



SURROUNDED BY CEDAR CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Employment Opportunity

Indigenous Child & Youth Clinical Counsellor

JOB TITLE:	Indigenous Child & Youth Clinical Counsellor	JOB STATUS:	Permanent, Full Time
DEPARTMENT:	Support Services	REPORTS TO:	Team Leader, Resources and Support Services

Special Note:

Surrounded by Cedar Child and Family Services acknowledges and appreciates the contributions of its allies to improving outcomes for Indigenous children, youth and their families who are connected to child welfare systems. It is Surrounded by Cedar's intention to fill this vacancy with an individual who has direct knowledge and life experience from an Indigenous perspective and therefore preference will be given to applicants who self-identify as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.

Located on the traditional territories of the Lkwungen people, Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services (SCCFS) strives to provide child and family services strongly rooted in Indigenous cultural values and world views while ensuring urban Indigenous children and youth grow up connected to family, community and culture. As an urban Delegated Agency, SCCFS supports the empowerment of the urban Indigenous community to continue the reclamation of traditional systems of caring for and protecting children so no child or youth will be placed into care.

Surrounded by Cedar receives its delegation through the Provincial Director of Child Welfare, who gives the agency the authority to undertake administration of parts of the *Child, Family and Community Service Act (CFCSA)*. Under its current delegation agreement, Surrounded by Cedar administers C4 services (Guardianship).

SCCFS strives to be a culturally safe employer, with a keen focus on Indigenous recruitment and retention. While working at the agency, employees will be involved in various cultural knowledge sharing opportunities, activities and ceremonies, while being actively engaged in urban Indigenous community events.

Purpose:

The Child & Youth Clinical Counsellor works as part of an integrated and multidisciplinary team to provide individual therapy to urban Indigenous children/youth in care as well as some adult caregivers and birth family members. Therapy is provided through flexible and comprehensive approaches with an emphasis on utilizing culturally based healing modalities while focusing on the restoration of cultural community connection.

Children and youth referred to the Child & Youth Clinical Counsellor have been impacted by various forms of trauma and may be experiencing serious emotional, psychological, behavior or psychiatric illness. The Child & Youth Clinical Counsellor will be responsible for providing intake, assessment, treatment and crisis intervention.

Working together with local Indigenous agencies, school districts, community partners and the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the Child & Youth Counsellor participates amongst collaborative, multidisciplinary planning teams to advocate and facilitate mental health and wellness goals.

Key Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan, implement and deliver four (4) culturally based group counselling groups per fiscal year for urban Indigenous children and youth.
- Provide individual therapy to urban Indigenous children/youth in care, focusing on culturally appropriate and inclusive clinical mental health services, comprehensive assessment and treatment planning based on Indigenous modalities of healing and wellness.
- Work with clients to determine the type of treatment and support best suited to their needs while building relationships rooted in trust.
- Provide clinical consultation grounded in Indigenous ways of being to the SCCFS social work teams regarding urban Indigenous children and youth in care as required.
- Undertake crisis intervention by assessing risk, taking immediate action when necessary with the support of police, social workers and/or hospital staff as appropriate.
- Collaborate with members of the child/youth's care team, offering behavioural support to birth parents, extended family, grandparents and/or foster parents by providing guidance, consultation and ongoing support and education.
- Provide outreach and community-based service, participate at community tables, and attend community forums and events.
- Assist other practitioners with clinical counselling groups as needed.
- Maintain accurate and confidential client files while documenting the client's progress in attaining case plan goals.
- Prepare written reports regarding service delivery, successes, and barriers experienced.



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Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Understanding of the vision, mission, and core values of SCCFS and how the Child and Youth Counselling Program aligns with these.
- Extensive understanding of Indigenous cultures, the history of colonization and the resultant intergenerational traumatic impacts within Indigenous communities across Canada.
- Knowledge of Indigenous protocols, teachings, and ways of being with a demonstrated ability to incorporate traditional modalities of healing and wellness into clinical group practice.
- Model or mentor positive cultural knowledge, and Indigenous ways of being.
- Demonstrated ability to build and nurture respectful and meaningful relationships with members of the community who may not be trusting of child welfare or mental health systems.
- Familiarity with the *Child, Family and Community Services Act (CFCSA), An Act Respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis Children, Youth and Families*, and current public reports and recommendations with implications for mental health programming for urban Indigenous children and youth.
- Strong written, verbal, time management and computer (Microsoft) skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work well under pressure in a fast-paced, high-stress work environment where work priorities change frequently.

Qualifications:

- MSW (Clinical Specialization or equivalent training/education), MA in Child & Youth Care, MA (Clinical Psychology) or MA (Counselling Psychology) and have completed a practicum in child and family mental health.
- Comparable graduate degree at master's level may be considered with at least three years' professional experience in child and family mental health.
- Minimum three (3) years of professional experience with demonstrated training in trauma (complex trauma, intergenerational trauma, transition trauma), grief and loss, and attachment issues within an Indigenous context.
- Must have experience working with Indigenous clients and communities.
- Must be available to work some evenings and weekends based on the individual needs of clients and the operational needs of SCCFS.
- Eligible for registration with the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA).
- Must have valid class 5 Driver's License, favourable driver's abstract and safe reliable vehicle.
- Must complete a successful Criminal Record check.

Wage Range: \$63,500 - \$72,500 dependent upon experience

Preference will be given to qualified applicants who identify as First Nations, Métis and Inuit as per Section 41 of the Human Rights Code

Your resume and cover letter which outline how you meet the qualifications required for this position can be submitted to the attention of:

Maren Gray, Executive Assistant
Email: maren@sccfs.com Fax: (250) 383-2509

Closing Date: December 4th, 2020 at 11:59p.m.

We thank you in advance for your interest in Surrounded by Cedar Child & Family Services. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.