



Employment Opportunity for a Full-time Nurse Practitioner

Position: Nurse Practitioner

Location: Victoria Health Co-operative, Victoria, BC

The Victoria Health Co-operative (VHC) is a not-for-profit co-op operating in accordance with the International Co-op Alliance's Definition, Values and Principles and adhering to the objectives of Community Health Centres. The VHC is unique; rather than having a physical location, we provide our services through the facilities of several collaborative organizations. We are delighted to be initiating a new Nurse Practitioner (NP) program. The locations for the NP services will include the Cook Street Village Seniors Activity Centre, Centennial United Church, Our Place Society and the Amica residence at 50 Douglas St. The goal of this project is to serve individuals who currently rely on walk-in clinics, the ER or, frequently, just forego getting the advice or treatment they need. In compliance with the Canada Health Act, membership in the Co-op will not be a requirement for access to the NP program.

We wish to provide a satisfying and enjoyable work environment and work-life balance for our NP and other staff. As this position is new and unique to the Co-op, we will work with the incoming NP to further determine the logistics of the position.

The Nurse Practitioner will provide reliable, continuing Primary Health Services as part of an interdisciplinary community health care / medical program aimed to:

- Improve health outcomes for patients
- Reduce exacerbations of chronic medical conditions
- Reduce ER visits and hospital admissions
- Encourage patients understanding and confidence in enhancing and maintaining their own well-being
- Strengthen our existing community wellness outreach programs

The NP is a co-leader in creating a new and innovative approach to co-operative health care. This will include working with, and support by, leaders of the VHC and Creating Community Wellness Society (CCWS) to:

- Design work schedule
- Guide office set up including technology
- Attach a full roster of patients
- Establish relationships for referrals
- Develop an impact assessment program and regular reports
- Co-select administrative and/or clinical personnel as required
- Consult with team members, including our Wellness Practitioners and our leaders in Health and Wellness education, to develop and deliver health services and education programs in our community.

Currently we anticipate a one-year contract with potential for renewal.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Perform comprehensive health assessments using sound clinical, judgment, diagnostic and therapeutic skills.
- Practice autonomously, and is solely accountable for his/her actions while practicing.
- Consult with physicians or other health care professionals when the client's condition requires care beyond the scope of NP practice.
- Make appropriate medical employment limitation recommendations in accordance with the Surgeon General's guidelines.

- Prescribe medications and orders x-rays, ultrasounds, and lab tests in accordance with the Standards of Practice for Nurse Practitioner scope.
- Implement strategies to promote health and prevent illness with individuals, families or groups.
- Collaborate on the management of members with stable chronic illnesses (such as diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia and asthma) through a predetermined referral process.
- Refer patients to other providers or programs according to the patient's needs.
- Assume responsibility and accountability for own professional development, educational or consultative assistance when appropriate.

Education, Training and Experience Requirements:

- Current registration as a Nurse Practitioner with the British Columbia College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP).
- Successful completion of the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) required.
- Recent, relevant clinical nursing experience is preferred.
- CPR/AED Level C certificate.
- Hold a valid BC Driver's License.

Skills and Abilities:

- Ability to apply outstanding leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills as an effective team member.
- Ability to perform the full scope of NP duties and responsibilities, responsible and accountable for the comprehensive assessment of patients and clients including diagnosing diseases, disorders and conditions, initiating treatment including health care management, therapeutic interventions and prescribing medications in accordance with the statutory and regulatory standards, limits and conditions, and employer policies and procedures.
- Ability to communicate and collaborate with clients and families about health findings, diagnosis, treatment, self-care and prognosis and to encourage patient understanding and self-directed care planning, and support patient – centered, comprehensive, holistic, and culturally safe care. primary care.
- Ability to collaborate, consult and formally refer patients to other health professionals when appropriate.
- Ability to self-direct, interact and adapt effectively with other professionals in complex, dynamic situations.
- Ability to identify and respond appropriately to legal and ethical issues that may arise in patient care.
- Ability to collaborate with clients and other health professionals to identify and assess trends and patterns that have implications for clients, families and communities; develops and implements population and evidence-based strategies to improve health and participate in policy-making and quality improvement activities that influence health services and practices.
- Ability to transfer knowledge, teach, coach and mentor others and to plan, implement and evaluate program change.
- Ability to self-assess performance, participate in peer, program and self-review to evaluate the outcome of services at the client, community and population level, and to plan, implement and evaluate program change.
- Physical ability to carry out the duties of this position

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