



**WESTBANK  
FIRST NATION**

*Community. Leadership. Pride.*

## **WESTBANK FIRST NATION** Employment Opportunity

THE FOLLOWING POSITION IS AVAILABLE WITHIN WESTBANK FIRST NATION. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 20.1 OF THE WFN CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 3.1 OF THE WFN PERSONNEL POLICY, PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO QUALIFIED WFN MEMBERS WHO APPLY FOR THIS POSITION.

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**TITLE: Children & Youth Counsellor**  
**MINIMUM SALARY: Commensurate with experience**  
**DEPARTMENT: Community Services**  
**TERM: Full-Time**

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### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

Reporting directly to the Clinical Care Coordinator, the Children & Youth Counsellor will participate in a collaborative model to support children, youth, and their families as they deal with disruptive life issues by promoting healthy lifestyles and healthy choices. They will develop and provide confidential therapeutic care, education, and support services to individuals, families, and the community with the goal of enhancing the behavioural, emotional, and social growth of children and youth. In a common model, the Children & Youth Counsellor will have primary responsibility for enhancing child services and will consult, collaborate, and integrate services with the school, other community service programs, and the family, as applicable.

### **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Develops and maintains a safe and trusting relationship with children
- Counsels children by initiating the therapeutic relationship by conducting interviews to identify and understand areas of concern including planning and implementing individual and family counseling sessions
- Plans, prepares, and conducts group or individual counseling sessions
- Supports the development of culturally appropriate and evidence-based prevention and early intervention programs related to FASD
- Supports capacity building and training of community workers and professional staff; development of action plans and prevention, education, and awareness activities
- Provides and participates in recreation and activities designed to meet the needs, capabilities, and interests of children and youth; encourages and supports the children and youth's attendance in school programs or alternatives and outreach
- Acts a role model with positive and effective social and interpersonal skills through tasks of daily living and social activities
- Assists and supports children to explore issues and coping mechanism related to feelings and circumstances
- Evaluates the effectiveness of counselling programs and interventions, and clients' progress in resolving identified problems and progressing toward defined objectives; follows up on results
- Prepares and maintains files and records regarding case histories, assessments, services provided, and follows up with court reports as required
- Maintains and complies with program policies, procedures, and reporting as required
- In consultation with teachers and counsellors, acts as a liaison between systems and other various Aboriginal support agencies, individuals, and families
- Maintains a thorough knowledge of community resources to meet client needs
- Provides liaison, education, and advocacy to other professionals, agencies, and the community, and maintains positive relationships
- Participates in an integrated approach to care that incorporates Indigenous practice framework
- Participates in the development and delivery of Westbank First Nation special events and activities and other related duties as required
- Participates in inter-agency working committees (internal and external) as required
- May provide witness testimony in court proceedings
- Performs other administrative duties, as required
- Performs all duties and responsibilities in accordance with the Westbank First Nation policies, standards and procedures, and as directed by the Clinical Care Coordinator
- Maintains confidentiality on all matters relating to the affairs of the WFN and the clients

### **QUALIFICATIONS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE:**

- Prefer Masters in Social Work
- B.A. Degree in Child and Youth Care, Social Work, Psychology, Counselling, and/or in a field related to the growth and development of children and youth and their families
- Valid driver's license and acceptable driver's abstract with access to a reliable vehicle
- Acceptable Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Search

- Certification with a recognized association
- Minimum three (3) years counselling experience working with children, youth and families
- Demonstrated understanding and experience working with First Nations children and within a First Nations community
- Knowledge of Play Therapy
- Excellent written and oral communication skills, including exceptional listening skills
- Excellent organizational skills, including time management and prioritization
- Excellent leadership, interpersonal, and relationship building skills
- Demonstrated understanding and knowledge of Aboriginal culture and history
- Solid understanding of traditional and historical Aboriginal family systems context
- Working knowledge and understanding of child development
- Solid understanding of family centered and relationship based care including group dynamics
- Knowledge of the Grief Cycle and expressive modalities
- Ability to engage and motivate children and families as determined
- Ability to adapt and change direction as required
- Ability to maintain a positive and supportive attitude while attending to sometimes difficult and undesirable situations
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with children ages 2+ years old
- Ability to plan, develop, implement, and evaluate programs, activities, and services
- Ability to work effectively within a multi-disciplinary team and independently
- Basic level of proficiency with Microsoft Office, specifically Word and Outlook
- Effective file management and administrative skills
- Ability to work flexible hours, such as evenings and weekends, when necessary

A competitive salary and benefits package is offered. Further information can be obtained at [www.wfn.ca](http://www.wfn.ca) by navigating to the Human Resources page (*Departments>Human Resources*) or by visiting the *Employment Opportunities* tab located in the top right hand corner of the homepage.

Interested applicants should email an [application form, cover letter, and resume](#) by **Friday, October 6, 2017**. **Please reference #17-16 and indicate clearly in your covering letter where you saw this posting and how your experience and qualifications meet the requirements of the position.**

**\*Incomplete and/or late submissions will not be accepted\***

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