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Community-Based Education Program



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#4239 – Community Supported Agriculture Tour: Design and Deliver

Organization Information

The host organization is a campus-based, community-oriented, non-profit organization committed to research, education, and action on local social justice and environmental issues. Each year, its staff and volunteers organize speakers, films, conferences, publications, and campaigns on a wide variety of topics that fit within its mandate. They also offer skills development workshops and have previously partnered with TCCBE for a number of projects.

Project Information

The purpose of the project is to design and deliver a popular-education-based workshop/tour for educating and involving the community in the alternatives that exist to conventional supermarket retailers (e.g. connecting community members and their food choices to issues like food security, sustainable agriculture and agrarian reform). The focus of the project is Community Shared Agriculture (CSA) as an alternative to conventional food systems.

Design and conduct a pilot, popular education-based CSA tour for community members using preliminary research findings from CBE project #4239 as the basis for the tour design (Note: tour must be conducted in spring/summer). At the completion of the tour, run a feedback exercise for community members that answers the following question. Write up the tour model.

- How can CSA's more effectively support communities and connect people through food?

Since this is a pilot project, it is important that the student assess the project from his/her perspective through a brief reflection assessment. Write and present a final report.

Benefit to the Host Organization and Community

The tour will benefit the community in a number of ways:

- By educating people on the food options that they have within the community and connections they can make through food.
- By linking community members with CSA networks and giving the community an opportunity for feedback that can improve local food networks and service delivery.
- By introducing community members to issues such as sustainable agriculture and how it effects their community.

What students might learn

The project offers learning opportunities through primary research and experiencing how CSA and CSA networks operate in Peterborough. The connections between these local activities and broader issues effecting people globally (e.g. sustainability in agriculture and agrarian reform issues) is central to the research, however there is lots of room for other connections to be made. We know we will benefit from a student's particular angle of inspiration! There are many opportunities for a student to learn directly from those involved in CSA and the issues that face the food industry.

Screening or Training Requirements

A meeting with the prospective student in order to make sure the project is a good fit.

Skills or Experience Needed

- Working independently
- Time management
- Public speaking an asset

Resources Required for Project Provided by Host

- Office space & photocopying
- Computers and printing if needed
- Work support and advice (e.g. suggesting various literature like OPRIG's Supermarket Tour Manual and making connections with local CSA networks like "By the Bushel")

***All project expenditures must be pre-approved by the host.*