



About the Role

Title: Economic Development Associate

Team: Shorefast Institute

Location: Hybrid/Remote (Toronto, ON preferred)

Who We Are

Shorefast is one of North America's most creative and notable social enterprises and the charitable organization behind the world-renowned Fogo Island Inn, Fogo Island Workshops, Fogo Island Fish, and Fogo Island Arts. Our work has garnered significant international interest including a feature on [60 Minutes](#) and in The New York Times' [52 Places for a Changed World](#). The mission of Shorefast is to build, learn, and share economic development practices that catalyse the assets of local places, starting with Fogo Island.

Learn more about us: shorefast.org

The Opportunity

As the Institute grows, we are looking for an Associate to join our team and help turn insights into action. This role will support the design, research, implementation, and communications of Institute programming, working at the intersection of community economic development, finance, and systems change. It is ideal for someone who thrives in a collaborative environment, is driven by purpose, and brings curiosity to complex, place-rooted challenges.

What You'll Do

Working under the guidance of the Financial Innovation Lead and Institute leadership, you will:

- **Lead and Support Research:** Conduct qualitative and quantitative research to inform Institute strategy, programming, and partnerships. Translate insights into practical tools and frameworks for use by communities and policymakers.
- **Communications and Knowledge Sharing:** Develop compelling content (briefs, case studies, social media, reports) to share learnings and insights. Support the planning and execution of events, workshops, and public engagements.
- **Program Coordination:** Support the implementation and evaluation of pilot projects and national initiatives. Help build and maintain relationships with community partners, government, and other institutions.
- **Impact Measurement:** Assist in designing systems and tools that assess the holistic impact of place-based economic development, including natural, social, and cultural indicators.

Qualifications and Experience

- You hold a graduate degree or equivalent experience in community economic development, public policy, finance, business, communications, or a related field.
- You're a strong writer and systems thinker with experience translating research into practice.
- You bring familiarity with data analysis, design thinking, or participatory research methods.
- You care deeply about equity, local resilience, and the potential of community to drive change.
- You are organized, independent, and comfortable working across disciplines.

What We Offer

- Competitive salary
- Health and dental benefits, along with access to an employee assistance program for mental health support and work/life services
- Team member discounts within our businesses (Fogo Island Inn and Fogo Island Workshops)

- The technology necessary to complete your work
- Access to an employee work-out room, to support personal well-being
- An engaged, highly supportive, and collaborative environment that encourages creativity and curiosity
- The opportunity to work in a thriving social enterprise

To Apply

Please submit a cover letter and resume to careers@shorefast.org, with the subject line “**Economic Development Associate**”; Questions about this position may also be directed here.

Deadline for Applications: Until Filled

We are grateful for all applications, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

At Shorefast, we endeavour to foster an accessible work environment and to ensure all in our care feel safe and valued. Please reach out if there is anything we can do to accommodate a more accessible or inclusive application process.