

1. Oyster Farm Researcher – Summer Student Position

Bear River First Nation (BRFN) currently operates several experimental oyster leases in the Annapolis Basin, NS. BRFN is looking for a summer student with a science background to help carry outgrowth and mortality trials on these leases.

2. About Bear River First Nation

Bear River First Nation is a small First Nation community located in the beautiful Annapolis Valley area. If you are an outdoors person who enjoys kayaking, canoeing, scuba diving, hiking, fishing, history and, culture, this is the place to be in summer!

Although a small First Nation community, BRFN hits well above its weight class. BRFN owns and operates the venerable Digby Pines as well as the Digby Pines Golf Club and has big aspirations around the development of oyster aquaculture in the pristine waters of the Annapolis Basin.

3. Job Description

Job duties would include the following:

- Develop a statistically relevant experimental plan to evaluate the growth and survival of oysters on the experimental lease.
- This experimental design would involve several size classes to be evaluated.
- Tests would be conducted on one main lease located in the Basin.
- Simultaneously, the student would be responsible for maintaining oyster seed held in a floating upweller system (FLUPSY) that will also be located on the lease. The student will be responsible for monitoring the growth and survival of the FLUPSY and maintaining the adjoining solar panel system that would provide renewable energy to the FLUPSY.
- The student would travel to and from the site on board one of BRFNs two vessels. These vessels are fully registered fishing vessels, piloted by a Captain and operate in full compliance with Transport Canada safety guidelines.
- The student would also be responsible for launching, maintaining, and downloading data from various water quality sensors.
- The student would also be required to input all data collected into Excel and carry out any data analysis using statistically appropriate methods.
- At the end of the project, the student will be expected to develop a final report summarizing growth, survival, and water quality findings.

- The student would work alongside a BRFN staff member to mentor them in the process of developing experimental designs, the importance of standardized processes and the basics of data analysis.

4. Benefits of Working with Bear River First Nation

This position is a full-time, summer position. The start date can be somewhat flexible but no later than May 20th ending in mid-August.

Benefits:

- The student will be lodged at the Digby Pines rent-free.
- Meal costs will be fully supported either through a per diem and/or via a staff meal card with the Digby Pines.
- Wage: \$17 / hr.

5. Work Location

Your work location will be split between working out of the Band Office located in Bear River and working on the water in Annapolis Basin. The lease in the Basin is located just off the coast of Cornwallis Park. The student would require their own vehicle.

6. Contact Details

Interested candidates can send their resume to Carol Ann Potter at: carolannpotter@bearriverfirstnation.ca.

The deadline for submissions is April 30th after which time candidate resumes will be reviewed and interviews will commence.