



Victoria Native Friendship Centre
Internal/External Employment Opportunity – 1 FTE leave fill-in
VNFC Addictions Counsellor - Health Team



Under the supervision of the Health Team Programs Coordinator, the **VNFC Addictions Counsellor** will provide counselling and aids to individuals requiring assistance dealing with substance abuse problems such as alcohol or drug abuse. Also carries out a variety of duties and activities related to this position.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- One on one counseling for substance use issues and ongoing support in all stages of change
- Utilizes traditional Aboriginal helping and healing practices where appropriate
- Makes appropriate referrals to treatment centers and services and provides follow-up support
- Participates in case consultations and other consultations with co-workers and colleagues
- Maintains accurate case management, file recording and monthly reporting systems
- Attends relevant professional training and meetings when directed
- Participates in staff development, staff meetings and department meetings as required
- Connects and collaborates with appropriate referral sources
- Develops and carries out appropriate service plan from a client centered approach
- Monitors progress of clients counseling and makes changes to service plan when needed
- Works collaboratively with professionals and identified support systems involved with clients
- Provide relevant information about substance use issues

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Experience working with Aboriginal Community and awareness of First Nations culture and issues affecting First Nations Community
- Familiar with program planning, development and evaluation
- Awareness of the dynamics of active and ongoing addiction, sexual abuse, family violence (incl. child abuse & neglect), grief, suicide, depression, healing and recovery
- A sound knowledge of the local Aboriginal and mainstream community and services/resources
- Proven capacity to work effectively with volatile individuals living with mental health and addiction issues
- Ability to work independently and be part of an integrated community team and in partnership with a variety of agencies
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills, both written and oral
- Ability to multi-task while remaining composed and maintaining a professional attitude in high stress and potentially volatile situations
- Demonstrated success in interventions, crises and outcomes
- Awareness in the value of harm reduction practices
- Knowledge of ethics and boundaries
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office 365 including Word, Excel, and Outlook a requirement
- Ability to read and write various correspondences such as but not limited to letters, memos, etc.; comprehend simple instructions and interpret various documents
- Due to physical requirements of the work, the incumbent must spend a major portion of the work day standing, walking, and/or sitting as well as possible bending and stretching

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

The successful candidate will possess a combination of education and experience that satisfy all or most of the following:

- Bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university in Social Work, Counselling, or Addictions Worker; and/or two to four years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Relevant experience working with Aboriginal communities and/or non-profit organizations.
- Must provide a current (within 6 mos.) Attorney General Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check (form can be located at <http://www.pssq.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/>).

SALARY: Wage Scale \$20.95 – 21.95 per hour/ (BCGEU301)

HOURS: 35 hours/week (1 FTE) schedule set to meet program needs, programming evening hours may be required.

COMMENCES: ASAP Note: this is a minimum 3 month leave position with the possibility of extension.

Please submit your resume and cover letter attention to:

Ron Rice, Executive Director

(by mail / fax / email to admin@vnfc.ca or in person)

No phone calls please, only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

An eligibility list will be established.

Closing Date: February 3, 2020

Pursuant to section 41 of the BC Human Rights Code, preference may be given to applicants of Aboriginal ancestry.

Victoria Native Friendship Centre
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