



## Internship Opportunities at Santropol Roulant: 4 part-time paid internships at our peri-urban farm site in Senneville

### Internship Description

Santropol Roulant (SR) is seeking 4 motivated and energetic young people (16-30 yrs old) to participate in Entre grange et gratte-ciel, our Urban-Rural Farm Exchange, during the 2014 growing season.

The Urban-Rural Farm Exchange seeks to augment Santropol Roulant's work in food security and urban agriculture by cultivating a small piece of land in Montreal's West Island. Over and above the primary aim to produce fresh vegetables for the Roulant's social programs, the project also features a strong public educational stream.

Most notably, the Exchange reconnects urbanites to the sources of their food and increases public awareness of the importance of protecting the last remaining pieces of farmland on the Island, with a particular focus on youth and other similarly marginalized populations.

Organic farming is an exciting and challenging field and as part of our goal to engage our community and strengthen the connection between food, producers, and consumers we are excited to offer these positions to **individuals with no prior farming or urban agriculture experience AND to individuals identifying to groups traditionally under-represented in the agricultural sector**. With this in mind, applicants are asked to clearly state how participation in SR's farm internship program will help them achieve their personal goals or objectives, and how their own life experiences will contribute to the organization's ongoing work of using food as a vehicle to break social and economic isolation.

Our peri-urban farm site in Senneville and 2 urban gardens provide fresh local and organic vegetables for our meals-on-wheels service, weekly Fresh Basket, partner restos, and seasonal markets in select outreach communities. The 4 part-time farm interns will assist SR's peri-urban farmers to help ensure that our gardens are well-maintained and productive. They will have the opportunity to gain skills in areas such as small-scale intensive farming, horticulture, vegetable marketing, food security, and volunteer coordination.

### Primary responsibility :

- Being committed to work at SR's peri-urban farm site in Senneville for the entirety of the internship period

The Intern's tasks will vary depending on the farm's needs and in relation with the seasons, as outlined by the farm's Co-Managers. This includes all possible activities required to run Santropol Roulant's peri-urban farm, for example:

- Field and greenhouse bed preparation
- Seedlings, transplantation and direct seeding
- Assuring proper crop maintenance (weeding, pest control, staking, pruning, thinning, etc.)
- Harvest and vegetable preparation (washing, packing, etc.)
- Assisting with delivery of farm produce to SR's downtown location
- Assisting with distribution and marketing of farm produce

- Co-creation and co-facilitation of workshops geared towards visiting youth from summer camps and school groups, alongside the Urban Agriculture Program Team
- Regular email communication with members of the Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Program Team
- Any other tasks needed to run SR's peri-urban farm

As these positions are geared towards individuals that are looking for a first experience in agriculture, *no gardening, horticulture, or farming experience is necessary*. However, the following skills are an asset:

- An interest in working with a team
- Ability to work independently and take initiative
- Attention to detail
- Punctuality
- Comfortable working outdoors in variable weather
- Capacity for physical labour
- Comfortable working with children

**Skill development Santropol Roulant can offer:**

Under the supervision of the Farm team, these mini-internships are an opportunity to acquire practical experience in all aspects of small-scale intensive farming, while participating in promoting local food production and increasing its accessibility in the Montreal community. Santropol Roulant's peri-urban farm is slightly less than 2 acres in size, including unheated tunnels and greenhouses. The internships also involve an introduction to urban agriculture and are designed to provide the intern with a solid understanding of these two distinct, yet related worlds. In addition to day-to-day farming, these positions offer a unique experience for potential candidates to engage with peers and members of the broader community through workshops, tours and online media. Interns will have the chance to co-create a series of farm related workshops with the Roulant's Community Life Coordinator and will have access to a weblog and Facebook page to post thoughts, photos, and experiences from the field.

**Skill development may include:**

- Hands-on training in small-scale intensive farming
- Experience participating in an organization committed to sustainable development
- Leadership and group facilitation

We ask that the interns commit to working with us for two (2) days per week, between Monday and Friday, (20 hours per week which includes travel time to and from farm) for 20 weeks between the beginning of May and the end of September (exact schedule to be determined once all interns have been selected). The farm is accessible by train from Montreal (followed by a short bike ride) and the position includes compensation for travel time and expenses. Carpooling may also be an option. This is a paid part-time position with a wage of \$12 per hour for 20 hours per week plus the cost of travel from Montreal to St-Anne-de-Bellevue.

**Santropol Roulant is an inclusive environment. We welcome a diversity of applicants including those from traditionally under-represented groups in the agricultural sector.**

**These positions are funded by the Fonds régional d'investissement jeunesse (FRIJ). Applicants must be between 16-30 years of age. To apply, please drop off or email your CV and a short letter of intent discussing yourself and your interest in this position to Pier Liné ([rh@santropolroulant.org](mailto:rh@santropolroulant.org)) by March 24th, 2014 at 9am. Interviews will take place that same week. For more information, contact Pier at 514.284.9335, or write to [rh@santropolroulant.org](mailto:rh@santropolroulant.org).**