



IEP - GLOBAL WORK EXPERIENCES

1300 300 912 – www.iep.org.au

IEP – SYDNEY
Locked Bag 5065
Sydney South NSW
1235

IEP - MELBOURNE
PO Box 13278
Law Courts Post Office
Melbourne VIC 8010

Ph +61 2 9299 0444
Fax +61 2 9299 0399

Ph +61 3 9329 3866
Fax +61 3 9329 1592



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Press Release

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Former Albury Resident Recruiting Aussies for Canadian Ag Jobs

As the global job market tightens, one young entrepreneurial Australian has taken business into his own hands and is opening up the Canadian agricultural industry to young Australians.

When Albury's Stuart Austin packed his bags and made his way to Canada on a working holiday back in 2007, he was looking for an authentic Canadian experience. He was also hoping to transfer the skills he developed growing up on a rural property in regional New South Wales to a job in the Canadian agricultural industry.

With the assistance of International Exchange Programs (IEP) a non-profit organisation that specialises in working holidays, Stuart obtained his visa and arrived in Vancouver, ready to kick start his working holiday. However, despite plenty of opportunities for Australians wanting to work in the cities or at ski resorts, Stuart noticed a gap in the support on offer for Aussies looking for country jobs.

"When I came to Canada I had a lot of problems finding agricultural positions. You can find a job in a bar or resort but for a kid from the country, it's hard to find this sort of work."

Rather than settle for work he wasn't interested in, Stuart took some initiative and began making contacts in the industry, the seed for his business, Positive Perfection, had been planted. The concept behind the business is to assist Australian and New Zealand working holiday makers organise a job and housing in the Canadian agricultural industry before leaving home.

"It's just about helping people have as good a time as I have had and giving people the opportunity to have an international agricultural experience." Stuart said.

Despite tightening job markets worldwide, Stuart has had nothing but positive experiences when sourcing work in his field, *"There's a labour shortage in Canada when it comes to agricultural work ...people have to eat, right? We can't do without agriculture, so I haven't come up short anywhere."*

Although still in the early stages of business development, word of Stuart's efforts has been spreading and he has been busy finding young Australians jobs on feedlots, dairy farms, cow /calf ranches, hog barns, farming operations and with mixed farming businesses throughout Canada.

Stuart's passion for the agricultural industry and travel combined with IEP's extensive experience in supporting all aspects of a working holiday, gives eligible Australians aged 18-31 the opportunity to experience a different side of Canada.

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For more information please contact Naomi Joyce on the details below.

Media Contact

Naomi Joyce

Marketing/PR Coordinator

naomi.joyce@iep.org.au

International Exchange Programs (IEP)

P: 02 9299 0444

F: 02 9299 0399

www.iep.org.au