# **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Position: Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator

## Background:

Incorporated in 2017, the Matawa Health Cooperative (MHC) is a Matawa First Nation owned and controlled health co-operative that provides health care services to enhance existing health services to achieve long-term health and well-being for all members within the nine (9) Matawa First Nations. It is overseen by a Board of Directors and is a member of the Health Care Cooperatives Federation of Canada. The MHC is community-driven with available services being tailored to individual community's needs. It is the first of its kind in Canada.

The MHC works to incorporate traditional healing and medicines in addressing the wholistic health needs of the Matawa First Nations focusing on the priorities of mental health and addictions, diabetes and chronic diseases.

The organization is accepting applications for Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator.

### **Position Summary:**

The Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator will work as an integral member of the team in collaboration with the Matawa Mental Health team, and all other members of the health care team. The Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator will act as a resource person that will assist Matawa members with the navigation of services and the applications processes based on their individual needs and required services to ensure that they receive the services that is required.

#### **Specific Duties Include:**

- Act as a resource and support person to Matawa members and MHC staff members on internal and external programs and services to support the needs of Matawa members;
- Provide support to Matawa members as it pertains to completing and submitting applications (examples may include but are not limited to identification, housing, Indian Day School, Non-insured health benefits for First Nation & Inuit NIHB, Jordan's Principle, Ontario Disability Support Program, Income Support & Subsidies, Education/funding, Treatment, etc.);
- Maintain accurate and confidential client records electronically and in a timely manner;
- Developing and maintaining respectful, cooperative working relationships to contribute to the delivery of services to First Nations' children, families and communities;
- Provide support and advocacy to Matawa members as it pertains to systems navigation (examples may include but are not limited to: Mental Health and Counselling Services, Healthcare, Substance Misuse/addictions, Criminal Justice System, Shelter/Housing/Food Security, etc.):
- Will require frequent travel to Matawa First Nation communities, often by small aircraft;
- All other duties as deemed necessary by your immediate Lead/Supervisor.

### Preferred Qualifications, Experience, Knowledge and Abilities:

In addition to the following, the Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator must possess at minimum: a bachelor's degree or diploma in one of the following areas: Social Work, Human Services, Social Services, Psychology, or related field. Must also have at minimum 2 years' experience in working in Social Services sector. Strong working knowledge of Northwestern Ontario's mental health and addiction programs and services, especially those which are intended towards Indigenous populations.

Applicants should have a valid Class G Driver's License and must be willing to provide a police criminal background check and a vulnerable sector check. Finally, the ideal candidate must also have the ability to display and support Matawa Health Co-operative's vision, mission, and goals in providing respectful and effective health care/mental health services.

#### The incumbent should also have proficient knowledge in the following areas:

- Knowledge of foundational theories, principles, and practices as they relate to Social Services, Social Work, and/or Counselling;
- Knowledge of assessment tools and harm-reduction practices;
- Strong knowledge of practice regulations;
- Familiar with privacy, confidentiality, and duty to report;
- Knowledge of community support services, both in Thunder Bay and in the Matawa communities.
- Knowledge of First Nations culture, history, community-based services, geographic realities, and social conditions within remote First Nations communities.

**Location:** Thunder Bay, Ontario (with extensive travel to Matawa road-access and

remote communities)

Salary: Commensurate with experience

**Term:** Full-Time Position, Dependent on Annual Funding

**How to Apply:** Please send your cover letter, resume and three references to:

Matawa Health Co-operative

RE: Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator

233 Court Street South, 1st Floor Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2X9

Fax: (807) 346-2371

Email: careers@matawa.on.ca

Deadline: Open Until Filled

Matawa First Nations Management has adopted a COVID-19 Vaccination Policy by which all staff, who are eligible, must be fully vaccinated. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this, please contact us.



















# For additional information, please view the job description at the Matawa website:

#### www.matawa.on.ca

(or at: <a href="www.matawa.on.ca/recruitment/career-opportunities">www.matawa.on.ca/recruitment/career-opportunities</a>)

We thank all applicants for their interest in working with the Matawa Health Co-operative, however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.