



### **Our Why and Objectives:**

The objective of the Youth Farm-Preneur academy is to empower students with the skills needed to live in the real world, stuff not taught in our mainstream school systems. Have you ever wondered why kids don't learn about money management at school? Or why there isn't an emphasis on developing food security on Vancouver Island? Did you know that we produce only 7% of the food needed to fulfill the needs of everyone on Vancouver Island, whereas just 80 years ago we produced 70% of the food required, that's shocking.

The Youth Farm-Preneur Academy is a class developed with the purpose of teaching youth how to grow food with the purpose of marketing it to the public, and being a positive force in our food chain. It also gives students the encouragement and support to start their own business. Imagine the power a project like this can have not only on our kids but on our future. Our main goal is to have one of these students fall in love with farming and make it a career. Because if they never try farming, they'll never know if they love it.

Our other main focus is to build confidence and social skills amongst youth. To help kids understand the importance of inclusion within their peer groups, in their school and within their community. Students will learn about money management and finance on a basic level. They'll be encouraged to make their own decisions based on probability and success, and they'll be given the support and training to start their own business.

During the summer Country Bee Honey Farm will host a farm market in the parking lot just for the kids at the academy. They'll display and sell their items to the public and learn what it's really like to have a job, deal with customers, and to hopefully make some money! AND they'll become experts in their field of growing.

The academy costs nothing to attend, however parents will be required to invest \$400 per child. The \$400 is the start-up cost for their business. The goal is that the kids will pay their parents back the money they've invested into the business and be profitable.

The class will be held on Wednesdays from 3:30-5:30pm. Students will be required to walk from Bayside to Country Bee Honey Farm, they cannot get a ride. I know this might sound harsh to some people; however, this is a team building activity and let's face it, most kids need more exercise.

Once the kids start growing their chosen crop, they will be welcome to come to the farm on Saturdays and Sundays to work on their farm plots, the time of these sessions is TBA. Parents will be required to volunteer for at least two supervision session throughout the summer.

### **Anticipated Outcome:**

Our goal is to have students leave the course with an elevated perception of their capacity to do anything they put their mind to. They'll have an increased awareness of the benefit of getting their hands dirty and growing food. They'll learn to work as a team, and understand the benefit of working in a team has on an overall outcome. Students will have a better understanding of the cost of growing food, and money management. They'll be held accountable for their actions and the outcomes. Our ultimate goal is to increase the number of people producing food on Vancouver Island and boost our food security.

### **Investment:**

\$400 + the fee for 2 school t-shirts (approximately \$35-\$40)

School supplies list:

2 Binders with 10-page dividers

2 Notebooks with lined paper with at least 150 pages (like a Hilroy coiled book)

1 package of lined paper

Pencils, pens, markers as needed

1 ream of printer paper for projects and printed material to hand out (this will be donated to the classroom so we can supply printed materials to the students)

Gardening gloves

Hand shovel

Three prong hand rakes

Gumboots

### **Class Outline:**

Classes run from 3:30-5:30 every Wednesday from April 14<sup>th</sup>- August 25<sup>th</sup>

Because this is our first year these sessions might end before August 25<sup>th</sup>, but we'll just have to work through the summer and see how it goes.

#### **A session will run as follows:**

- 2:30pm- Students dismissed from Bayside, at which time students are required to walk rain or shine to Country Bee Honey Farm. Sessions will be held in the classroom above the store.
- 3:30pm: Class Starts.
- 3:30pm-3:40pm: Discussion on what will happen during the class, who's joining us, and what to expect.
- 3:40pm-3:55pm: Exercise session (this will include hill runs, burpees, jumping jacks, push-ups etc).
- 4:00pm-4:15pm: Team building exercises, group work, ice breaking games.
- 4:15pm-5:00pm: The day's main lesson (this will be different every week, but each week students will be taught by local professionals on how to build their business).
- 5:05pm-5:15pm: Journaling and gratuity session.
- 5:15pm-5:30pm: Classroom clean up.

\*We recommend that students bring appropriate shoes for both exercise and farming to each class.

#### **Rules:**

- All students must walk from Bayside to the class. The only exception will be if they are physically unable to do so.
- Students will be required to participate in all activities in class. Sitting out is not optional.
- There is zero tolerance for bullying. This will result in the student being expelled immediately.

### **How can my child get into the class?**

- All children and parents will be required to fill out an application and email them to info@countrybeehoney.ca.
- Applications will be accepted from March 9<sup>th</sup> - March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- We'll be accepting 11 students for this season's course, and we'll select and interview all chosen applicants.
- All applicants must currently be registered students at Bayside Middle School and be between the ages of 11-14. At this time, we won't be accepting application from students that don't attend Bayside.
- Once we have chosen all the students, we'll have a meeting with all parents to address any questions and review the expectations of the course.
- Please email all applications to info@countrybeehoney.ca.

### **Meet their Teacher:**

Lindsay Dault will be instructing the course over the 5-month period. She grew up in Central Saanich and is proud to call it home. Lindsay is co-owner of Country Bee Honey Farm, a Master Beekeeper, Beekeeping Instructor, advisor to the Senate on Honeybee health, published beekeeper in Backyard Roots, and a teacher to hundreds of students over the past 12 years. She started her first business, Urban Bee Supplies, in 2009 when she thought she might get bored being a mom. She has since sold that business so she can focus 100% of her attention on Country Bee Honey Farm. She has 3 young children which is the reason why she's started the academy. After working to build a business over the past 12 years she now wants to give back to the community, and what better way than to help our youth, and have a positive impact on their lives. This gives her the opportunity to teach not only her children, but other children in the community. Lindsay believes that creating positive experiences among people within our community will create a stronger community.