



New Ross District Museum Society, operating Ross Farm Museum for the Province of Nova Scotia since 1970

Ross Farm Museum is NOW HIRING for the position of: Ox Teamster (seasonal)

Ross Farm Museum is a window into the past of Nova Scotia's rich agricultural history with many things to see and do that the whole family will enjoy. Established in 1970, Ross Farm Museum is located on Highway 12 in New Ross, Nova Scotia. It is a living, working, farm museum depicting 150 years of agriculture in the province.

The position of ox teamster is an essential component of the Ross Farm Museum staff. While the current job offer will create a probationary position for the first season, the position will be developed as Ross Farm progresses in building the ox program. Successful review at the end of the first season will result in the individual being asked back for successive seasons.

As the ox teamster you will be responsible for the care and well-being of all oxen and cattle at the museum and will be an integral part of the farm team. This includes keeping records on each individual animal regarding include health, breeding schedules, feeding charts, as well as any particular issues and communicate this to the other animal care staff, Interpretation Coordinators and management. The ox teamster must be comfortable with all types of Heritage farm animals including Cattle, Horses, Pigs, Oxen, Sheep, Poultry {Chickens, Ducks, & Geese}. You will also be responsible for the implementation of a regular exercise and work program for the ox team.

Required Qualifications:

- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of farm life with an emphasis on animal husbandry, including practical experience teaming oxen.
- Demonstrated leadership and the ability to work with minimal supervision.
- Willingness to learn and adapt to a continuously changing, fast paced, team-oriented work setting.
- Good organizational skills
- Excellent communication skills
- Ability to exercise a high degree of judgement
- Some experience in crop and field management

Expectations:

- Able to work at least 32 hours each week during the season (June-September)
- Able to work on weekends, flexible with scheduling
- Able to manage the ox team for the purposes of demonstration to the public
- Able to work 8-hour shifts in a physically demanding job requiring lifting up to 25kg
- Available in February to begin pre-season training

Assets:

- Experience operating a tractor with attachments
- Experience operating a chainsaw for the purpose of cutting up firewood
- Some experience in a second area: shoeing oxen, carpentry and woodwork, forestry, etc.

Cover letter & Resumes and all supporting documents must be received at Ross Farm by 5:00pm Friday, January 29, 2021

Supporting documents may include relevant professional certifications (OHS, construction, First Aid, Drivers Abstract, etc.). These are not required at the time of application but may be requested for the interview if such certifications are indicated in the resume.

The successful candidate will be asked to submit a Criminal Records Background Check and a Child Abuse Registry check available from the RCMP detachment office of the jurisdiction of your residence.

The successful candidate will be asked to complete a training program over the winter and spring prior to the season and must be available to do so. The candidate will be compensated for this.

Ross Farm Museum is open to the public 12 months a year. The successful candidate will initially be offered 1 summer season of probationary work at 32 hours per week for a minimum of 16 weeks. The regular summer season runs from the middle of May to the end of September. There may be variations to this depending on the impact of Covid on the museum system but the offer is for 32 hours per week for a minimum of 16 weeks.

Apply in writing via post or email to:

Ross Farm Museum 4568 Highway 12 PO Box 238 New Ross, N.S. B0J 2M0

Attn: Barry Hiltz

E-mail Barry.Hiltz@novascotia.ca

Fax (902) 689-2264

Phone: 1-877-689-2210

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted

Candidates to be interviewed should expect to be contacted by or before February 12 to arrange an interview date. At the interview the candidate will be asked to discuss the skill-set outlined in their resume and cover letter, be given a tour of the museum and a description of activities that take place year round, and will be asked to perform a practical test with the oxen. This will involve yoking and walking with the team as well as hooking up to equipment. This component of the interview will be facilitated by the Interpretation Coordinators and Ross Farm teamsters on staff. Candidates selected for interview should expect the process to last a few hours. It is fundamental that applicants are confident they can approach the practical test safely. This will require genuine practical experience with teaming oxen. Ross Farm Museum will assume that all applicants have the ability to team oxen safely and simply require that you demonstrate your experience. Under the supervision of Ross Farm teamsters, Interpretation Coordinators and management, unsafe approach or obvious lack of experience during the practical test will result in the termination of the interview. Candidates are expected to bring a pair of CSA approved Grade 1 – Green Triangle steel-toed boots to the interview.

4568 Highway 12
P.O. Box 238
New Ross, Nova Scotia
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