Technology Transfer Manager - Germplasm

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Professional and Managerial Group

REPOST

Technology Transfer Manager - Germplasm

Catalyst Centre, Office of Research

Temporary full-time from October 15, 2017 to October 15, 2020

Hiring #: 2017-0413

Please read the Application Instructions [1] before applying

The mission of the Catalyst Centre is to maximize the potential economic, social and environmental benefits of University of Guelph inventions and ideas. The University of Guelph has a long history of developing new plant varieties that goes back 120 years. In that time, nearly 2,000 new plant varieties have been developed that span 24 crop species. As of 2016 there are nearly 200 active license agreements associated with crop varieties that have emerged from the University’s breeding programs.

Reporting to the Associate Director of the Catalyst Centre, the Technology Transfer Manager – Germplasm (TTMG) manages the development, protection and licensing of the plant germplasm portfolio. The TTMG’s goal is to work with plant breeders, government and companies to increase the commercial impact of new plant varieties developed at UG. Primary aspects of the role include, but are not limited to:

- Working with plant breeding teams across all University campuses and research stations to report new varieties, make decisions on which varieties to market, and develop strategy around and manage the process of intellectual property (IP) protection. TTMG will be the key subject matter expert in matters related to the protection and commercialization of plant varieties.

- Working with external partners who support research and who license new varieties for commercialization. The TTMG will support relationships with partners and negotiate, develop and draft agreements to enable both the breeding program and individual plant varieties to be successful. The TTMG will also actively market both the breeding programs and individual varieties that may be marketable, both locally and globally, in order to increase impact.

To be considered for this role, candidates must have:

- A Master’s degree combined with work experience in the life sciences field (preferably related to plants);
- At least 3 years of experience related to the commercialization of early stage technology (preferably of plant varieties);
- A working knowledge of patents and plant breeders’ rights in Canada and the United States;
- Proven networking and relationship building skills;
- Strong negotiation skills and ability to construct complex contractual arrangements;
- A reputation as an effective communicator; able to succinctly present information orally and in writing;
- Demonstrated ability to anticipate and identify problems; analyze, recommend and execute solutions;
A creative and entrepreneurial orientation; able to encourage a culture of innovation;  
Proof of a valid (Ontario) Driver’s License

The candidate we are seeking is an experienced technology transfer specialist, who is well versed working with patents and intellectual property and is skilled at shepherding early stage technologies to the market. While you may not have direct experience working with IP related to plants, your experience should be strongly related. Candidates with experience managing an industry/academic interface and/or with plant breeding and releasing commercial lines will be given preference.

Classification               P07*
Professional/Managerial Salary Bands [2]

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

At the University of Guelph, fostering a culture of inclusion [3] is an institutional imperative. The University invites and encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including from groups that are traditionally underrepresented in employment, who may contribute to further diversification of our Institution.

*Tentative evaluation

Posting Date: 2017 09 05
Closing Date: 2017 09 19

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Links
[1] https://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/careers-guelph/how-apply