



## **Job Title: Apiculture Summer Technician**

**Location:** Edmonton, AB

**Closing date:** March 21, 2024, or until position is filled

### **Purpose:**

The Technology Transfer Program (TTP) for apiculture in Alberta, since its establishment in 2019, has been working in collaboration with the provincial government, academia, and stakeholders on research and extension projects. The TTP also works directly with commercial beekeepers by providing training and colony disease monitoring. The TTP provides disease monitoring services to beekeepers in Alberta, which includes continuous evaluation for pests and pathogens, as well as management planning steps so that adjustments can be made as necessary to ensure the success of the beekeeping operation. The TTP is also conducting applied bee research investigating the performance of a new management method for controlling Varroa mites.

The TTP is seeking 2 summer technicians for the 2024 field season (May 1st- August 31st). The position will be focused on honey bee surveillance activities throughout the province and applied research. A strong beekeeping background with good knowledge of honey bee diseases, pest management, and biology is an asset. 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.

The TTP summer technician will work with the TTP lead and 1-2 TTP technicians in conducting applied research, monitoring colonies for diseases and assisting with lab work.

### **Responsibilities and Activities:**

- Organize, coordinate, 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 samples in the lab, 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
- Assist in applied research projects
- Write and create extension materials on bee-related topics

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

- Currently enrolled in a science program or equivalent



- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision
- Ability to work with beekeepers efficiently and effectively
- Must have strong problem-solving skills
- Availability for frequent out of town travel throughout the province
- Ability to conduct difficult physical work for extended hours while remaining professional with clients and co-workers
- 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
- Good practical experience working with honey bees is an asset
- Knowledge of sampling bees for disease diagnosis in the laboratory is an asset
- Good understanding of bee biology, bee pests and diseases, disease management is an asset

**What we offer:**

- Working from home is possible when performing office-related activities
- A work truck is available for work-related activities
- Working with and handling bees training
- First aid and safety training

**Financial Compensation:** Compensation commensurate with experience. The employment will be based on \$19 per hour.

**Work week:** 40 hours per week. Some flexibility in work hours required.

**Duration:** The 4 month position will run from May 1st to August 31st 2024 (with possible work duration extension).

**How to Apply:** Please submit an unofficial transcript, resume, and cover letter to: [ttp@albertabeekeepers.ca](mailto:ttp@albertabeekeepers.ca). Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

For more information about the TTP, please visit: [www.albertabeekeepers.ca/tech-transfer-program/](http://www.albertabeekeepers.ca/tech-transfer-program/)

*The Alberta Beekeepers Commission has implemented health and safety procedures to ensure the well-being of our employees and community.*