overtime work during peak periods of sampling etc
- No allergies to bee stings or physical impairments that would prevent the ability to lift heavy boxes

Salary: Remuneration will be based on level of education and commercial and research experience

Please submit your resume with references to:

Daryl Wright, Secretary

Manitoba Beekeepers' Association

d.l.wright@shaw.ca

Deadline for Applications is September 30, 2020