

Name: Mankirat Grewal, Véronik Campbell

Club or Group Affiliation: Sustainability Ambassadors and the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at the UBC Farm

Amount Requested: 1447.50

Describe your project and its purpose (approximately 200 words)?

Our project, the UBC Farm Student Symposium, celebrates the engagement of UBC students with food sustainability. This one-day event will bring together students, community members, and researchers to join in dialogue about a just and sustainable food system. Through sharing knowledge and experiences, the symposium will showcase the UBC Farm as a diverse resource for teaching, learning and research. Community members will have an opportunity to reflect on the importance of a local food supply while sharing and gaining knowledge on how to reduce the ecological footprint of a local food system. The aim of the symposium is to encourage a transition from a discussion about sustainability issues to a rare hands on approach that addresses them. By the presenting of projects from diverse disciplines, the symposium provides an opportunity for participants to see the application of sustainable food production principles in a real world context. Furthermore, the symposium inspires collaborative ideas with the UBC Centre of Sustainable Food Systems, with the aim to expand and enrich the research experience at UBC.

Outline how your project pertains to the environment and sustainability at UBC (approximately 200 words)?

The UBC Farm Symposium will give students and community members the opportunity to engage in dialogue that will be created around the importance of a local food supply. This dialogue will not only be about the highlighted projects but will also build awareness on the importance to further reduce the ecological food print of our local food system.

A main strength of this project is that it will engage students towards their environmental system through UBC Farms projects and allow students from varying facilities to see how their studies can be integrated with sustainable practices.

The symposium will bring together the knowledge gained from highlighted student projects and that from BC farmers who will share their hands on experiences about the local sustainable food production practice, inspiring students to think about and create long-term solutions for the challenges faced by our food systems today.

Also this event will have a lasting impact at UBC by supporting cross campus collaborations between students, staff, faculty, farmers, and community members, while sharing knowledge and projects about local food systems.

How will you document the successes and difficulties of your project? In what ways do you foresee this documentation aiding other SEC Eco-Initiatives (approximately 200 words)?

The planning committee has been recording and documenting all steps of the planning process. This includes program details, list of speakers, sources of volunteers, roles for the volunteers to carry out, list of student and community projects at the UBC Farm, and contact details of the sponsors.

On the day of the event, there will be a photographer and cameraman who will document the speakers, as well as the presentations of the highlighted projects. The Sustainability Ambassadors, as well as the UBC Farm will conduct a feedback time in order to gain reflection from the participants and the people who attended. This will provide feedback on what went well and what could be improved at the event. Also, there will be a time where the planning committee, including others who assisted with the event, will have a team reflection together to evaluate merits and areas of improvement for this event.

We are more than willing to share our planning related documents with other eco-initiatives that would like to have a frame of reference, as well as provide our contact information therefore, allowing the opportunity for future collaborations among the UBC Farm to plan their events.

For most requests of funding of this amount, the SEC would like to see other funding sources contributing to the financing of your project. Are you pursuing any other sources of funding? If so, what sources, and for what amount? (SEC Treasurers can help you identify other sources of funding.)

Our 2014 UBC Farm Student Symposium confirmed sponsors include VanCity (enviroFund 2013, *Scaling up: Bringing local to a global campus* project, \$1000.00 cash contribution, confirmed)

AMS Sustainability (AMS Sustainability Fund 2013, *2014 UBC Farm Student Symposium*, \$1025.00 cash contribution, pending)

Faculty of Land and Food Systems Communications (*2014 UBC Farm Student Symposium*, \$300.00, in kind, confirmed)

Faculty of Land and Food Systems Learning Centre (*2014 UBC Farm Student Symposium*, \$300.00, in kind, confirmed)

and the Centre for Sustainable Food Systems, \$1500.00, in kind, confirmed).

What aspects of your project (purchases, bookings) will SEC funding be used for?

SEC funding is fundamental to the UBC Farm Student Symposium delivery in that it will secure venue rental (Old Barn Community Centre, 1 day, \$577.50), equipment rentals to host a large audience (150 to 200 people expected on site,

so will need extra chairs and tables, \$220.00), as well as the audio-visual equipment necessary to promote the event to an international audience (online streaming set up, videography, etc. \$650.00). Our SEC funding therefore totals \$1047.50.

Signed (Your Name): Mankirat Grewal