



Fraser River Indigenous Society

Currently, we have a position open for:

Indigenous Early Childhood Educator Coordinator

Classification: JJEJ Wage Grid Level 13

Permanent Full time: 35 hrs. (M-F with occasional evenings or weekends) - This position requires union membership.

Date of Posting: December 18, 2023

Closing Date: *until the position is filled.*

Strong preference is given to candidates identifying as Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit). We are striving to build a diverse team that has lived experience with Indigenous communities.

About the Organization: Founded in 2011, the Fraser River Indigenous Society (FRIS) is an Indigenous organization providing services and programs for our communities in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows, to acknowledge our past, present, and future generations. Our services are designed to answer the needs of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit peoples and promote a sense of belonging and the space to connect and celebrate. Through our Family Strengthening, Support and Healing Circles, *Indigenous Early Years*, and Housing Outreach programs, we foster an environment where communities of self-determined Indigenous peoples can live collaboratively.

As an **Indigenous Early Childhood Educator Coordinator**, you will support Indigenous children's improved development and life outcomes by providing high-quality Indigenous early years programming to empower young children with a strong sense of identity through the Story Blanket Drop-in program. Provide educational opportunities, and preschool and kindergarten readiness and contribute to their overall health and wellness. You will work and collaborate with Elders and knowledge-keepers. You are primarily responsible for assisting in the development and facilitation of culturally safe early years' drop-in parent/caregiver participation program and outreach for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit families with children aged 0-6.

Key Responsibilities:

- Promote and support traditional Indigenous cultural teachings and practices for the families, agency, and community in a culturally safe environment
- Build professional supportive relationships and rapport with the parents/caregivers and extended family of the children attending drop-in programs and practice holistic, strength-based principles
- Provide activity coordination to involve Indigenous Elders/Knowledge Keepers
- Facilitate group and circle time activities; Indigenous storytelling, drumming, and singing
- Promotes and facilitates community awareness, facilitates early years education and training to childcare providers and community around inclusion, family-centered practice, culturally appropriate Indigenous practice, and strategies for children who require additional support
- Assist with the design, development (make flyers), promotion, monthly reports, budgeting, and facilitation of a culturally safe early years drop-in program
- Assist with curriculum development using seven sacred teachings, medicine wheel, Many Voices, One Mind Indigenous teaching kits, or other cultural models
- Responsible for planning and facilitating workshops with a range of topics including ages and stages of development, family roles, and responsibilities, child behavior, attachment, coping, and communication skills
- Purchase and preparing snacks, maintaining program supplies and resources
- Using cultural traditional practices that focus on the mind, emotional, physical, and spiritual, and recognize family strengths and assets
- Support capacity building, establish relations, and consult with the Ridge Meadows community partners and services



Fraser River Indigenous Society

- Contributing and participating in Health & Education Fairs, National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations, and other events and initiatives

Qualifications:

ECE Certification, including Infant Toddler/Supported Child Development Certification, a current ECE licence to practice, and **2 years of experience working in ECE.**

- Valid First Aid certificate with Infant CPR (or ability to obtain one within 90 days of employment)
- Valid Food Safe certificate (or ability to obtain one within 90 days of employment)
- Working knowledge of Early Childhood Development (ECD) and assessment tools (ASQ, etc.)
- Experience in Infant and Supported Child Development (IDP & SCD) or related ECD work
- A valid Class 5 BC driver's licence, clean driver's abstract, and access to a reliable vehicle
- Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening
- Exceptional understanding and knowledge of Indigenous culture, traditions, and socio-economic issues affecting urban Indigenous families, including trauma-informed practices
- Direct program delivery experience in the community social service sector with a demonstrated working knowledge of family-centered care, early intervention child development, and community-based programs
- Knowledge of Indigenous communities, organizations, and service providers within Ridge Meadows
- Demonstrated ability to work from a strength-based, trauma-informed, and culturally centered early years programming with a family-centered approach is required
- Direct program delivery experience in the community social service sector with a demonstrated working knowledge of family-centered care, early intervention strategies, child development, and community-based programs
- Knowledge and experience of group process and facilitation techniques
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position with moderate physical activity involving walking, standing, bending, and lifting to 10kg
- Experience in Non-Profit and understanding the implications of the TRC Calls to Action for early childhood education

This role is best suited to an easily adaptable, ethical problem solver who is truly passionate about culture-centered family development and is focused on supporting children and their families and fostering long-lasting relationships within the community.

About the Benefits

Wage starts at \$29.85/hour Plus:

- Extended health, dental, and vision
- Pension plan
- 15 days vacation to start
- Sick pay as per collective agreement
- Training and development in the field

Be the catalyst of change in delivering programs that provide long-term support to families and communities. If your passion resonates with our mission of building stronger connections within the communities we serve, don't miss out on this truly rewarding opportunity to make a difference - **apply today!**

We are committed to the principles and practices of an inclusive and equitable employment process. We encourage applicants from communities that are structurally marginalized based on race, colour, religion, nationality, social or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or expression. Under Section 41 of the BC Human Rights Code, preference may be given to applicants who self-identify as Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, or Inuit). All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Only applicants shortlisted for interview will be contacted.

To apply send a cover letter & resume to:

FRASER RIVER INDIGENOUS SOCIETY 11830 223rd Street (2nd floor), Maple Ridge, BC V2X 5Y1

Email: eymanager@frisociety.ca