

#### **The Museum**

The Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum is an original Cole Harbour farm, cultivated continuously for over 200 years. It has operated as a community museum since 1978 and is owned and operated by the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society (CHRHS). The museum site is a rural oasis tucked into the middle of a now bustling urban centre, and consists of 12 buildings. Of those, two are historic houses, six are historic barns and outbuildings and the remainder are museum support structures. This "open air" museum also includes gardens, pastureland, pathways and a small wetland and natural reserve. In addition to the heritage buildings, the museum collection consists of approximately 4000 artifacts representing the evolution of agriculture in the area, along with the implements and personal items of the peoples who made Cole Harbour home. A small representation of traditional farm animals is kept on site along with heritage gardens and native species of trees and shrubs, creating our living collection. The site contains a busy tearoom and gift shop within the original farmhouse, as well as a working blacksmith shop, and is a cultural and social hub for the community of Cole Harbour. The Museum operates on a free will donation basis, welcoming over 20,000 visitors per year.

#### **The Tearoom**

Inspired by the beautiful Victorian verandah of the Harris House and its plentiful roses, the Rose and Kettle Tearoom has been the heart of the Farm for over 30 years. The verandah was transformed into a tearoom in 1990, and has evolved over the years with the community it serves. Orders can be placed at the cafe-style window, and both indoor and outdoor seating is available. Our new interior stylings have been made by our on-site blacksmith, while our farmhouse-style tables have been built by a local craftsman, and are adorned throughout the summer with freshly cut flowers from our gardens.

The Rose & Kettle is a warm and welcoming spot where neighbours and visitors gather to enjoy a delicious homemade meal, or indulge in a sweet treat. The cuisine is a blend of old Nova Scotian favourites, and flavourful delights from around the world, reflective of the diversity of our seaside province. Everything is made in small batches, from scratch, and served on vintage china dishes. Delicious and healthy soups, sandwiches, salads, and other specials are offered on a seasonal, daily-changing menu. Our culinary artists also prepare a selection of cakes, pastries, cookies, and even homemade ice cream!

Cream tea, a well-loved and traditional offering, is always available, as are house-made espresso beverages, coffee, and many flavourings of tea. Ingredients are sourced from local farmers, butchers, fish markets, bakeries, and The Farm's own gardens whenever possible. Foraged and unique ingredients – such as lilacs, haskap berries, dandelions, and nettles – make the Rose & Kettle's offerings especially memorable.

## **The Position**

The Horticulturist will care for the vegetable and perennial gardens at the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum on a daily basis. The museum's gardens provide produce for the on-site tearoom, and are an important aspect of the museum's interpretation. In caring for these gardens, the Horticulturist will help ensure the success of the summer season.

Reporting to the Museum Director, duties of the Assistant Food Services Manager shall include:

- Develop an appreciation for the role the garden plays in the everyday operation of the museum from its interpretation of the community's agricultural past to its value in promoting healthier lifestyles and use of local produce;
- Collaborate with interpretive and tearoom staff to make the garden responsive to their needs, i.e., making staff aware of areas specially suited to introducing children to nature and assisting in the development of plant-related and food-related program ideas;
- Perform routine tasks (with the guidance of museum staff and gardening volunteers) to keep the garden thriving and productive;
- Develop a sensory garden incorporating the Farm Museum's raised permaculture bed for usage by children and/or seniors;
- Record and coordinate the activities of garden volunteers and oversee the master plan for the gardening year;
- Maintenance and development of the Orchard Project to ensure a successful fruit tree and shrub growing season;
- Coordinate with garden volunteers to implement and maintain a garden Market Stand, ensuring there is a regular supply of harvested produce for purchase;
- Learn the names of as many species as possible and which are of special significance to the area's gardening history;
- Assist with the farm walk/trail interpretation development;
- Develop and deliver garden tours for diverse audiences: school groups, senior groups, and community groups;
- Track and record highlights of the 2024 garden season; successful plantings, challenges, etc;
- Develop awareness of, and when required, care for the museum's resources, including its buildings, collections, gardens and animals;
- Share knowledge with visitors.

# Horticulturist 2025

## Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum, Cole Harbour, Nova Scotia

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### Desired qualifications/skills include:

- Enrolled in a horticultural, agricultural, science, or food and nutrition degree or certificate;
- A genuine interest in gardens and their importance in society through the ages;
- Excellent customer service and oral communications skills;
- Ability to work well with others;
- Experience with children's programming;
- Planning and organizational skills;

### Working Conditions & Benefits

- Frequent physical demands;
- Working outdoors in all conditions;
- Potential for cuts, scrapes, bites;
- Repetitive tasks; digging, lifting, bending, squatting;
- Ability to lift 50lbs/25kg, push/pull 80lbs/40kg;
- 50% discount on nutritious and delicious meals while on shift;
- Visits with our farm animals;
- Harvesting from our farm gardens;
- Free parking on site;
- Cheerful and friendly environment.

The Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society is committed to developing a workforce that is reflective of the diverse communities it serves, and welcomes applications from all eligible African Nova Scotians, racially visible persons, women (applying for non-traditional positions), persons with disabilities, Indigenous persons and persons of the LGBTQ+ community. Anyone meeting the skill requirements is invited to apply. Rate of pay is \$16/hour for a 35 hour work week. This is a summer term position lasting approximately **14 weeks (Mid-May to August)**. Applications should consist of a **cover letter and resume**, and should be **submitted as PDF** documents. They will be accepted until **April 25, 2025** and should be addressed to **Janice Kirkbright, Executive Director, Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum, 471 Poplar Drive, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, B2W 4L2 or emailed to [hello@coleharbourfarmmuseum.ca](mailto:hello@coleharbourfarmmuseum.ca)**. The interview will be conducted by a panel of a minimum 2 persons consisting of Executive Director, Food Services Manager, and/or Board Representative.

