

**Early Childhood Development – Early Childhood Teacher
FULL TIME POSITION
Job Description**

EXTERNAL POSTING

Posted Date: Tuesday September 26, 2017

Closing Date: Friday October 27, 2017

**Submit Resume + Cover Letter to the Office of the Wet'suwet'en
or electronically to**

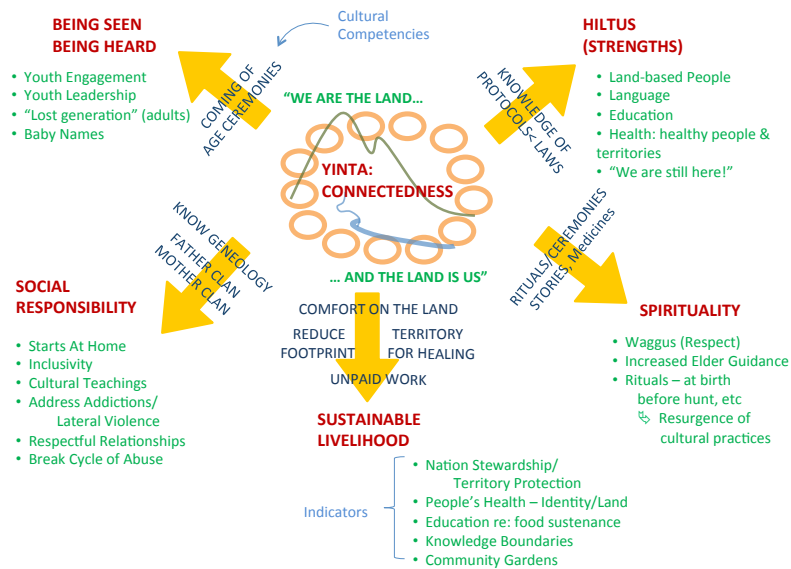
Tara McKinnon: tmckinnon@wetsuweten.com

Program Summary: The Wet'suwet'en Early Childhood Development Program is funded by MCFD to provide services to children and families living in Smithers, BC. This program is designed to provide high quality early childhood development grounded in a distinctly Wet'suwet'en way of being and knowing. Our Hereditary Chiefs' goal is to support the best possible start for their youngest members. Being grounded in a strong sense of cultural identity is the foundation upon which all early childhood development activities take place. The Early Childhood Development program is a practice application of the Wet'suwet'en Wellness Working Group, which has developed the Wet'suwet'en Holistic Wellness Conceptual Framework (see below). While the Early Childhood Development Program centers on Wet'suwet'en cultural practices, children and families from all cultural backgrounds are most welcome to participate.

Position Summary: By utilizing the Wet'suwet'en holistic wellness conceptual framework, the ECD Early Childhood Teacher is responsible for providing pre-school children with experiences and opportunities that allow for the development of curiosity, initiative, problem-solving, and creativity, as well as a sense of self, cultural identity, and a feeling of belonging to a group.

Reporting Relationships: The Early Childhood Teacher reports directly to the Early Childhood Coordinator.

Wet'suwet'en Holistic Wellness Conceptual Framework



PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES: By utilizing the Wet'suwet'en holistic wellness conceptual framework, the ECD Early Childhood Teacher is responsible for:

- Maintaining an open, friendly and cooperative relationship with each child and each child's family;
- Encouraging parental involvement in the program;
- Promoting parent-child bonding and nurturing the parent-child relationship;
- Communicating openly with parents and accommodating their instructions for daily routines wherever possible within group routines;
- Promoting feelings of security and trust in children in your care;
- Providing a learning environment for children that is culturally-grounded, warm, supporting, and comforting;
- Establishing strong and caring relationships with the children in your care;
- Conducting Wet'suwet'en wellness assessments in order to determine developmental needs and interests for children from a cultural perspective;
- Conducting developmental screenings of children's motor, language, social, cognitive, perceptual, and emotional skills;
- Planning and implementing a culturally and developmentally appropriate development plan for each child, taking care to include parents in the planning process;
- Alongside the Family Support Worker, working with parents to increase their understanding of child development, including but not limited to cultural development, developmental stages, developmental appropriateness, and early literacy of their children;

- Utilizing the Wet'suwet'en Wellness Conceptual framework, designing and implementing indoor and outdoor learning environments that engage the total development of each child;
- Collaborating with School District staff to provide culturally-relevant transition programming to successfully transition early learners to the school system (kindergarten readiness activities);
- Providing positive guidelines such as redirecting, positive language, and positive reinforcement to address challenging behaviours and encourage pro-social behaviours;
- Following the ECD procedures for administering medications, promoting health (establishing good hygiene routines) and maintaining health records;
- Reporting all accidents, injuries and illnesses to the Coordinator or delegate and record such incidents in the daily log book;
- Attending to children's physical needs for toileting, eating and sleeping as promptly as possible;
- Making referrals or additional services for parents and children on an as-needed basis;
- Providing feedback regarding child and family progress through written records, staff meetings, and case reviews;
- Completing documentation and maintaining up-to-date child files;
- Conducting daily safety inspections of the classroom and outdoor learning environments;
- Attending regularly scheduled staff meetings and staff training opportunities;
- Communicating effectively with others, including giving and receiving feedback;
- Cooperating successfully as a member of a team;
- Participating in the self-assessment and on-going monitoring of program services to ensure highest quality possible;
- Engaging in required health and safety procedures to reduce the spread of infections and ensure the health and safety of children, parents, and staff.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge & Experience:

1. **Wet'suwet'en Cultural Education:** Demonstration of cultural knowledge of the governance system, language, cultural protocols for caring for children/youth, and food harvesting experience. The successful applicant must be an active participant in the Feast Hall and demonstrate a commitment to life-long cultural learning.
2. **Western Education:** Early Childhood Development Diploma or ECD Certificate and evidence of working towards completion of the ECD Diploma within a reasonable timeframe.

Skills & Abilities: The successful candidate enjoys working in a team environment and is able to set healthy boundaries, take calculated risks, engage in reflective practice, take personal responsibility for wellness, and promote/support the wellness of the ECD team. Further, the successful candidate has a demonstrated ability to put child development theory into practice. Clear criminal record check, valid driver's license, statement of good health from personal physician, CPR and First Aid are required.

Personal Qualities: Empathic, resourceful, flexible, team player, accountable, creative, innovative, and a positive role model in community regarding Wet'suwet'en wellness.

Please submit application letter and resume to:

Tara McKinnon, ECD Coordinator, Office of the Wet'suwet'en

tmckinnon@wetsuweten.com