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ANISHNABEG OUTREACH

Supervisor – EarlyON Child and Family Centre

LOCATION: Kitchener

START DATE: June, 2018

We are looking for a leader who will help us build a brand new and innovative Indigenous child and family drop-in centre (OEYCFC). We will be building everything from the ground up (including the building, processes and programming). The right candidate will be passionate, experienced and knowledgeable about early years centre operations. Indigenous and cultural knowledge with experience is an asset. You should bring a diversity and inclusive mindset.

EarlyON Child and Family Centres support all children, parents and caregivers in learning, growing and connecting – together. This aligns with Ontario’s renewed vision for early years child care centres, where all children and families have access to a range of high-quality, inclusive and affordable programs and services centered around children and families, and contribute to children’s learning, development and well-being.

Our Indigenous focused OEYCFC uses the current ministry framework outlined in Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (Ministry of Education, 2018). The Centre’s programs are focused on meeting the needs of the diverse Indigenous population living in the Region of Waterloo by integrating Indigenous perspectives throughout our curriculum using culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy (CRRP). We believe that children thrive in programs where they and their families are valued as active participants and contributors. While our OEYCFC will be open to all, we will focus on offering Indigenous and culturally specific spirit building programming.

Our CRRP philosophy and programs support Indigenous children, and families, to see themselves reflected in their social spaces, learning activities, and play opportunities. We are inclusive and recognize the diversity within and amongst the First Peoples who call Waterloo region home. We use several models to inform our centre’s programs including the *How Does Learning Happen framework* along with First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Holistic Lifelong Learning Models emphasizing collaboration with Elders and Knowledge Keepers from the main cultural groups in the area. Our values are tied to the land, family and community.

We are committed to an asset model that builds spirit rather than focusing on deficiency in our systems. Our core services will include all programs traditionally found in OEYCFC. Our Indigenous programming includes, but is not limited to language and associated cultural teachings/practices with possibilities for cultural emersion, land-based learning, and positive interaction between all of our generations. We focus on a synthesized approach to science, technology, and the arts emphasizing culturally relevant and responsive settings, approaches, and outcomes.

Anishnabeg Outreach is a large and rapidly expanding Indigenous non-profit and charity organization. We have employment offices in Guelph and Kitchener. We are dedicated to the enrichment of our Indigenous community through the development of several partnerships. Through our work, we foster belonging and spirit building, and dedicate ourselves to building a healthy and vibrant Indigenous community every day. We know EarlyON Child and Family Centres are an important piece of this work. That's where you come in.

What you will do...

You will lead a team in providing welcoming and inclusive environments where all children and families have access to high-quality programs and services influencing positive child, family and community experiences and outcomes.

You will ensure EarlyON Child and Family Centres provide environments that engage parents and caregivers in conversations and experiences, share information about child development, parenting, nutrition, play and inquiry based learning, and other topics that support them in their role as their children's first teacher.

You will support Early Learning and Development by ensuring the delivery of high-quality experiences that build responsive adult-child relationships and encourage children's exploration, play and inquiry, supported by *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years*.

You will be part of a team that develops unique and culturally appropriate Indigenous early years programming for our Indigenous children and families.

You will lead a team that is responsive to parents and caregiver's questions or concerns about child development, uses validated tools and resources, and links to specialized services; making connections for families during and beyond the early years.

You will lead your team by providing effective supervision and support and providing development and coaching opportunities, which increase their knowledge, skills and confidence.

You will manage administrative responsibilities including staff and volunteer records, financial accountabilities and data collection requirements.

What you will bring...

Ideally, you are a Registered Early Childhood Educator (RECE) with 2-3 years of supervisory experience in a child and family setting. You have great knowledge and expertise in child development and play and inquiry based learning. You have experience leading a team in creating environments that nurture relationships for children, parents and caregivers based on the latest evidence and research.

You have a demonstrated knowledge of *How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years* and experience supervising a team in delivering high-quality early years programs. Relationship building, communication, coaching and development, and problem solving are key competencies you rely on in your day to day work.

You will have experience planning and managing the operations of an early year centre and all reporting related to the operations.

Indigenous cultural knowledge and teachings would be an asset but not required but you should have a passion for diversity and inclusion.

What you will gain...

You will play a foundational role in developing our EarlyON team and building our Indigenous EarlyON centre from the ground up in a community where Indigenous families feel that they belong and are valuable contributors to their children's learning; influencing positive outcomes for Indigenous children and their families in the early years and beyond.

Overall, you'll join a dynamic team and a local growing Indigenous organization that has transformative impact across our Indigenous community. Your work will have a lasting influence in the community we all call home will be a little better every day because of you.

This is a full time position based on a 40 hour work week. Some evenings and Saturdays may be required.

Join our team and make a difference in the life of Indigenous families in Waterloo Region, send your resume and cover letter by June 15, 2018 at 4 pm to Stephen Jackson, Executive Director – stephen@aocan.org.