

1 YEAR INTERNAL/EXTERNAL POSTING MATERNITY LEAVE COVERAGE OPPORTUNITY

Position: Education System Navigator – Matawa Education and Care Center

Summary:

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 Education and Care Centre (MECC), a private secondary school located in Thunder Bay; and coordinates the Student Nutrition Program for 8 schools/sites.

The MECC provides a unique learning environment to support students as they move toward the successful completion of their secondary education and continue on their pathways to work, training or post-secondary education programs.

Matawa is inviting applications for the position of Education System Navigator with the Matawa Education Department.

Position Summary:

The Education System Navigator will provide outreach to prospective and current students by working in cooperation with the communities and MECC staff to develop routes for learners. You will liaise with various stakeholders including Matawa community Education Authorities, parents, students, and MECC staff. Through these relationships you will look to remove



barriers related to access to education in order to enhance student access to quality learning experiences, ensuring their success. You will be working with students who have not been successful in the Provincial Education system and assist them with transitioning either into or out of alternative education programs, detention centers or entering the mainstream education programs.

The successful candidate will hold, or be eligible to hold, an Ontario Certificate of Qualification and Registration and be a member in good standing with the Ontario College of Teachers. Expertise or experience in alternative education and/or Aboriginal education would be beneficial.

This position is based in Thunder Bay, but the Education System Navigator may have to travel around Thunder Bay to monitor and support students in their placements and complete workplace assessments, and may have to travel to Matawa First Nations in all weather. The successful applicant will be required to submit a current Criminal Record Check, including vulnerable sector, and current “negative” result TB skin test.

Preferred Qualifications/Requirements:

- A Bachelor’s degree in Education or equivalent combination or relevant education and experience
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- Current registration with the Ontario College of Teachers (OCT) and successful experience as a school teacher, preferably in a First Nation school
- Understanding and experience working with regional Indigenous communities and awareness of local cultural protocol
- Lived knowledge of the kinds of experiences students bring to the Matawa Learning Centre, 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 relationships with various individuals and groups
- Experience and understanding of school success strategies and intervention models to support student success and learning at elementary and secondary levels
- Demonstrated ability to respond to the developmental needs of students
- Demonstrated ability to be an advocate, problem-solving barriers to students





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- Ability to maintain a high level of confidentiality
- Knowledge of Ojibway, Cree or Oji-Cree is an asset
- Valid Ontario Driver's License

We offer competitive salary commensurate with education and work experience. The successful applicant will be required to submit a current Criminal Record Check and TB skin test. This is a contract position to June 26, 2026 with the possibility of extension pending funding for the position and successful evaluation.

Please submit cover letter with resume and three employment references to:

Matawa First Nations Management
ATTN: Executive Director of Education
RE: Education System Navigator
200 N. Lillie St
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7C 5Y2
Fax: (807) 768-3301
Email: education@matawaeducation.ca

Closing Date: July 31, 2025

Thank you for your interest in working with the Matawa, however only successful applicants will be contacted.





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