

INTERNAL POSTING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Position: Wellness System Navigator

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 Nations communities of Aroland, Eabametoong, Nibinamik, Long Lake #58, Ginoogaming, Neskantaga, Marten Falls 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.

Matawa is inviting applications for the position of **Wellness System Navigator (WSN)** with the Matawa Education Department.

Position Summary:

The WSN will act as a resource that offers support to students and their families seeking to remove barriers related to mental wellness resources within the applicable system. Further, they provide a range of information related to the MECC's programming and support services which enhance student access ensuring the quality of learning experiences. The WSN will reach out to Matawa youth to promote and encourage mental health wellness and access to education. The WSN will build healthy relationships between youth and community to address youth's urgent needs and advocating on their behalf. The WSN must possess knowledge of the provincial and federal education systems, while having the ability to see the bigger picture in wellness and education. In this position, the WSN must respond to changes as they occur at the local and system level.



Furthermore, as an integral member of the MECC, the WSN shall support students transitioning into or out of, alternative education programs, detention centers, or entering main stream education programs. Throughout this process, the WSN will build healthy relationships with the youth, community and school resources.

The WSN will attend meetings, conferences and professional development seminars in order to remain current mental wellness trends and develop an understanding of current policies and practices. The WSN will act as a resource for students and their families, by collaborating and networking with other First Nation organizations, provincial ministries, the federal government, and other professional agencies and organizations

Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

The ideal applicant will have:

- Bachelor's degree or college diploma in one of the following areas: Community Services (Social Worker, Social Service Worker, Child & Youth Care, Native Child and Family Services, Health Services); or equivalent community work experience;
- Understanding and experience working with Indigenous communities and awareness of local cultural protocol;
- Experience and understanding of school mental wellness strategies and intervention models;
- Lived knowledge of the kinds of experiences students bring to the MECC, including understanding of history and awareness of 'walking in two worlds';
- Knowledge and understanding of First Nation and Ontario education systems;
- Ability to develop and sustain healthy partnerships with various organizations and agencies;
- Demonstrated ability to respond to the developmental needs of students;
- Demonstrated ability to be an advocate, problem-solving barriers to students;
- Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality;
- Knowledge of Ojibway is an asset.

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



This position is based in Thunder Bay, Ontario and is a contract position to June 26, 2020 with the possibility of extension pending funding and a successful performance review.

For additional information, including specific qualifications for the position, please view the Job Description at the Matawa website:
www.matawa.on.ca.

Please send your cover letter and resume with three employment references to:
Matawa First Nations Management
Attn: Sharon Nate, Education Manager
200 N Lillie St.
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 5Y2
RE: Wellness System Navigator
Fax: (807) 768-3301
Email: education@matawa.on.ca

We offer competitive salary commensurate with education and work experience.

We thank all applicants for their interest in working with Matawa First Nations, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Application Deadline: September 23, 2019

