**Gardiner Foundation New Zealand Study Tour Mentor Opportunity**

**Background**

The Gardiner Foundation New Zealand Study Tour sponsored by Australian Dairy Conference is an eight-day tour of New Zealand’s South Island. The tour will take 12 young dairy professionals aged 18-40 from across Australia on a tour of leading dairy farms, dairy research and processing facilities, dairy industry representative bodies and leadership development initiatives.

The New Zealand Study Tour Mentor will form a key aspect of the tour and will provide the opportunity for an individual to attend the tour where they will act as a mentor to the group. The tour mentor will provide support to the group prior to and during the tour. Where appropriate, the tour mentor will also make themselves available to the group following the tour, helping individuals in the development of their leadership aspirations. Gardiner Foundation staff will also be able to aid in this area. The tour mentor will also work with and provide support to the Gardiner Foundation staff member on the tour.

**Key selection criteria**

* Experience in, and a passion for, developing others.
* Experience working with young *agriculture* professionals.
* Ability to generate and facilitate respectful discussion amongst a group.
* Ability to manage and engage with a wide range of different stakeholders.
* A strong understanding of the Australian dairy industry.
* Previous involvement in a Gardiner Foundation sponsored program will be strongly considered.

**Roles and responsibilities**

* Mentor and guide the group throughout the eight-day tour.
* Initiate and generate respectful discussion throughout the tour.
* Take part in any pre-tour activities including online or face to face discussions.
* Where relevant assist the Gardiner Foundation staff member in development and implementation of the itinerary prior to and during the tour.
* Ensure respectful and meaningful discussion takes place during the tour.
* Act in a manner that ensures the safety and well-being of attendees.
* Ensure adherence to all appointments and visits arranged in the itinerary.
* Engage with all participants prior to, during and following the tour both in person and online.
* Provide linkages for the participants following the tour into relevant development and leadership opportunities.
* Present the group with information on the industry in Australia.
* Ultimate responsibility will sit with the Gardiner Foundation staff member. However it is expected that the tour mentor will provide adequate support where appropriate.

**Application**

Interested individuals are encouraged to submit a cover letter highlighting their enthusiasm for mentoring and their relevant experience in the dairy sector, along with their resume, to Ross Bawden – ross.bawden@gardinerfoundation.com.au

If you would like to talk further about this opportunity, you can Jenny Wilson at the above email or on 0418 962 492.

**Applications close at 5pm Friday the 15th of March 2024.**

Please note that those wishing to undertake this opportunity will need to be available for travel between the 14th and 21st of April 2024.