



Employment Opportunity
Youth Care Counsellor – Transitions to Adulthood Program

Who we are:

UNYA has been supporting the health and wellbeing of Indigenous youth in the Metro Vancouver area for over 30 years. As a respected non-profit, charitable organization, we recognize Indigenous youth as experts in their own lives and strive to provide youth with programs and opportunities that are relevant and meaningful to them.

At Urban Native Youth Association UNYA we have developed a Philosophy of Care foundation, drawing from best practices. These philosophies are the grounding framework that shapes all of our decisions and every interaction we have with the youth we serve. Following these philosophies empowers our staff to meet youth where they are at, by giving them the ability to balance flexibility and structure. This allows us to meet our youth's needs, and ensure that our youth experience a consistent quality of care across all UNYA programs. Our 5 key philosophies are:

- Trauma-Informed Practice
- Two-Eyed Seeing
- Harm Reduction Practice
- Youth/Person Centered Practice
- Culture as Therapy

Highlights of this opportunity:

As a member of the Transitions to Adulthood program the Youth Care Counsellor is responsible for supporting youth on their case load in identifying individual needs and setting positive goals for their transition out of government care. The position focuses on each youth's unique strengths and supports them to obtain housing, employment, education, training, and life-skills, as well as to positively address alcohol and drug, mental health, and physical health issues, or anything else youth feel they need support with. The Transitions team reports directly to the Program Manager. This position maintains a schedule of 5 eight hour shifts Monday – Friday, 9am - 5pm.

Qualifications and Conditions:

1. Educational experience required: Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field, 2 years of recent related experience, or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.
2. Ability to work independently and as a team member, and collaborate with many other service providers in community.
3. Experience working with the Indigenous community. Must demonstrate a good working knowledge of community resources in Vancouver, particularly youth & Indigenous-specific resources.
4. Knowledge and understanding of the family and social issues that Indigenous youth face today, including the generational impacts of the residential school system on families and communities.
5. Must demonstrate the ability to identify with mandate, policies and procedures of the organization.
6. Must have a criminal record check completed by and satisfactory to UNYA.
7. Proof of Covid19 vaccination will be required.
8. Must have a valid Class 5 BC Driver's License, a reliable vehicle, and be willing to provide a Driver's Abstract.
9. Given the needs of the youth accessing our programs, priority will be given to qualified Indigenous, First Nations, Metis, Inuit candidates as per section 41 of the Human Rights code.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Establish rapport with youth who are referred to the program. Gather information through interviewing techniques, observing the youth, and soliciting information from professionals involved with the youth.
2. Assess youth and provide them with a connection to appropriate resources and services.
3. Implement care-plans and intervention strategies using a variety of techniques, such as the Person Centered Approach, Family Systems Approach, and Trauma Informed Approach. Provide one-on-one informal counselling.
4. Create a safe space for youth and staff by responding to behaviors and situations through a trauma informed lens, modelling respectful behavior.
5. Establish and maintain a network of positive working relationships with other UNYA programs and other community programs/resources.
6. Maintain appropriate statistical records, logs, case files, and client reports in order to meet both UNYA and its funder's requirements.
7. Positively and proactively address any concerns, incidents, or crises which affect youth participants, program operation and mandate, UNYA policies, and community relations.
8. Adhere to UNYA's Philosophy of Care, and all program-specific and organization-wide policies and procedures.
9. Perform any other duty deemed necessary by the Program Manager to ensure the safe, healthy, and productive operation of the program.

What we offer:

- Yearly Salary of \$58,156.80
- 40 hours a week
- Comprehensive Benefits package
- Vacation, Sick, and Wellness days
- Access to our Employee Assistance Program (EAP) which consists of no-cost counselling services to UNYA staff
- Support from UNYA's Elder in Residence for cultural and spiritual guidance or teachings
- Monthly Staff development

How to apply:

If you would like to become a part of this tremendous team, send a cover letter and resume indicating the position you are applying to the attention of the ASH Program Manager at program.manager@unya.bc.ca *Posting will close when position is filled.* Only those shortlisted will be contacted.

***We are an **Indigenous** youth organization whose mandate is to provide meaningful opportunities for Indigenous youth. We encourage qualified Indigenous - First Nations, Metis, and Inuit, applicants to apply. If you identify as Indigenous, please let us know in your application! Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

UNYA acknowledges that we are gathered on the ancestral, traditional and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), sḵwəxwú7mesh (Squamish) and seilíwítlh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are honoured and grateful to be able to do our work on this land.