



MARS INSTITUTE



Position: Camp Cook

The Mars Institute is seeking an experienced, hard-working, and good-natured individual for seasonal employment as Camp Cook at the Haughton-Mars Project Research Station (HMPRS), an international scientific research station located on Devon Island, Nunavut, in the Canadian Arctic. The duration of employment is limited to the summer 2010 field campaign of the Haughton-Mars Project (HMP), a period of approximately 6 to 7 weeks, from early July 2010 through mid-August 2010. Research at HMP is supported by NASA and by the Canadian Space Agency. More information about the Haughton-Mars Project can be found at www.marsonearth.org.

The Haughton-Mars Project Research Station is located in a remote, isolated, and hostile (cold and sometimes wet) environment, with the HMPRS camp itself being the only significant infrastructure for hundreds of kilometers around.

The HMP Camp Cook's duties and responsibilities include the following:

Before deployment to Devon Island:

- Coordinate with HMP project management staff to place food order.
- Receive briefing by HMP project management staff on HMP management structure, general logistics, and safety procedures.
- Commit contractually to holding, and fulfilling all duties of, the Camp Cook position for the entire duration of the HMP-2010 field campaign.

During (and throughout) the HMP-2010 field campaign on Devon Island:

- Prepare breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks, and desserts daily at camp for a variable daily total of between 25 and 45 field participants typically.
- Develop appealing menus that feature a healthy variety while ensuring that individual participant allergies and other special nutritional needs are taken into account. (Participants with special nutritional requirements are expected to convey their needs to the Camp Cook prior to the start of the field season, but might also on occasion do so while the field campaign is in progress).
- Follow and enforce Food Safe Regulations at all times.
- Make certain that all food and kitchen supplies are managed and utilized effectively and fairly, and the kitchen/mess tent is kept clean and orderly.

- Develop a work schedule for all kitchen staff (1 assistant cook and/or 1 kitchen helper), and facilitate a friendly and respectful work environment. In particular, assist and motivate kitchen staff with their duties by setting a good example of proper work ethics.
- Conduct periodic inventories throughout the field season to ensure that supplies are being consumed at an appropriate rate, and a comprehensive end of season kitchen and food inventory.
- Keep project management staff informed of any safety, health, inventory, or staffing issue in a timely manner.

To ensure success on both personal and professional levels, qualified applicants must have:

- Experience preparing meals for large groups (up to approximately 50 people) in an outdoor “work camp” environment.
- An appreciation for the important role that the Cook plays in camp life as a key factor in the physical and mental well-being of all field participants.
- Significant wilderness experience and comfort with remote, isolated, and resource-constrained environments.
- An ability to handle stress well, to cope with long working hours, and to adapt to frequent plan changes associated with non-routine field research activities.
- A genuine respect and appreciation for other cultures, ways of life, and points of view.

Wages will be negotiated based on experience.

All transportation, hotel accommodations, meals, and other essential expenses incurred while traveling to and from Devon Island will be provided.

Interested applicants are asked to submit a short letter describing their interest in the position (1 page max), their resume, and the names and phone numbers of three references. Applications are to be sent by e-mail only to Ms. Kira Lorber, HMP Logistics Manager, at Kira.lorber@marsinstitute.net.

Application Deadline: Wednesday, 16 June, 2010, at 5:00 pm PDT. Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Contact is expected to be made within 2 days of the above deadline.

Preference will be given to applicants from the BC Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island regions, although qualified applicants from elsewhere within Canada and the United States will also be considered.

If you would like additional information about this position, please contact Ms. Lorber at the above email address.