



## INTERNAL/EXTERNAL POSTING 1.0 FTE – Contract position

### Overdose Prevention Support Worker – Safer Opioid Supply (SOS)

Contract Position (to March 31, 2021), 1.0 FTE (35 hours/week)

Bargaining Unit – Parkdale site: 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. We are seeking experienced harm reduction worker who share our passion for making a difference; you see this role as an opportunity to take the next step in your successful career while contributing to a vision of **Inclusive Communities. Responsive Healthcare. Healthier Lives.**

**General Responsibilities:** Reporting to the Manager of Urban Health - Projects and Partnerships, you'll supervise, and support clients' use of prescribed opioids distribute harm reduction supplies, provide harm reduction education and provide education and support on safer injection and consumption. As an Overdose Response Worker you'll monitor clients for adverse reactions, assess, respond to, and support overdose events, and assist in the initiation of emergency responses, as necessary. You will also assist in client de-escalation, provide follow up support and make referrals to other health and social service providers. Striving for excellence in client-centred care and education, you'll work as part of the multidisciplinary, integrated Safer Opioid Supply (SOS) staff team, within a harm reduction framework, and in alignment with the vision and values of PQWCHC. In so doing, you'll help ensure that SOS operations comply with our funding mandate and project deliverables. In the role of SOS Overdose Prevention Support Worker, you collaborate with the SOS RPN with the observed arm of the SOS program. Our interdisciplinary team of clinicians and social service providers, including people with lived experience, works from a harm reduction perspective, with a focus on engagement, support, and client-centred care.

The Safer Opioid Supply program (SOS) provides clients using street-based drug supply, who are at high risk of overdose in the community and of medical complications due to drug use, a regulated supply of prescription opioids through an MD or NP in an effort to reduce overdose and overdose deaths..

**Qualification:** You have experience with overdose prevention and response. You've worked in a community setting, working with homeless and marginalized populations, including people who inject illicit drugs. Confident in asserting and maintaining strong boundaries, you bring substantial knowledge of drug use, specifically injection drug use, acquired through a combination of work experience, lived experience and/or education or training, are familiar with community services and resources, and respect and value the diversity of communities and individuals.

Proficiency in one or more languages other than English would be an asset, as would experience in the following areas: working in a supervised consumption or overdose prevention service; providing overdose training, including Naloxone administration; and working with people who use drugs, racialized populations, Indigenous peoples, people who engage in sex work, prisoners/ex-prisoners, people with mental health challenges, and people who have experienced trauma.

**Compensation:** \$50,060 - \$58,949

If you are interested in joining with 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 [hr@pqwchc.ca](mailto:hr@pqwchc.ca), quoting "Overdose Prevention Support Worker - SOS" in the subject line. Internal candidates' deadline for application is by 5pm of September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Deadline for External Candidates is by 5pm of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. 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 reflecting the diversity of the communities it serves and we encourage applicants who reflect Toronto's ethnic and cultural diversity. We welcome and encourage applications from all qualified candidates, including people with disabilities. 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.*