



Urban Native Youth Association

Training the Leaders of Tomorrow

Employment Opportunity Youth Care Counsellor – Young Bears Lodge

UNYA has an employment opportunity for full-time and relief Youth Care Counsellors with A&D knowledge at the Young Bears' Lodge. The successful candidates will be part of a team of Youth Care Counsellors who will be responsible for workshops, general housekeeping, meal preparation and supervision of 13 – 18 year old Native youth in a residential setting. The Aboriginal Care Counsellor at YBL works under the direct supervision of the

YBL Therapist Counsellor/Supervisor and the Executive Director of UNYA. This posting is specifically for day, evening and overnight shifts including holidays with rate of pay starting at \$16.00 per hour and up to \$17.00 for full-time employees.

Qualifications and Conditions:

1. Must have a Youth Worker Training Certificate and/or experience and knowledge in related field working with high-risk Aboriginal youth in a residential co-ed setting.
2. Must have a broad based knowledge of the family and social issues that Native youth face today, including the generational impacts of the residential school system on Native families and communities, and a good understanding of Aboriginal culture and traditions.
3. Must have a good working knowledge of youth resources in Vancouver, particularly Aboriginal programs and services.
4. Must possess experience and knowledge of working with youth in addiction within a Cultural residential setting.
5. Must have excellent mediation and supervisory skills. Counselling skills and experience with teaching youth life skills are assets.
6. Will have the ability to work independently as well as part of a team.
7. Must demonstrate the ability to identify with mandate, policies and procedures of the organization.
8. Must have good computer skills and have strong and clear written and oral communications skills – including the ability to compile accurate records and prepare reports.
9. Will have a proven personal support system and self-care plan in place and a minimum of 5 years of sobriety.
10. Must have a criminal record check completed by and satisfactory to UNYA.
11. Skills and attributes that may benefit your application are First Aid, Food Safe, familiar with medication dispensation. Class 4 or 5 Driver's licence or 10 years driving experience and general maintenance skills are also assets.
12. Given the needs of the youth accessing our services, preference will be given to qualified Aboriginal applicants.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Work in cooperation with others to identify, plan and implement and supervise activities to enhance the Young Bears' Lodge Program.
2. Maintain day-to-day operations of the Lodge, including traditional and non-traditional meal preparation, cleaning, preparing and facilitating workshops, field trips, and attending cultural ceremonies within the Lodge and community.
3. Supervise youth throughout the evening and conduct youth checks regularly.
4. Build and maintain a network of positive working relationships and partnerships with other service providers to ensure effective referrals and a good continuum of care for youth. As required, consult with youth, supervisor(s) and staff, and other relevant individuals to identify and respond to the needs and goals of individual youth.
5. Keep abreast of all current social concerns and street trends and as required attend professional development activities in order to remain informed regarding issues affecting street-involved youth.
6. Actively assist in the ongoing development and review of program components. Positively address all concerns, incidents or crises which affect program mandate, UNYA policy, personal issues, community relations, resident youth, etc.
7. Respect and maintain confidentiality of staff issues within the team, with the exception of the Therapist Counsellor/Supervisor and/or their direct supervisors. Respect and assure residents of confidentiality in the community and with other service professionals.
8. Positively contribute to regularly scheduled team and FUNYA meetings to inform ongoing evaluation and development of the program.
9. Consult with and report to immediate supervisor on an ongoing basis. Prepare and submit reports to supervisor, as required. Prepare, maintain and file accurate youth treatment care plans and logs, and compile statistical records to support program needs and inform ongoing program development and evaluation. Maintain telephone logs, input information into computer, and photocopy materials. As required, actively promote and participate in fundraising activities for program development.
10. Provide supervision of residents in their day-to-day living, including establishing a trusting, non-judgmental, non-exploitative rapport with youth. As required, perform any other duty that the Counsellor Therapist/Supervisor or Program Coordinator deems necessary to ensure the safe, healthy, and productive operation of the Young Bears' Lodge Program.

Please e-mail a cover letter (stating the position that you are applying for), a resume and contact information for (3) references, to the attention of Dixie Lee Vance, Therapist Counsellor/Supervisor youngbearsloodge@unya.bc.ca

Resumes will not be reviewed without a cover letter.

No enquiries. Only those short-listed will be contacted. **Closing date: 12pm on January 22, 2010**