

## **NOC presentation for AGM - Oct, 24 2017**

### **WHO**

Organic Horticulture Professionals and their employers.

### **WHAT**

National Occupation Codes (NOC) are developed by Employment and Social Development Canada and used by Statistics Canada to track employment trades and professions. It's a system to classify and describe jobs, professions, trades, (occupations). Based on specialized training.

Here are the criteria for a new classification:

Proposals should:

- name or label (i.e. organic gardener, organic horticulturist, organic landscaper, ecological horticulturist/gardener)
- description of the work performed (job description)
- significant 1,000 plus doing this work in Canada
- specialised education available and/or professional work related credentials

### **WHEN**

**Next review deadline is Nov 29, 2017. The next national classification update is slated for 2021.**

### **WHY**

Need for articulation of what organic horticulture is about. It has been found that there are no classifications for organic horticulturists/gardeners/landscapers. SOUL members are in a perfect position to submit a proposal for a change to the NOC that recognizes the unique work and education of an Accredited Organic Land Care Practitioner/ Certified Organic Land Care Professional also, organic horticulture specialist/organic master gardener and any people working the land organically. Bottom line is makes it possible for institutions and employers to recognize organic horticulture.

### **WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR**

Michael Hermary has had conversations with City of Toronto, District of North Vancouver, Canadian National Landscape Association about how organic land care can be recognized institutionally and the consensus that emerged is a NOC would meet that need. There have been preliminary conversations with STATS CAN and Employment and Social Development Canada.

SOUL and Gaia College administration have reached out to their current and past communities and have identified approximately (*the number*) of people working as organic horticulturist.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

Need a working group formed to submit proposal info for Nov. 29, 2017. SOUL and GAIA