



Registered Nurse, SCS /CTS – Relief/Locum (Ongoing Applicant Pool)

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 Relief/Locum Registered Nurse works as part of the multi-disciplinary integrated Supervised Consumption Service (SCS) staff team. Working within the context of a client-centered care model, the vision/values of PQWCHC, in accordance with the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Canada (UFCW) and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) Standards of Practice and working within a harm reduction framework, the Nurse supervises participants administering their own injections with a variety of acute and chronic illnesses/diseases, including communicable diseases, substance use and general health issues.

The SCS Relief/Locum RN works collaboratively with interdisciplinary SCS team members, other health care professionals/providers, clients, and communities in the identification and resolution of health and social issues and integration of care, makes referrals to other service providers and strives for excellence in client centered care and education.

The Relief/Locum RN provides health care and treatment for clients who use injection drugs within the SCS, many of whom have soft tissue damage and injuries, chronic illnesses as well as complex health and social needs. This care may be carried out independently, under the guidance of Medical Directives, or in consultation with PQWCHC primary care physicians or other relevant providers as appropriate. The Relief/Locum RN works in the SCS within the health centre.

Reporting Manager: Manager - Urban Health, Supervised Consumption Services

Specific Responsibilities:

- Greets and engages clients, assesses eligibility for the SCS, initiates intake into the service, and orients them to the service, space and SCS client agreements
- Supports a welcoming, non-judgmental, relaxed and safe space for clients
- Establishes a therapeutic relationship and develops rapport with clients
- Works independently, under the guidance of Medical Directives, or in consultation with other PQWCHC primary care providers or other relevant inter-professional team members as appropriate
- Completes intakes and assessments, when required, and acts as an entry point into the SCS and other health or social services at PQWCHC and beyond including:
- History taking regarding medical/health background, psychosocial, economic, functional and family status for individuals wishing to access the SCS who may require more intensive assessment and support
- Assesses client knowledge of injection process and works to achieve the best possible health outcomes for each client
- Physical examinations and nursing assessments including basic wound care related to injection drug use, basic primary care, routine diagnostic tests and referrals
- Consultation with other health professionals as required to establish a diagnosis and plan of care
- Discussion of health issue/diagnosis with the client and implementation of an appropriate plan of care
- Supervises SCS clients to administer their own injections, who may present with a variety of acute and chronic illnesses/diseases

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.



- Provides education and counseling using a harm reduction approach to clients regarding safer injection techniques and in such matters as sexual health
- Assesses, responds to and manages overdose events. Provides overdose prevention education
- Initiates emergency response if necessary, as per established protocols
- Works with other SCS staff to maintain flow of clients into and out of each client area of the SCS
- Dispenses medications such as antibiotics to clients without access to medication as delegated by a Health Centre physician and Medical Directives
- Provides health-related equipment or supplies to clients, including harm reduction supplies, and advises on proper use
- Provides brief counselling support to clients
- De-escalates conflict with or among clients in accordance with established policies and protocols
- Provides referrals to health, social services and substance use treatment services for SCS clients
- Follows established documentation protocols and maintains clear, accurate and timely written documentation in accordance with established procedures and policies of their respective regulatory bodies, the MOH and PQWCHC
- Participate in organizational training and development aligned with the roles and responsibilities for the position
- Maintains a hygienic working environment, conducts infection control tasks in accordance with related policies and procedures
- Ability to work weekends as required
- Performs other related duties, as required

Qualifications:

- Undergraduate degree in nursing from a recognized university and/or combination of nursing diploma and additional relevant courses/training
- Current registration as a Registered Nurse with the College of Nurses of Ontario and RNAO membership
- 1-3 years' experience in a community setting or combination of community and hospital or public health settings; experience in primary care or street/outreach nursing setting is an asset
- Front line and harm reduction experience, would be an asset; values aligned with a harm reduction approach to service delivery
- Experience working with people who use drugs, racialized populations, Indigenous peoples, women who engage in sex work, prisoners/ex-prisoners, people with mental health challenges, and people who have experience trauma, would be an asset
- Experience in emergency response
- Proficiency in the use of computers and various software applications
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Proficiency in language (s) other than English considered an asset

Compensation: \$33.91 to \$40.29/ hr + 4% in lieu of benefits

If you are interested in joining in a creative and dedicated team to make things better, we want to hear from you! Please send your resume and cover letter (**including your availability**) in a single document (MS Word or PDF format only) to hring@pqwchc.ca, quoting "SCS RN - Relief" in the subject line. We truly appreciate your interest; however, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Please also note that the successful candidate will be required to provide a criminal reference check as a condition of employment.

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.