



**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**  
**Mental Health and Addictions Worker (Full-time)**  
**October 2017**

Are you an individual with a passion for helping Indigenous community members on their healing journey? Do you have experience integrating Indigenous cultural practices and harm reduction techniques into your work as a Mental Health and Addictions Worker? Are you able to advocate for clients and ensure that they are receiving the timely and quality of care they deserve? If so, this opportunity is for you!

The Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health is an award-winning Health Access Centre that provides holistic primary health care to First Nation, Inuit and Métis people living in Ottawa - one of the fastest growing and diverse urban Indigenous communities in Canada. Wabano is a fast-paced, client-oriented organization that models the Indigenous values of balance, respect and community interdependence.

As an Indigenous frontline worker with a post secondary degree in an Addictions and Mental Health fields (both is preferred), combined with an understanding of pain management and how to access treatment, mental health and social supports as well as navigate complex health care system, you will want to consider this opportunity.

**Position:**

Under the direction of the Director of Mental Wellness, the Mental Health and Addictions Worker will work with First Nations, Inuit and Métis youth and adults (would not specify the age – could see as young as 8 years of age) to prepare them for treatment and provide aftercare. The Mental Health and Addictions Worker ensures the right community, professional and cultural supports/services are in place in order to maximize the wellness and success of the individual. In this capacity the position fulfills a variety of case management related functions including: establishing supportive relationships, doing assertive outreach, ensuring professional case management and referral, establishing professional partnerships, and providing crisis intervention if required as well as counselling functions including group facilitation and/or co-facilitation.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Provide assessment, referral, support and advocacy services within a case management framework;
- Provide one-on-one and group support and education;
- Provide clients with treatment options, alternatives to pain management, and support the client throughout the process;
- Assist clients to resolve social issues by helping them navigate systems and provide referrals when necessary as it pertains to: income supports, basic needs, status cards, housing, education, employment, child care, vision/dental/medical



benefits, CAS issues, legal concerns, addictions resources, social supports and community resources;

- Provide life skills, coaching, offer advice, and support services for referred individuals and their families (on an individual basis and group settings);
- Provide crisis intervention;
- Create a database of available pain management resources in the city and build professional relationship;
- Liaise with other agencies and services to better address the addiction needs of clients and improve the quality of available services;
- Conduct outreach in order to effectively promote the program;
- Conduct client outreach;
- Maintain appropriate and confidential records of all clients;
- Complete reporting and other admin requirements.

#### **Qualifications:**

- A post-secondary degree in a Mental Health field with specialization in Addictions; or experience working with substance misuse, abuse, or dependency;
- Must have a thorough knowledge of treatment options and other social services;
- Client service oriented;
- Harm-reduction approach;
- Understanding of pain management and how to access resources
- Understanding of opiate prescribed and illicit use;
- Good interpersonal and counselling skills; able to work flexibly with a variety of population groups and treatment settings;
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively with Indigenous people, including a sound knowledge and understanding of the issues Indigenous impact on their mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual health in contemporary society;
- Demonstrated cultural competency in working with First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities with the ability to offer culturally appropriate services;
- A nonjudgmental, inclusive, and positive attitude towards people who are experiencing problematic substance use, and other issues;
- Ability and skills to recognize and manage the signs of a client in crisis;
- A demonstrated ability to exercise strong decision-making skills and deal with unpredictable situations.

#### **Specifications:**

- Criminal reference check for working with vulnerable people required;
- **Preference will be given to applicants of First Nations, Inuit or Métis descent (please self-identify to receive preference).**

To pursue this opportunity, please submit a cover letter and CV by to



[jobs@wabano.com](mailto:jobs@wabano.com) by **November 17, 2017**.

We thank all those who apply. Only those selected for further consideration will be contacted. Wabano is committed to providing employment accommodation in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code and the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. If contacted for an employment opportunity or interviewing, please advise if you require accommodation.