



Indigenous Counsellor

One (1) Part-Time Maternity Leave Contract, (12 to 18 months, with the possibility of extension), 0.8 FTE (28 hours/week). Bargaining Unit – UFCW Local 175

Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre (Parkdale Queen West CHC) is a dynamic, community-based health care organization serving mid-west downtown Toronto. Offering a broad range of services, including primary health care, dental care, harm reduction, health promotion, counselling, and community development programming, we are also committed to serving people who face barriers to health care, and we strive to reduce these barriers. PQWCHC is a multi-sited organization.

General Responsibilities: The Indigenous Counsellor is responsible for providing support, counselling, case management and group work services to Indigenous clients in our catchment area. It is the role of an Indigenous Counsellor/Case Manager to enable clients to set and achieve realistic goals as determined by the clients themselves. Utilizing Indigenous Traditional ways of knowing and healing, the position collaborates with the Niiwin Wendaanimak Program to promote the healing and recovery of Indigenous and Metis clients.

Reporting Manager: Manager, Mental Health Services

Specific Responsibilities:

Counselling:

- Provide assessment and counselling services to individuals, couples and when appropriate families using trauma informed approaches and with stage matched supports/interventions.
- Uses various techniques in counselling depending on the needs of the client, i.e. Indigenous Healing Circles, art therapy, motivational interviewing, talk therapy (CBT, DBT, etc.).
- Provides therapeutic assessment, formulation and appropriate therapeutic supports/treatment.
- Collaborate with and support the Indigenous Healer in providing integrated care.
- Utilizes Indigenous health/healing and traditional approaches in therapeutic work.
- Integrate the socio-historical experience of many Indigenous clients, the impact of intergenerational trauma may intersect with many struggles from a Trauma informed perspective. However, sessions may need to be solution focussed and with a single session approach.
- Establish a system to identify baseline and client progress.
- Ensures appropriate support/treatment is delivered by maintaining client records, reports and correspondence within the safeguard of confidentiality.
- Participates in the weekly Indigenous Niiwin Wendaanimak Program, this might include healing circles.
- Offer support, counselling, and educational groups. Develop group cohesion, goals, and appropriate interventions and arrange for follow-up and collaboration with other Centre staff, as needed.
- Provide support, treatment, and compassion to clients and consult with other team members on an on-going basis to ensure ongoing comprehensive treatment.

Case Management

- Provides information and referral regarding community resources.
- Facilitate access to service with warm transfers when necessary or appropriate.
- Provides case advocacy to ensure that the client receives the community supports, health and social services needed
- Arranges and follows up with case consultation and case planning with other members of the health care team at PQWCHC; and with other agencies as necessary and appropriate.

PQWCHC is committed to the principles of access and equity. PQWCHC is committed to building an organization that reflects the diversity of communities we serve. We encourage applications from members of Indigenous, Black and other racialized communities; Two-Spirit, non-binary, LGBTQ people; people with disabilities; and members of other equity seeking groups. Accommodations are available on request. Parkdale Queen West CHC is in full compliance of the Ontario Human Rights Code and does not discriminate on the ground of records of offenses.



INTERNAL/EXTERNAL POSTING

0.8 FTE – Part Time 12 to 18 Month Contract

- Develop collateral contacts with external services in which the client is involved to facilitate comprehensive case planning, including court diversion process and the Gladue court system
- Effectively provide case management services to clients experiencing mental health and/or substance use issues.
- Provides low-barrier case management supports for clients requiring assistance, i.e. drop-in supports.

Skills & Qualifications:

- Graduate degree in relevant discipline from a recognized university.
- Member in good standing with the OCSWSSW or CRPO.
- Three to five years of counselling experience; preferably in a community health setting.
- Have experience working within Indigenous communities from a philosophy of non-interference and harm reduction.
- Substantial knowledge and understanding of Intergenerational Trauma
- Experience providing Solution Focused and Brief Intervention
- Proficiency in mental health assessment and counseling techniques that are trauma-informed and strength-resiliency-based.
- Experience providing support or treatment to adults with significant trauma, mental health and substance use challenges
- Knowledge of and experience in motivational interviewing and staged matched interventions
- Formal training and experience with a variety of responsive treatment interventions (e.g., brief therapy, CBT, DBT, motivational interviewing techniques, etc.)
- Demonstrated ability to work with multi-disciplinary teams.
- Proficiency in the use of computers and various software applications.
- Proficiency in another language is considered an asset.

Compensation: \$50,691 to \$59,245 per annum

If you are interested in joining a creative and dedicated team to make things better, we want to hear from you. Please send your resume and cover letter **in a single document** (MS Word or PDF format only) to [hiring@pqwchc.ca](mailto: hiring@pqwchc.ca), quoting “**Indigenous Counsellor**” in the subject line. Application deadline: Open. If you see this ad, the position is still available.

Please do not delay in submitting your application, as we will be reviewing and contacting those we screen-in as we receive them.

Applicants who self identify as Indigenous and meets the other requirements of the job will be given first consideration in the hiring process.

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