

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL POSTING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Mental Health Lead

Background:

Formed in 1988, Matawa First Nations Management (Matawa) is a Tribal Council providing services to nine member communities in Northern Ontario. The organization is dedicated to providing its members with advisory and support services in the areas of communications, economic development, education, finance and business, health, membership and technical services.

The Matawa Education Department supports quality, accessible, community-based educational services for eight Matawa First Nation communities: Aroland, Eabametoong, Ginoogaming, Long Lake #58, Marten Falls, Neskantaga, Nibinamik, and Webequie First Nations. In addition to providing advisory services to Education Authorities and Matawa First Nation leadership, the Education Department administers post-secondary support services for 5 Matawa First Nations; operates the Matawa Learning Centre, a private secondary school located in Thunder Bay; and coordinates the Student Nutrition Program for 6 communities.

The Matawa Education Department also provides support services to 8 Matawa First Nation schools under the *Pathways to Achieve Student Success (PASS)* program. Funding for this program is provided primarily through Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada's *First Nation Student Success Program (FNSSP)*, which has three primary target areas: literacy, numeracy and student success. Assessing and tracking student achievement is a critical component of this program and provides the foundation for data-informed decision-making in our schools and at the regional level.

Matawa is inviting applications for the position of Mental Health Lead with the Matawa Education Department's *Pathways to Achieve Student Success (PASS)* program. This is a contract position to March 31, 2018, with the possibility of extension pending funding and a successful performance review. This position is located in Thunder Bay, Ontario, with significant travel to remote and isolated communities.

Position Summary:

Reporting to the Education Department Manager, the Mental Health Lead shall work closely with the Matawa First Nation Schools and community stakeholders. The main responsibility of



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the Mental Health Lead is to support healthy, safe school environments by supporting schools to address the mental health needs of students and staff in Matawa schools.

Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

The ideal applicant will have:

- A degree in Social Work, School Psychology, or related discipline, and registration with a related professional governing body (e.g. Ontario College of Social Workers) or equivalent combination of education and experience (minimum of 5 years) related to the position
- Extensive clinical experience working with children and youth in health promotion, prevention, intervention, and/or crisis intervention
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nation and Ontario education systems
- Experience in strategic planning and development in mental health and wellness for students and schools
- Experience and understanding of evidence-based mental health strategies and intervention models to support students and staff at elementary and secondary levels
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with school staff, parents, administration, government and First Nation organizations
- Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality
- Knowledge of Ojibway is an asset

Applicants will also have excellent oral and written communication skills; demonstrated ability to work effectively with teachers, principals, students, administration, government and First Nations; and a valid driver's license.

For additional information, including specific qualifications for the position, please visit the Matawa website: www.matawa.on.ca.

Application Deadline: October 26, 2017 @ 4:30 p.m.

Please send your resume/cover letter to:

Matawa First Nations Management
Attn: Sharon Nate, Education Manager
28 N. Cumberland St. Suite 500, 5th Floor
Thunder Bay, ON P7A 4K9
RE: Application

Fax: (807) 768-3301
Email: snate@matawa.on.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest in working with Matawa First Nations, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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