



## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**Position:** Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator (Adult Team)

### **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 Co-operatives 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 MHC Mental Health Team. The Mental Health & Addictions System Navigator will act as a resource person that will assist Matawa members with navigating and applying for services and/or resources based on their individual needs to enhance overall quality of life.

### **Specific Duties Include:**

- Act as a resource and support person to Matawa members and MHC staff as it pertains to inquiries that are related to system navigation;
- Provide support and advocacy to Matawa members as it pertains to system navigation (examples may include but are not limited to: Mental Health and Counselling Services, Healthcare, Substance Misuse/Addictions, Criminal Justice System, Income Support & Poverty Reduction, Shelter/Housing/Food Security, Identification, etc.);
- 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, Ontario Disability Support Program, Income Support & Subsidies, Education/funding, Treatment, etc.);
- Work as part of a multi-disciplinary team by collaborating with other Matawa programs and services (e.g., Membership, Awashishewiigiihiwaywiin Social Services Framework, Health & Social Meno Biimadeswin, Outreach Services, Matawa Education & Care Centre, KKETS Adult Education Program);

- Provide supports and education on the application process of a variety of programs and services to meet the needs of Matawa members;
- Work in partnership with Matawa communities and their front-line staff (e.g., Chief & Council, Health Directors, Crisis Coordinators/Teams, Victim Services, Choose Life Workers, Nursing Stations, NNADAP Workers, Elders and Traditional Knowledge Keepers);
- Maintain accurate and confidential client records electronically and in a timely manner;
- Maintain confidentiality at all times and follow duty to report requirements as necessary;
- Connect members to culturally relevant supports and services as requested/needed;
- Participate in supervision meetings to review cases/issues, receive education, direction, support and debriefing as needed;
- Develop and maintain respectful, cooperative working relationships with others;
- Participate in team meetings, professional meetings, conferences, and seminars;
- 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 geared towards Indigenous populations.

Applicants should have a valid Class G Driver's License and must be willing to provide a police criminal records check/vulnerable sectors 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 and understanding of government funding and health coverage which is available to Indigenous populations, and how to access said funding and coverage;
- 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;
- Cultural awareness and competency;
- Knowledge of First Nations culture, history, community-based services, geographic realities and social conditions within remote First Nations communities.

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

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience

**Term:** Full-time hours, 8-month contract with possibility for extension

**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, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2X9  
Fax: (807) 346-2371

Email: [MHC-Careers@matawa.on.ca](mailto:MHC-Careers@matawa.on.ca)

**Deadline:** Open until filled

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

[www.matawa.on.ca](http://www.matawa.on.ca)

(or at: [www.matawa.on.ca/recruitment/career-opportunities](http://www.matawa.on.ca/recruitment/career-opportunities) )

*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.*

***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.***



- CIRCLE OF BELONGING -