



## **DIRECTOR, POLICY, RESEARCH & PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Fruit and Vegetable Growers of Canada (FVGC), a national Ottawa-based association, is seeking an experienced policy and public affairs professional to join its team as Director, Policy, Research & Public Affairs.

### **THE ORGANIZATION**

#### **FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS OF CANADA**

The Fruit and Vegetable Growers of Canada (FVGC) represents growers involved in the production of over 120 different types of crops on over 14,000 farms, with a farm gate value of \$8 billion. FVGC is an Ottawa-based voluntary, not-for-profit, national association, and, since 1922, has advocated on issues that affect Canada's fresh produce sector - promoting healthy, safe, and sustainable food, ensuring the continued success and growth of the industry. For more information on the organization, its vision and mission, please visit our website: <http://www.fvgc.ca>

### **THE POSITION**

#### **DIRECTOR, POLICY, RESEARCH & PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Reporting to the Executive Director, the Director will be accountable for the development and implementation of public engagement strategies including government and stakeholder relations, communications, as well as research and policy development in support of FVGC's organizational objectives.

The Director will work with the Executive Director, other FVGC staff and Working Group chairs to facilitate horizontal collaboration and synergies in issue management, policy development, stakeholder engagement and communications.

Effective communication skills, discretion, tact and professionalism are paramount in this role.

This is a full-time permanent position.

#### **PRIMARY DUTIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES**

- Supports the Executive Director in their advocacy and government relations role.
- Develops and implements advocacy, government relations, communications and stakeholder engagement strategies
- Supports, mentors and supervises the Manager, Policy & Government Relations and the Manager, Communications
- Identifies, and assesses external issues that affect Canada's fruit and vegetable sector and develops strategies and tactics to address them

- Conducts (or supports) research and policy development on issues affecting Canada's fruit and vegetable sector
- Fosters strategic cooperative relations with media, governments and their agencies, stakeholder organizations and academia
- Fosters horizontal (organization-wide) collaboration and synergies in advocacy priority-setting, planning and execution.
- Prepares and/or supports the preparation of meeting agenda and supporting materials including background and decision memoranda for the Board and FVGC Working Groups and committees as necessary

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### ***Experience***

- Experience leading, inspiring and managing staff
- A minimum of seven (7) years of experience and a **proven track record** in public affairs, research and policy development, government relations, issue management and stakeholder engagement.
- Experience researching and writing policy documents, briefing notes, backgrounders, etc.
- Experience in strategic communications planning.
- Experience working with volunteer boards and committees
- Agri-food industry experience is an asset

### ***Knowledge, skills and abilities***

- Superior knowledge and understanding of the working of governments as well as public sector decision-making
- Ability to communicate effectively and with confidence
- Knowledge and understanding of the role of the media in setting the public agenda
- Ability to write effectively for a variety of mediums
- Solid work ethic, commitment to high quality work, results and attention to detail.
- Proven ability to work under the pressure of deadlines and shifting priorities in a fast-moving environment.
- A self-starter with the demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team, with minimal supervision
- Experience with Microsoft Suite including MS Word, Outlook, PowerPoint, and Excel
- Bilingualism is an important asset

### ***Education***

- A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in political science, public administration or economics is required. A Master's degree in one of the disciplines above is an important asset.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Please send a copy of your resume with a letter outlining why this position interests you, as well your salary expectations to our recruitment partner at: [careers@businesssherpagroup.com](mailto:careers@businesssherpagroup.com)

*FVGC is an equal opportunity employer and accommodates people with disabilities throughout the recruitment and selection process.*

Expressions of interest in this opportunity must be received at the above e-mail address no later than end of business day May 15th 2025.