



Position: Mental Health Land-based Coordinator

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 **Mental Health Land-based Coordinator (MHLBC)** with the Matawa Education Department.

Position Summary:

As a highly skilled and motivated professional who possesses specialized knowledge and expertise, the MHLBC utilizes their experience and expertise to ensure all programming meets students' various learning needs. The MHLBC will be part of land-based programming to ensure the delivery of prevention and intervention programs for all MECC youth. They will work with the Mental Health team to ensure youth are learning healthy and effective coping strategies as they transition into Thunder Bay and the MECC environment.

The MHLBC will assist in developing partnerships in joint land-based programming. In addition, will assist in delivering mental wellness supports for staff and students. With extensive knowledge of land-based activities, the MHLBC will guide students in acquiring skills from the land used to improve youth's overall mental wellness.

The MECC is a dynamic school which continuously evolves to meet the academic needs of its students and other Matawa First Nation learners. The MHLBC works effectively in a team setting, which may include other members of the Matawa Education Department, the







Matawa Regional Advisory Committee on Education, parents and Matawa First Nations political leadership. In addition, the MHLBC develops and maintains positive relationships with students, parents, student support workers, external organizations, agencies and businesses in creating and sustaining supports and programming for the MECC and its students.

Preferred Qualifications and Experience:

The ideal applicant will have:

- Current Certificate of Qualification and Registration with the Ontario College of Teachers
- Degree in one of the following: Outdoor Education, Social Work, School Psychology or equivalent training coupled with experience;
- Understanding of mental health issues faced by First Nations youth coupled with experience in assisting with mental health wellness for those youth;
- Knowledge of First Nation culture and understanding of land-based practices;
- Experience working with First Nation students in an educational setting;
- Knowledge and experience in Outdoor Experiential Education programs;
- Knowledge of First Nation education;
- Knowledge of First Nation cultures and life styles;
- Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality;
- Fluency in Ojibway, Cree or Oji-Cree would be considered 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 25, 2021 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: Mental Health Land-based Coordinator 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: Until Filled

