



Mitchell Museum of the American Indian

Traditional Garden & Food Sovereignty Manager Job Description

Job Title: Traditional Garden & Food Sovereignty Initiative Manager

Job Pay: \$30/hr

Hours: 20 hours/week

About the Organization:

The Mitchell Museum of the American Indian was established in 1977 and, in 2021, reached a significant milestone by becoming a majority Indigenous-led organization in its leadership, staff, and board for the first time since its founding. With full representation in place, the museum has a new mission to increase the visibility and elevate Native voices through education, awareness, and advocacy. We have been working to set a new standard for museums representing Indigenous people using a holistic approach that prioritizes Indigenous representation, collaborative partnerships, rethinking ownership, truth-telling, and accountability. This position is an integral part of supporting this mission.

Brief Description:

This highly collaborative position reports to the Executive Director and collaborates with the Director of Operations. This role will oversee the care and expansion of the museum's garden, develop educational programs, and collaborate with Tribal and community partners to introduce food sovereignty initiatives. With over 7000 sqft of yard space, we have already begun our garden by introducing an Indigenous Medicine Garden. In addition to maintaining this garden, this position will oversee the expansion of our garden into our annexed property to include traditional, regional, and Indigenous food crops.

Responsibilities:

- Work with Native community partners to elicit feedback and participation in garden and traditional food programs
- Source and maintain garden equipment and supplies
- Maintain a seed bank for future planting seasons and seed-sharing programs
- Coordinate with Tribal partners to contribute to food sovereignty programs
- Organize educational tours, workshops, and community events in the garden
- Co-develop educational Indigenous Garden resources for educators and the public
- Co-curate the Mitchell Museum Indigenous Medicine and Food Garden Exhibition
- Collaborate with local Native community organizations to distribute Indigenous foods
- Oversee and help coordinate landscaping projects with the Executive Director
- Maintain the Garden's health



- Manage/oversee garden volunteers to assist with the garden's maintenance schedule and educational programs

Qualifications:

- Have a demonstrated background maintaining gardens and/or landscapes
- Have basic knowledge of plant care
- Collaborates well, both within the organization and with community partners
- Preferred: Basic knowledge of Great Lakes Indigenous ecological practices
- Preferred: Familiarity and experience working with Native organizations and Tribal Nations
- Ability to work with interruptions and flexibility

To apply for the position, please email a pdf copy of your resume and a cover letter to info@mitchellmuseum.org with subject line "Garden Manager Application".