



## **Job Title: Contract Apiculture Technician**

**Location:** Edmonton / Prairie Region

**Contracting Body:** Alberta Beekeepers Commission

**Closing date:** Will remain open until a suitable candidate is found

### **Purpose:**

The position will be focused on honey bee surveillance activities in Southern Alberta and/or Central Alberta. A strong beekeeping background with good knowledge of disease and pest management and honey bee biology is essential. It also requires working directly with beekeepers in the field, either with a team of people or individually. Travel throughout the province with overnight stays will be required.

### **Responsibilities and Activities:**

- Organize, co-ordinate, and schedule beekeepers for colony surveillance, taking into consideration staff availability, resources, weather, operation size, and location
- Organize accommodations, field gear, and required supplies for surveillance trips
- Collect samples in the field and analyze in the field, adhering to strict scientific protocols for diagnoses of honey bee diseases
- Perform research tasks, including data collection, recording, note taking, data management, writing and limited reporting;

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:**

- Good practical experience working with honey bees (+1 year beekeeping experience)
- Good understanding of bee biology, bee pests and diseases, disease management
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Ability to work with beekeepers and handle difficult issues
- Knowledge of sampling bees for disease diagnosis in the laboratory
- Availability for frequent out of town travel throughout the province (may include weekends/holidays)
- Ability to conduct difficult physical work for extended hours while remaining professional with clients and coworkers
- Must have a commitment to excellence and high standards
- Strong organizational skills and oral and written communication skills
- Ability to lift up to 20kg.
- Valid class 5 driver's license and clean driving record

**Contract duration and start date:**

The contract will run for 3-5 weeks from approximately April-mid May 2020, with possible extension for 16-20 weeks.

**Financial Compensation:**

The contractor will be paid a flat rate fee of \$55 for each completed apiary surveillance, plus up to \$41.55 per day when overnight travel is required, in addition to the cost of the overnight accommodation expense. Expected total number of apiary surveillance is 20.

This position is a contract position and therefore has no benefits (health coverage, dental, etc). The contractor will be responsible for reporting their self-employment income and filing sales and income taxes to relevant Government agencies. The contractor will be provided with a rental vehicle to travel to the field sites. Beekeeping equipment and personal safety equipment is provided by the project.

**How to Apply:**

Please submit resume and cover letter to: [renata.borba@albertabeekeepers.ca](mailto:renata.borba@albertabeekeepers.ca). Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

