



Youth and Family Counsellor

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.**

Operating from an Indigenous world view, the Youth and Family Counsellor will build on successful relationships with Indigenous youth and families attending SD 61 schools; and to assist Indigenous students and their families in supporting the goals of academic success. These positions will be housed within specific schools in School District 61 catchment.

DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To act in a non-curricular/non-teaching capacity in the school by providing academic counselling and support services to students and their families.
- To act as an advocate and liaison between SD 61 and Indigenous students, parents/guardians, teachers, administrators, and community agencies.
- Maintains accurate case files and case management plans.
- Maintaining a caseload of files that are both long term (5 – 10 months) and brief service (1 – 2 months).
- To provide assessment and appropriate referrals within SD 61, VNFC and other community agencies.
- Facilitating workshops in the school system with parents on their role of advocacy with their children.
- Providing crisis support services for students and their families when identified by the Indigenous Education Department (IED) of SD 61 and school-based staff and/or VNFC Team.
- Maintains accurate records and documents for reporting purposes relating to student and family connections.
- Assist/consult with appropriate professional resources, VNFC Teams, school counsellors and administrative staff.
- Act as principle advocate for the needs, goals, and care of program youth, internally and externally to the VNFC.
- When appropriate, to provide support to the family of the youth.
- Report writing including statistical tracking when required.
- Experience and knowledge working with and navigating MCFD in support of youth.
- Participating in appropriate school-based, Indigenous Education Department (IED) and VNFC Team meetings or staff development as requested.
- Supporting Summer programming for Youth Services and Early Childhood Education teams.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

- Knowledge and understanding of the TRC Calls to Action
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of active and ongoing addiction, sexual abuse, family violence (incl. child abuse & neglect), grief, suicide, depression, healing and recovery.
- Demonstrated knowledge of Indigenous communities, including understanding of their attitudes and values, history, barriers, and challenges from both urban and rural settings.
- Demonstrated experience working with Indigenous Youth from elementary to high school.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the ability to build networks and create trusting relationships with individuals and families will be essential to the role.
- Knowledge of positive parenting practices.
- Demonstrated skills in report writing and documentation.
- Ability to work in team environment.
- Ability to deal with crises.
- Demonstrated success in interventions, crises, and outcomes.
- Proficiency in a variety of computer applications such as Microsoft Word, Outlook, and Excel.
- Physical requirement - The incumbent must spend a major portion of the work hours standing, walking, and/or sitting. The incumbent may be required to do a great deal of stretching, bending, and lifting (such as but not limited to children's accessories, sports equipment, car seats, food and/or dishes).
- Vulnerable sector Criminal Record Check (form can be located at <http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/criminal-records-review/>).

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

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

- Bachelors Degree in Child and Youth Care or Social Work and/or equivalent combination of training, education and experience including doing case work and case management.
- Experience working with Indigenous communities, Youth ages 5 to 21, School systems, and non-profit organizations.
- Valid Class 5 driver's license and First Aid certification.

SALARY: Wage scale: \$28.53 - \$ 29.53 per hour (BCGEU #301)
HOURS: 35 hours/week, (weekend hours may occur due to training opportunities)
COMMENCES: September 2021 – June 2022 (funding runs the school year)

Please submit your Resume and Cover Letter attention to:
Ron Rice, Executive Director
(by mail / fax / email to admin@vnfc.ca or in person)

Victoria Native Friendship Centre
231 Regina Avenue, Victoria, BC V8Z 1J6
Telephone: (250) 384-3211 / Fax Number: (250) 384-1586

**No phone calls please, only those selected for interviews will be contacted.
An eligibility list will be established.**

Closing Date: Until filled