

# So you're a Canadian planter, eh?

**Experience planting in Canada will certainly help you find your rhythm here, but there are some key differences you should be aware of before you jump in.**

**Planting with us is a landscaping job, not a silvicultural one.**

Landscaping is all about aesthetics - public parks, public gardens, streetscapes - the whole point is to turn sh\*t-holes into beautiful spaces. This means that you will often be working in places that are not yet nice to look at. Or be in. Don't get us wrong, this isn't always the case, but do be prepared to be underwhelmed by your immediate surroundings. The bright side? Your plants really will make a difference to the landscape and to how people feel about it.

**Quality specifications are more robust here.**

Our clients will be checking things like plant depth, verticality, spacing/density, allocation of species, and set-backs off adjacent features and infrastructure (ex sidewalks, turf/grass, curbs, utility boxes, manhole covers, etc) along with things like how straight your lines are and how tidy your work area is. For the most part, you will be working in highly-visible areas, so more eyes will be on you and your plants.

**Safety regulations are off the charts.**

Most of our work is on construction sites that are reaching their final stages. There may or may not be heavy machinery, light-vehicle traffic, and other trades (like concreters) working around you, and serious accidents can and have happened. Subsequently, there is a huge focus on safety protocols and ensuring they are being followed. Some of these things will make sense, and some will seem (or are) silly - but when they tell us we need to wear our hard hats, we need to wear our damn hard hats.

**You will be responsible for your own housing and transportation.**

We work in and around cities; we do not run bush camps or provide accommodation. There is plenty of short-term accommodation available, including hostels, caravan parks, and share-houses. Don't worry, you will be working with many other people who are in situations similar to your own, so there will be lots of opportunity to team up to get a place.

**We do more than just plant.**

We undertake other work on site to help our clients keep their jobs moving, and ultimately, to help us stay busy when there isn't much planting on the go. These are often also performance bonus/piece-rate activities but generally require working in pairs or teams.

**You will get to use your brain.**

You will learn how to read and interpret landscape plans and plant schedules, and will gain a fair bit of knowledge of green infrastructure practices and the function of native Australian species in the landscape. Depending on the timing, there may also be opportunities to acquire additional skills and licences like Working at Heights and Site Environmental Awareness.

**You will have more than laundry to occupy your time on days off.**

In fact, you can do your laundry any time you want to because you live in the city - a world-class city with ready access to world-class climbing, surfing, beaches, museums, galleries, shopping, and nightlife. You're also a short, relatively cheap flight away from Brisbane, Cairns, Melbourne, or Adelaide. Long weekend, anyone?

**It's easy to make money.**

Once you get used to the main differences with the planting, you will be raking in the cash. Planting densities are often as high as 5 plants/m<sup>2</sup> (that's right, about 45 cm apart), and plant prices are great because there is more money in commercial development than in forestry. While days will still be hit and miss, you'll do really well if you manage your time and areas right.

**You will meet the best people.**

The one thing everyone around here can agree on is that we've got an awesome team. Assuming you're not some kind of jerk, we'd love for you to come be a part of it.

# Dirty