



West Moberly First Nations (WMFN), located at the west end of Moberly Lake has a Chief and four Councilors, and uses a custom governance system that recognizes four distinct family groups. WMFN is a member of the Treaty 8 Tribal Association and the Council of BC Treaty 8 Chiefs. WMFN provides oversight for the Tsay Key Ne Cheleh Ranch through a Board of Directors comprised of WMFN Council Members.

Located 10 km from WMFN reserve, the 2,700 acre ranch with 400 acres available for cultivation has up to 300 head of cattle, hay and other feed crops, a small custom saw mill, gravel pit and road maintenance operation. As an economic development initiative for WMFN, ranch profitability and sustainability for future generations are key priorities.

The Ranch Manager works with considerable independence to safely and efficiently manage all aspects of ranch operations including:

Responsibilities

Cattle and Crops

- Identify and prioritize projects supporting herd and crop management.
- Provide basic animal care, and arrange for emergency care, as required.
- Maintain herd, oversee calving care and sales of calves.

Contract Administration

- Develop and manage all season road maintenance contract, including upgrading, grading, snow plowing and general maintenance.

Business Development and Revenue

- Manage road maintenance contracts, gravel pit and sawmill operations.
- Identify and recommend operational efficiencies and economic development opportunities to ensure ranch profitability and sustainability.
- Work with West Moberly First Nations to develop training and employment opportunities for band members, where appropriate.
- Monitor factors impacting the value of cattle and crops and recommend appropriate action (e.g. cattle herd size and planting strategies).

Equipment, Infrastructure and Land Management

- Manage ranch assets including acquisition, maintenance, and replacement of equipment, infrastructure, fencing, hand tools, and other assets.
- Operate and maintain equipment for road maintenance contracts, sawmill, and gravel pit.
- Recommend and supervise the development of new infrastructure, as required.
- Collaborate with West Moberly First Nations regarding ranch access and usage.

Daily Operations and Record Keeping

- Hire, train and manage 3 seasonal staff, as required, and ensure safety standards are met.
- Schedule and complete tasks related to animal feeding, health, maintenance of equipment and ranch infrastructure, and other responsibilities.
- Develop budget and track/report on expenditures.

Working Conditions

Ranch and farming lifestyle require 24/7 availability in response to seasonal demands, animal health, and care of ranch infrastructure. The candidate must be a self-starter and resourceful, as they are often isolated and unable to get tradespeople in to do the work required. This job has the additional responsibility of road maintenance contracts in extreme winter and summer conditions. Challenges include dealing with inconsistent cell service and occasional power outages (as the Ranch is 'off the grid' relying on generator power), as well as regional wildlife.

Job Experience required

A minimum of 5 years with;

- Heavy equipment (graders, excavators, water truck, 5th wheel) including operation, basic troubleshooting and repair.
- Road maintenance. (Preference for Road Maintenance Contract Management Experience.)
- Ranching/farming in Western Canada, including; animal husbandry, crop management, repair and maintenance of buildings, fences and ranch/farm equipment.
- Valid Class 3 driver's license + Air Endorsement. (Class 1 Preferred.)
- Basic First Aid.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Knowledge of farming and ranching in Western Canada's rain, snow and heat.
- Knowledge of contract administration for heavy equipment and road maintenance.
- Knowledge of relevant economic factors and implications for business decisions.
- Knowledge of budgeting and money management.
- Familiar with First Nations governance and administration.
- Verbal and written communication skills.
- Problem solving and organization skills.
- Ability to use email, MS Word and MS Excel.
- Ability to hire and manage staff and maintain a safe work environment.
- Mechanical and welding aptitude to operate, troubleshoot and make basic repairs to farm and heavy equipment, sawmill and generator, an asset.
- Basic construction ability for repair of buildings and fences.

Working Conditions:

- Must be willing and able to work in all weather conditions, around the clock, when required.
- Must be physically fit to meet job requirements (such as repeatedly lifting weights of 50 pounds and wrestling cattle of between 100 and 150 pounds).
- Must hold and maintain a valid Class 3 driver's license + Air Endorsement.

Preference may be given for:

- Equipment Operator Training and Certificate.
- Class 3 Driver's License.
- Basic First Aid.

What We Offer

Partially subsidized accommodation is available for the manager (and family) to live on the ranch, located 10 km from the West Moberly Reserve and 30 km northwest of Chetwynd.

Full time lifestyle and employment, along with a comprehensive salary, RRSP program and benefits package along with a relocation package.

How to Apply

This position will start immediately, and interested candidate can email their cover letter outlining their ranching experience, along with a resume, by no later than March 6, 2020, to Marion Janssen at marionchrp@gmail.com. Questions can also be forwarded to this email address and we can connect you with the current Ranch Manager.