

Clinical Midwifery Liaison - North Zone

Status: Contract

City/Town: Grande Prairie and Area

Location: Grande Prairie and Area

Organization: Provincial Midwifery Administrative Office- Alberta Health Services

Date Posted: July 30, 2018

Date Closed: ~~August 10, 2018~~ **September 10, 2018**

Position Starts: September 2018 - March 31, 2019 with the possibility for an extension
Hours of Work: Full-time Equivalent

Financial Compensation: Negotiable/ will be equitable to full-time midwifery monthly income. Will also be dependent on the successful candidate's skills, training and Phase One and Two of the Accountabilities and Deliverables.

SUMMARY

Alberta Health Services (AHS) is committed to providing services based on the population needs of Alberta and promoting a shared responsibility for improved health.

More and more Albertans are turning to midwifery as a preferred option for maternal and newborn care.

The AHS Midwifery Clinical Workforce Plan's purpose is to align the needs and priorities for midwifery services with the growing workforce of midwives to ensure that families have access to maternity care across Alberta while being mindful of funding considerations.

The North Zone reflects opportunities for growth in midwifery services. Growth into regional centres in the North Zone supports the Midwifery Clinical Workforce Plan and the two step process for facilitating growth. The aim of this process is to guide expansion of additional midwifery services into rural areas.

The AHS Midwifery Clinical Workforce Plan has identified establishing Midwifery services in Grande Prairie as a priority action.

The Clinical Midwifery Liaison shall provide clinical guidance and leadership to helping to support the growth of midwifery services in the North Zone including establishing protocols and guidelines at hospitals, assisting in setting up a sustainable midwifery practice in Grande Prairie and Area and using the establishment of this practice to setting up midwifery practices in other

North Zone regional centres. In addition the Clinical Midwifery Liaison may provide direct midwifery care to families in the geographic area of the North Zone.

It is acceptable and preferred for the Clinical Midwifery Liaison to be the individual who sets up the new midwifery practice in Grande Prairie.

GOAL

The goal of this position is to have a midwife establish relationships and services in Grande Prairie for the intake of clients beginning April 1, 2019.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Reporting to the Director of Provincial Midwifery Services and working closely and collaboratively with the Clinical Midwifery Director- North/ Edmonton/ Central Zone, the successful candidate:

- will have a comprehensive knowledge of Midwifery Services in Alberta
- will work collaboratively within all elements of the role
- will be able to communicate effectively and work collaboratively with members of clinical and operational women's health team at Queen Elizabeth II hospital, the Provincial Midwifery Administrative Office and North Zone Clinical Midwifery Director
- help facilitate the relationship between midwifery staff and AHS drawing upon both midwifery experience and perspective and incorporating AHS Values
- provide strong leadership skills to establish midwifery services within the geographical boundaries of the North Zone, specifically Grande Prairie
- must have effective time management capabilities to support the coordination and flexibility of changing and varied schedules in a variety of settings, including multiple community settings as well as working within AHS facilities
- is willing to take initiative and enjoys working independently with minimal direction
- is positive about moving Midwifery services forward in Alberta

ACCOUNTABILITIES/DELIVERABLES

PHASE ONE and Ongoing

- Accountability for all local area midwifery-related matters, as well as all operational and strategic issues and decisions requiring midwifery input or leadership that arise within the Zone.
- Ensuring clinical operational coordination across the zone and the development and implementation of AHS strategies in consultation with the AHS Clinical Midwifery Director and the Provincial Midwifery Administrative Office.
- Advancing the perspective, advice and resource requirements of the midwifery staff within AHS.

- Advocating for the provision of high quality and safe Patient care within AHS.
- Collaborating with medical staff and the medical administrative committees to ensure high quality and safe patient care, and coordinated service delivery within all facilities and communities served.

PHASE TWO

- Establish or help to establish a Midwifery Practice in Grande Prairie that can be functional by April 1 2019
 - There is a commitment from AHS to make available funding for eighty (80) CoC for the 2019/2020 fiscal year for this practice.
 - Midwives providing care for the Practice must have a minimum 2 years' experience practicing as a midwife
 - Midwives must be in good standing with the College of Midwives of Alberta or appropriate and applicable Midwifery College
 - Midwives must have an AHS Midwifery Staff Appointment and appropriate Privileges prior to the opening of the Practice
 - Practice will be physically located in the community of Grande Prairie
 - Practice will require a minimum of 2 midwives to meet the community needs
- Regular reporting to the Provincial Midwifery Administrative Office.
- Performing other duties as may be delegated by the Provincial Midwifery Administrative Office.
- Opportunities may be available for future growth potential for the Midwifery Practice as Midwifery Services expand in the North Zone

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Grande Prairie is located in the North Zone of Alberta. The North Zone is geographically the largest zone in AHS.
Quick Facts about the North Zone
 - Population: 474,000
 - Life Expectancy: 79.8 years
 - Hospitals: 34
 - Size: 448,500 km². It's bigger than the three Maritime Provinces combined.
(from Quick Facts about the North Zone (2014), ahs.ca)
- The City of Grande Prairie
 - is a vibrant burgeoning regional centre providing shopping and services for residents of Northwestern Alberta and North eastern B.C.
 - has a population of 63,166.
 - has as a trade area population of 281,425.
(from <http://www.cityofgp.com/index.aspx?page=756>)

- The Queen Elizabeth II Hospital
 - is a 161 bed facility with Labour and Delivery services that encompass labour and delivery triage, care for pregnant women starting at 20weeks gestation up to and including labour and delivery via C-section or vaginal delivery. This includes care for pregnant women who may have high risk pregnancies and or require hospitalization during pregnancy.
 - has a neonatal intensive care unit and a pediatrics unit.
- As a regional hospital facility the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital serves a population catchment area of 350,000.
- In the 2016/2017 fiscal year the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital had the highest deliveries in the North Zone of 1,885. Of these deliveries 1,128 deliveries were by people living in the Grande Prairie Area.
- There are currently no Midwifery Services in the Grande Prairie Area
- Midwifery privileges will need to be obtained for the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital
- The new regional hospital in Grande Prairie
 - Construction of the new Grande Prairie Regional Hospital is expected to be complete in 2019. AHS will require time after that for commissioning.
 - The new 64,000 m2 Grande Prairie Regional Hospital will provide a wide-range of healthcare services, including surgery, cancer care and emergency services. This includes;
 - Obstetrics – space for an anticipated 2,150 annual births in the region by 2025
 - The new hospital in Grande Prairie will function as a regional referral centre, providing health services to northwestern Alberta residents

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

There is active community interest and support for implementing midwifery services and opening a midwifery practice in Grande Prairie.

Birth Matters for Peace Parents (BMPP) is a grassroots group of parents and invested citizens from the Peace Region who meet regularly to connect women and their families to local information, resources and maternity care options.

BMPP has member(s) that are excited to support the successful candidate within the community. Having a point of contact may make it easier to enjoy everything the Peace region has to offer and it turns the "great unknown" into a fun, exciting and rewarding experience.

BMPP has member(s) that are ready to support the successful candidate, and they have a network of support to draw upon, to help the successful candidate with everything from locating and selecting a suitable clinic space to finding contacts for personal hobbies and interests. This network covers a range of individuals from the community including doulas, breastfeeding specialists, chiropractors, city councilors, nurses, fellow consumers and

previous midwives who are also eager to support the successful candidate however possible.

The PMAO is happy to facilitate the connection with BMPP to those interested in applying for the Clinical Midwifery Liaison - North Zone position.

REQUIREMENTS

This role requires applicant to have current active College of Midwives of Alberta Registration and appropriate liability insurance. The successful candidate will be a member of the Midwifery Staff as per an Appointment and Privileges with Alberta Health Services and practicing in the province of Alberta for a minimum of five years.

Experience in other Canadian jurisdictions may be considered.

This role requires:

- a physical presence within Grande Prairie from August 2018- March 31 2019.
- valid driver's license and access to own vehicle as travel may be required

Preferred

- Experience providing midwifery services in a rural environment
- Experience in small business/ midwifery start-up or demonstrate who/ how business mentorship will be provided
- Project management skills

To apply: Please email your resume directly to Danica Sharp at Danica.sharp@ahs.ca