



Community Advisor for LAP Guiding Group

Iyé Creative is seeking IBPOC Community Advisors for a Land Access Project (LAP) Guiding Group focused on improving food accessibility in the Capital Region. The Advisors will support communities experiencing marginalization in accessing land for food growing and fostering a meaningful connection to the land. This program is funded by the Real Estate Foundation of BC until 2024.

The Advisors will support the community engagement process to inform policy practices by following collaborative, anti-oppressive, decolonial, and inclusive principles. They will advocate for food justice and sovereignty through an intersectional approach that considers factors like race, income, land access, geography, and transportation. By addressing these inequities, the Advisors aim to promote access to culturally relevant fresh food and facilitate a reconnection to the land, revitalizing community bonds.

In recognizing the stewardship role of the W̱SÁNEĆ and Lekwungen speaking people, with a focus on W̱SÁNEĆ Land. Advisors will make sure that through the engagement sessions we centre their ongoing connection to the Land. They value the W̱SÁNEĆ and Lekwungen speaking people's ecological knowledge and sustainable land practices. By integrating their perspectives and expertise into the policy development process, the Advisors strive for a more inclusive and culturally sensitive approach to land stewardship and food accessibility in the region.

Application Process and Timelines

- Applications to join our team will close on June 30th, 2023.
- The applications will be reviewed by the Iyé Creative team.
- Interviews will be conducted with applicants from July 3rd - July 7th to determine their familiarity with food systems, community-based research and the fit of their skills and abilities with the position available. Scheduling will be determined based on all availability.



About Iyé Creative

Iyé Creative is a social enterprise that focuses on supporting communities experiencing marginalization to restore their connection and relationship to the land. Our intention is to hold space for a regenerative revolution where healing, enjoyment, and abundance, are means of breaking through the path of human suffering. By identifying systemic and addressing structural barriers to accessing land and nutritious food, we create alternative systems of mutual collaboration where our collective efforts and individual talents contribute to leave a blueprint for future generations.

Iyé is committed to:

- Fostering an ecosystem of growth and support that allows for constructive feedback processes to support each other to achieve personal and professional goals
- Creating a respectful environment with transparent communication channels and where conflict resolution is seen as an opportunity for individual growth and strengthening relationships
- Building a reciprocal space where the process co-creation is not undermined, but honored, and all contributors are treated as equals in action and voice
- Honoring our commitments and deadline

Funding Context

The Real Estate Foundation of BC (REFBC)'s General Grants provide funding for public and professional education, applied research, and policy analysis and law reform related to sustainable land use and real estate practices in British Columbia.

About the Project

Land Access continues to be one of the greatest barriers to economic vitality and food security disproportionately impacting racialized groups and individuals. The LAP project seeks to provide tangible and long term solutions to land access and land relations promoting conditions for greater equity and justice for racialized and newcomers in the Capital Region. The project seeks to build partnerships between local government, community organizations, and community members experiencing marginalization to develop policy, best practices and demonstration



projects that create access to land for food growing, training, healing, demonstration and community celebration.

Key Objectives and Activities

The key objectives of the project are to:

1. **Support Appropriate Engagement:** Support partnership between local government, researchers, community organizations and impacted individuals, providing capacity for participation in the process and project,
2. **Equitable Land Access Policy Creation:** create equity model promoting criteria for land access decision-making by local governments related to public lands,
3. **Multi Sector planning for land access:** undertake the feasibility for establishing a process and site that demonstrates the policy in action and is sustainable over time.,
4. **Providing land access to racialized groups and individuals:** establish a demonstration land site for food growing, food literacy and community celebration.

The key activities are:

- to **create a steering committee** for the project made up of the key partners and interested individuals with lived experience of barriers to land access.
 - This group would oversee the key activities of the project and also undertake a developmental evaluation process along the way to ensure the project stayed true to its objectives.
- Within three years the partners would **research and create model criteria for land access** to address historical inequities, we would work with local governments to review best practices, and write model policy that would be presented by District Staff to Decision Makers for adoption, as well as
- work with the community to **identify the best fit site**, undertake a **feasibility plan for establishing a food growing and food literacy demonstration site**, and celebrate the achievement of community and the partnership with site development.

A key element of this project is to empower community leadership:

- with Iyé Creative undertaking a **series of kitchen table talks** to understand the needs, interests and assets in the way that the land access program would be developed and implemented.



- This process would identify and support (compensate) community leadership in the process. It would also consider and address the type of food growing and reconciliation with the land and indigenous peoples of these lands as part of the process.

Project Timeline

- 2023
 - Develop Guiding Group
 - Meet with Community Organizations
 - Establish possible public lands for land demonstration site
 - Start policy review and research
- 2024
 - Finalize proposed equity model policy from research
 - Present research, finding, and proposed policy to local government and organizations
 - Secure land demonstration site, implement proposed policy, create gardens

Community Advisor Role Description

Term: part-time, starting July 2023

Compensation: \$100.00 per meeting

Key Responsibilities:

- Inform that the policy priority areas support land access for equity-denied groups, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the barriers they face.
- Analyze the barriers faced by IBPOC communities and other equity-denied groups in accessing land.
- Provide informed advice and expertise in the development of an equity model that promotes fair and inclusive criteria for local governments to make land access decisions concerning public lands. This advice should be rooted in community needs and aspirations, incorporating the input and perspectives gathered during the engagement process.



- Review findings, feedback, and new learnings obtained throughout the engagement process. This includes actively seeking input from community members and stakeholders to refine and improve the equity model, ensuring that it reflects the diverse perspectives and experiences of equity-denied groups.

By emphasizing community engagement in these key responsibilities, the Advisors will ensure that the policy development process is inclusive, community-driven, and responsive to the needs of equity-denied groups. This approach fosters a sense of ownership and empowerment among the communities affected, leading to more equitable and effective policy outcomes.

Key Skills and Experience Needed:

- Experience working with Black, Indigenous, racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+ communities, people with disabilities and other disenfranchised groups.
- Experience in risk assessment and problem solving skills
- Lived experience with barriers to accessing public lands for growing food and medicines
- Lived experience with policy analysis, revisions or recommendations
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- High attention to detail and accuracy, ability to meet timelines, and maintain confidentiality

Meeting Schedule:

| 2023 | 2024 |
|----------------|---------------|
| July 11th | February 13th |
| September 12th | June 11th |
| November 28th | October 15th |

Meeting Schedule:

2023

- *July 11th:* Introduction and Goal Setting - Discuss the overall objectives of the project, establish shared understanding among the Advisors, and set specific goals and targets



for the upcoming months.

- *September 12th*: Community Engagement Strategies - Explore and develop effective strategies for engaging with equity-denied communities, ensuring their voices are heard and included in the policy development process.
- *November 28th*: Research and Policy Review - Share research findings on land access for equity-denied groups, review existing policies, and identify areas that require attention and potential policy changes.

2024

- *February 13th*: Equity Model Development - Collaboratively design an equity model that promotes fair criteria for land access decision-making by local governments. Incorporate community feedback and ensure it addresses the specific needs of equity-denied groups.
- *June 11th*: Feedback and Refinement - Share the proposed equity model with stakeholders, gather feedback, and refine it based on the input received. Discuss any necessary adjustments or improvements.
- *October 15th*: Implementation Strategies - Develop strategies for implementing the equity model, including approaches for advocacy, partnerships with local governments, and community education initiatives. Identify potential challenges and explore solutions.

Application Requirements

By June 30th, 2023, please fill out the [following application](#).

Any questions can be sent to creativecollective@iyeherstories.com

We actively welcome applications from IBIPOC individuals, people with diverse work experience and expertise, and people of all genders, identities, ethnicities, cultures and abilities.

All residents of Victoria are eligible to apply, with preference for those living in the District of Saanich.