

Job Posting

Aboriginal Student Coordinator (Part-time)

Ryerson University Midwifery Education Program

Applications accepted until 11:59 pm on August 21, 2019

Reports to

Director, Midwifery Education Program

Summary

The Aboriginal Student Coordinator (ASC) provides a combination of student support and advising as well as facilitation of community engagement activities and initiatives for the Midwifery Education Program.

Responsibilities

Provide enhanced support to Indigenous students in the MEP.

- Proactively engages students who self-identify as Aboriginal
- Offers academic advising, personal support, traditional support
- Creates academic support plans for individual students: i.e. coordination with Aboriginal learning support facilitator, Aboriginal Academic Support Advisor and the Traditional Counselor.
- Helps Aboriginal students to create connections within the university and furthers their opportunities for participation and success in academic life
- Helps with referrals and connections both within the university and in the broader Aboriginal community to support student retention and success

Support and mentor members of the Aboriginal community to enter the health professions, including Midwifery.

- Works to develop an Aboriginal community outreach/recruitment program
- Contributes to outreach and communications projects, both inside and outside the University
- Provides support to Aboriginal applicants and prospective Aboriginal applicants
- Provides input to the Aboriginal Admissions Process.

Strengthen and formalize the MEP's partnerships with Aboriginal communities and organizations.

- Enhances current relationships which include Ryerson Aboriginal Student Services (RASS), Seventh Generation Midwives Toronto (SGMT), Toronto Birth Centre (TBC) and the Ryerson University Aboriginal Education Council (AEC).
- Forges relationships with Indigenous communities

- Participates in relationship-building with Indigenous programs and services in other areas of the University
- Builds community relations, including bringing cultural or community experts to the University

Foster a culturally secure learning environment for Aboriginal students in the MEP.

- Strengthens program capacity to more consistently and skillfully meet the needs of Aboriginal students
- Participates in ongoing education and training of faculty, staff, clinical preceptors and tutors to respectfully engage in Indigenous issues in a manner which is inclusive and respectful of Indigenous content which seeks to meet the learning needs of Indigenous students.
- Provides Indigenous knowledge support to the faculty including relevant resources and teaching strategies

Advance opportunities for Aboriginal graduates of the MEP to work in diverse contexts.

- Fosters sustained relationships between the MEP and Aboriginal midwives
- Builds capacity within Aboriginal communities to support the shared goal of the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives, the Canadian Association of Midwives and the Society of Obstetricians and Gynecologists of Canada, to bring birth “closer to home” for all birthing women

The ASC is responsible for administrative work related to this role. In addition, the ASC may also work on special projects from time to time as assigned by the Director.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will:

- be an Aboriginal midwife (registered or practicing under the exemption clause).
- be currently in midwifery practice, with experience working with Aboriginal communities
- have extensive, in-depth knowledge of cultural protocols, history and cultural values of Aboriginal Peoples of Turtle Island
- have experience in an academic environment including an understanding of Indigenous student experiences in secondary and post-secondary education.

Additional assets would include:

- an understanding of the principles of adult education
- completion of (or being in the process of completing) a Master’s degree in a related field

Application Process

Please send your CV and a letter expressing your interest in taking on this role via email to both:

1. Mary Sharpe, Acting Director and Associate Professor msharpe@ryerson.ca
2. Mindy Harris, Program Manager mindy.harris@ryerson.ca