



Victoria Native Friendship Centre
Contract Employment Opportunity



Youth Counselling Therapy & Wellness Advisor

In recognition of the critical importance to this role of a lived understanding of Indigenous communities, history, values and culture, and in keeping with the BC Human Rights Tribunal pursuant to s.42(3) of the Human Rights Code, Indigenous applicants preferred. Please identify in your cover letter.

Operating from an Indigenous world view, the Youth Therapy & Wellness Advisor will provide clinical support to Youth accessing services of the Youth Team and RAVE Drop-in Space, working with and accountable directly to the Youth Programs Manager. For more information about the Victoria Native Friendship Centre please see our website at www.vnfc.ca.

DUTIES: (include the following and not limited to)

- Provides mental wellness counselling services to youth in crisis who may be struggling with mental-health challenges, and/or experiencing suicidal ideation, engaging in self-harm
- Carries a caseload of and provides outreach services to complex needs clients in addition to therapy clients
- Collaborates with community health staff, Traditional Healers, families, and community resources as needed
- Provides assessments and screenings upon discovery of the presence of suicide risk, addictions and substance abuse, and mental health related issues
- Provides referrals to external agencies, internal services, Traditional Healers, and other culturally relevant resources as needed
- Provides consultation, education and information to individuals, families, community, and caregivers about mental wellness
- Evaluates treatment outcomes to ensure effectiveness of services through continuous follow-up plans and actions
- Collaborates with local agencies, First Nation and Metis health leaders to identify and address gaps, barriers and challenges of service delivery and offer solutions
- Develops, recommends, and implements practices and procedures to improve quality access to mental wellness counselling to indigenous youth and provides advocacy to address barriers of services.
- Documents, and tracks clinical records as per the provided document tracking forms (ie: casenotes, incident reports, safety plans)
- Consults regularly with Programs Manager, Clinical Supervisors regarding incidents statuses, clinical or community-based risk factors not otherwise addressed, and any capacity building needs determined during the incident coordination
- Works to infuse Cultural ceremony, tradition, and customs into and around related duties where appropriate and as needed
- Collaborates with Programs Manager, Clinical Supervisors, and external agencies regarding systemic challenges and barriers
- Ensures client/family/community confidentiality and privacy in accordance with professional regulatory guidelines and following standards of practice and legal requirements

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

- Master's Degree with certification from BCACC (or equivalent certification)
- A minimum of 5 years experience working with Indigenous youth
- A minimum 3 years experience in a clinical therapy setting
- Knowledge of Indigenous healing practices, ceremonies, values and beliefs
- Experience and knowledge of Indigenous systemic and psychological issues
- Excellent oral and written English skills
- Experience in facilitation in group settings, and strong interpersonal communication skills
- Excellent time and general organizational skills
- Experience with MS Office, Outlook and SharePoint
- Must provide Vulnerable Sector Criminal Record Check (form can be located at <http://www.pssq.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/>)

HOURS: Monday to Friday (24 - 35 hours/week); evenings may be required.
TERM: 6-month contract term with possibility of extension
COMMENCES: February 2021

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.

Closing Date: February 5, 2021

Victoria Native Friendship Centre
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