

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

OYSTER FARM OPERATOR

THE COMPANY:

Nova Harvest Ltd is a young, fast-paced business producing high quality shellfish seed stock since 2011, and currently focused on expanding into a vertically integrated shellfish producer – from egg to plate. We are seeking an energetic, career-minded individual to manage all aspects of farm development and production on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Nova Harvest Ltd. knows that oysters are one of the most environmentally responsible protein sources in the world and our mission is to develop a company that produces it at scale.

THE FARM:

Nova Harvest Ltd., in partnership with Huu-ay-aht Group of Businesses (HGB), has embarked on a multi-year project to improve the sustainability of the shellfish aquaculture industry by building, modifying, adapting and designing automated processes for oyster aquaculture. Together Nova and HGB have created a scalable, efficient oyster farming business and look to increase sustainable seafood production in the Barkley Sound.






As we continue to develop our shellfish tenures within Barkley Sound, we are looking for individuals who are not afraid to try and do things differently as we continually improve and refine our farm process together. We view future success in shellfish aquaculture will come through innovation and this is the core of our decisions making.

As our company grows, we're building a team of strong, reliable, and skilled individuals who are ready to roll up their sleeves and get the job done.

THE JOB:

A typical day starts with a boat ride to the farm, located approximately 10 minutes away from Bamfield. You'll spend 8-10 hours at the farm, operating semi-automated, modernized, oyster handling equipment, cleaning, and maintaining equipment. The work will be both physically and mentally demanding, requiring teamwork, flexibility, and adaptability in a dynamic environment.

Reporting to the Oyster Farm Manager, the Oyster Farm Operator will:

-  Participate in the production, harvest, processing, and shipment of oysters.
-  Assist in the construction, troubleshooting, and maintenance of farm equipment, including boats.
-  Perform equipment cleaning and general maintenance of the farm.
-  Monitor environmental and product growth and maintain daily records.
-  Ensure compliance with licensing and regulatory requirements.

Qualifications and Skills:

- ☉ You are interested in shellfish aquaculture and are excited about its potential in Canada.
- ☉ You have a positive attitude and remain unflustered under pressure.
- ☉ You are self-motivated, responsible, and constantly strive to improve yourself.
- ☉ You can work independently and are a true team player who supports your teammates.
- ☉ You enjoy working with your hands, tackling intellectual challenges, and continuously learning.
- ☉ Comfortable and willing to work in a marine environment, on the water.
- ☉ Able to thrive in a fast-paced, results-driven environment.
- ☉ Possess a strong work ethic and initiative; take pride in and responsibility for your work.
- ☉ Have good communication skills and the ability to follow written and verbal instructions.
- ☉ Be organized and maintain cleanliness in your work.
- ☉ Work effectively without direct supervision, both independently and as part of a team.
- ☉ Physically fit and capable of lifting 50 lbs repeatedly, occasionally more.
- ☉ Comfortable working on floating and/or uneven ground in slippery, wet conditions.
- ☉ Legally able to work in Canada.

SALARY & SCHEDULE:

- ☉ Three-month probation period with base wage starting between \$20-\$25 with competitive wage negotiated based on position and responsibilities following probation, plus extended health benefits package.
- ☉ Typically 40 hours a week, Monday to Friday, with flexibility for extra hours during peak production times.
- ☉ Option for shift work will be considered
- ☉ Flexible time off and vacation outside production season.

THE LOCATION:

Bamfield is on the west coast of Vancouver Island, within the traditional territories of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations and bordered by the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve. It offers stunning scenery and some of Canada's finest hiking, diving, surfing, boating, and fishing. Despite its remote location and small population, Bamfield has a welcoming community. Candidates should be aware that Bamfield has a population of fewer than 300 people and is located over 75 km from the nearest town. If you love hiking, fishing, exploring remote islands, and beautiful beaches, Bamfield is the place for you.

START DATE:

June 2024

HOW TO APPLY:

- Please email résumé with cover letter and two references to info@novaharvest.com with "Oyster Farm Operator" in the subject line. While the interest of all applicants is appreciated, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
- Use cover letter to highlight why you are interested in this opportunity, aspects of your personality, career experience and practical ability that make you the best candidate for the job.