



Urban Native Youth Association

Training the Leaders of Tomorrow

Employment Opportunity (Re-Posting)

UNYA Aboriginal Youth Worker

UNYA currently has an opening for a full-time Aboriginal Youth Worker (AYW). The AYW's mandate is to help prevent Aboriginal youth (primarily aged 11-17 years) from gravitating to or becoming entrenched in street involvement. S/he develops and delivers preventative, culturally relevant, group programming and provides limited 1:1 support and advocacy to youth residing in or frequenting the Eastside of Vancouver. The AYW works in coordination with designated schools, community centres, service providers, and other relevant parties to facilitate access to a continuum of supportive programs and services in the community. S/he undertakes other community development activities to strengthen partnerships and enhance the community capacity to meet the needs of at-risk youth. This position works under the direct supervision of the Community Developer/Program Coordinator and the Executive Director. The AYW will maintain a flexible schedule in order to respond to the diverse and changing needs of youth. This position may include some evening and weekend work.

Qualifications and Conditions:

1. Must possess a Youth Worker Training Certificate and/or experience and knowledge in related field working with high-risk and street-involved Aboriginal youth, preferably in group settings.
2. Must demonstrate a broad based knowledge of the family & social issues that Aboriginal youth face today, including generational impacts of the residential school system on families & communities. Must have a good understanding of Aboriginal cultures and traditions.
3. Must demonstrate a good working knowledge of community resources in Vancouver, particularly youth and Aboriginal-specific resources.
4. Must have strong advocacy and mediation skills, and the ability to work independently as well as part of a team.
5. Must demonstrate the ability to identify with mandate, policies and procedures of the organization.
6. Will have a good working knowledge of computer systems and programs. Must have strong written and oral communications skills, including the ability to compile accurate records and prepare reports.
7. Must have a personal support system and self care plan in place.
8. Must possess a valid class 5 B.C. driver's license. A car and valid B.C. class 4 driver's license are considered strong assets.
9. Must have a criminal record check completed by and satisfactory to UNYA.
10. Given the needs of the youth accessing our program, preference will be given to qualified female Aboriginal applicants.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Travel to areas that are frequented by Aboriginal youth who are at risk of becoming street-involved. Identify youth who could benefit from program and establish a trusting, non-judgmental, non-exploitative rapport with youth. Refer youth to appropriate services in the community as individual needs require. Provide limited one-to-one support and advocacy for individual youth.
2. Work in cooperation with others, including other UNYA programs and other community partners, as needed to plan and implement diverse programming for Aboriginal youth. Plan, support and/or deliver culturally appropriate programs, services, workshops and outings (cultural, social, educational, and recreational). Supervise and positively participate in programming and activities in order to ensure safety and provide a positive role model experience for youth participants.
3. Establish and maintain a network of positive working relationships with UNYA programs, service providers and other community programs/resources to ensure effective referrals and enhance access to a solid continuum of supports for Aboriginal youth. Advocate for more services for youth and/or advocate for services to become more culturally appropriate & responsive to the needs of Aboriginal youth.
4. Keep abreast of current social concerns & street trends and as required attend professional development activities in order to remain informed regarding issues affecting Aboriginal youth, particularly those who are at-risk or involved in street activities.
5. Actively assist in the ongoing development and review of programming. Positively address all concerns, incidents or crises which affect program mandate, UNYA policy, personal issues, community relations, youth participants, etc.
6. Respect and maintain confidentiality of staff issues, with the exception of the Community Developer/Program Coordinator and/or the Executive Director. Respect and assure youth of confidentiality in the community and with other service professionals.
7. Consult with and report to immediate supervisor on a regular basis.
8. Maintain accurate activity logs and compile statistical records to support program needs and inform ongoing development and evaluation. Prepare and submit reports to supervisor, the Board of Directors, and funder(s), as required.
9. Positively contribute to regularly scheduled team and FUNYA meetings in order to inform the ongoing evaluation and development of the program. Actively promote and participate in fundraising activities.

Please send a cover letter (stating the position that you are applying for), a resume, and contact information for (3) recent employment references to the attention of the Community Developer/Program Coordinator at the address below. Resumes will not be reviewed without a covering letter. No enquiries. Only those short-listed will be contacted. **Closing date:** Wed., February 13, 2008 at 4:30 pm

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