

## JOB POSTING



**Position Title:** Harm Reduction COVID Nurse Practitioner  
**Reporting to:** Manager, Harm Reduction  
**Type:** Contract ending March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021  
**Salary:** \$58.13 to \$67.13 per hour  
**Positions:** 1 position - Full Time term  
possibility of additional part time or relief positions, also term  
all positions may require evening and weekend hours.  
**Deadline:** **Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 12:00 PM EST**

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### Position Description

The Nurse Practitioner provides a wide range of services including comprehensive triage, physical assessment, diagnosis and treatment as well as counseling, health promotion, and preventative care to clients with varied health, social, cultural and economic needs.

In the context of the pandemic, demand for Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) and safe supply (SS) has increased dramatically and additional NP resources are required to meet this need. We are also seeing episodic care needs increase for our Consumption and Treatment Services and OAT/SS clients because of the significant strain on the street involved population who uses drugs, resulting from both the overdose crisis, homelessness and the pandemic. As we experience the Second Wave of COVID we are committed to a strategy for street-involved persons that ensures sufficient care at the community level to decrease emergency department visits and acute care hospitalizations for the street involved population, to support the prevention of overwhelming the hospital system. Investing in NP care at the street level for this high risk population ensures that episodic care and COVID care management can be quickly attended to and managed at the point-of-care for street involved persons who use drugs, preventing hospitalizations. This work will include outreach and outbreak support for persons living in rooming houses as well.

This position will work as part of the COVID Rapid Response & Isolation Supports team, as well as collaborate with and support the work of the broader Harm Reduction Department and the Centre.

In this role, the Nurse Practitioner will be providing low barrier care to clients seeking COVID related care, episodic care, and OAT/SS as well as clinical mentorship, leadership and health teaching to the staff within the relevant services. It will also collaborate and share care with the Rooming House Outreach team in the areas of COVID monitoring, response, and outbreak/isolation supports, and with the OAT/SS and Consumption and Treatment Service teams in the realms of addiction medicine, providing timely and low barrier opioid agonist treatment, safe supply, comprehensive primary care and wrap around services to community members seeking addictions treatment and accompanying supports.

The ability to function independently, be self-directed and highly collaborative while working within a multi-disciplinary team is required for this position. Some evening, weekend coverage will be required. Somerset West works within an Anti-Racism and Anti-Opressive Framework. Please also note these positions will have the expectation that the Nurse Practitioner is ready and willing to begin prescribing controlled substances for the purposes of both traditional OAT and also as a safer supply option.

## **Requirements**

### **Education**

- MScN RN(EC)
- Registration in the Extended Class with the College of Nurses of Ontario
- Member of NPAO recommended
- Member of HRNA recommended
- Current CPR certification
- OTN certification recommended
- Recent certification in addictions medicine, suboxone therapy, methadone treatment or equivalent
- Knowledge of current safer supply programs and prescribing with preference being given to those with experience with safer supply and/or OAT prescribing

### **Professional Experience**

- Experience and passion working within harm reduction settings with individuals who have untreated and often complex mental health and substance use challenges
- Excellent assertive engagement skills and outreach skills
- Experience and comfort supervising the consumption of drugs both legal and illegal through various consumption methods
- Strong clinical skills and diagnostic abilities for people who use drugs and ability to adapt clinical approach and interventions to meet the needs of patients
- Previous experience working with culturally diverse and marginalized populations
- Experience and comfort working with people who are under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol as well as those who are in withdrawal from substances
- Demonstrated understanding of and commitment to the principles of harm reduction
- Demonstrated experience in program leadership and development
- Excellent interpersonal, written, and oral, communication skills when interacting with clients, staff, and community members
- Strong problem solving, planning, decision-making, leadership, organizational and change management skills
- Experience working in a fast paced, high stress environments and offering health care support in non-traditional locations
- Understanding of the Community Health Centre model of care and the principles of quality improvement
- Commitment to the principles of health equity and inclusion

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

- Lived experience of drug use and/or experience in advocacy for persons who use drugs considered assets
- Comfort and competency working with individuals who are COVID-symptomatic or COVID-positive
- Knowledge of harm reduction strategies, trauma-informed care, addiction medicine, and the social determinants of health as well as barriers to health care faced by people who use drugs
- Ability to find innovative ways to engage clients and a commitment to client retention for treatment refractory clients with complex behavioral challenges
- Experience and comfort working directly with individuals who actively using street drugs
- Knowledge of current drug trends in Ottawa
- Extensive overdose intervention and response knowledge and experience
- Superior knowledge of Opioid Agonist Treatment, including current and emerging practices

- Experience navigating access to OAT in Ottawa including key opportunities and barriers that clients face
- Knowledge of emerging, promising and best practices for people who use drugs
- Knowledge and awareness related to cultural competence
- In-depth knowledge of health assessments and interventions in the context of family medicine and addictions medicine
- Knowledge of the acts and legislation that govern practice: Nursing Act, Personal Health Information Protection Act, Protection for Persons in Care Act, Mental Health Act, Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS), Principles of routine practices (universal precautions), Child Protection Act
- Strong understanding of professional practice obligations and seek consult with regulatory college as required to support sound and ethical clinical practice
- Excellent communication skills and ability to adapt communication styles to meet the needs of clients, health team members and community partners
- Ability to work under pressure both independently and as part of a team
- Successful completion of Police record check for vulnerable populations

#### **Language Capability**

- English is required
- French or other language(s) are an asset

**If interested, please submit your letter of interest and résumé no later than **Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 12:00 PM EST** to: <https://swchc.bamboohr.com/jobs/view.php?id=290>**

*Somerset West works within an Anti-Racism and Anti- Oppressive Framework*

*If at any stage in the selection process you require special accommodation, please let us know the nature of the required accommodation.*

*Somerset West Community Health Centre is an equal opportunity employer who values the diversity of individuals in our programs and services.*

*Due to the high volume of applicants, we can neither confirm receipt of nor respond to inquiries regarding your application. Only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted.*