



Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services

Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services is currently in the designation process to become a fully mandated Child Well-Being Agency to provide Prevention and Protection Services. We serve the communities of Wahnapiatae, Dokis, Henvey, Magnetawan, Shawanaga, and Wausauksing First Nations.

LAWYER COUNSEL PERMANENT FULL-TIME

Reporting to the Director of Services, the Lawyer Counsel is responsible for assisting staff with attempting to resolve matters out of court, preparing for court and representing the Agency in all matters prescribed with the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, the Youth Criminal Justice Act, the Criminal Code, the Children's Law Reform Act, the Family Law Rules, the Rules of Civil Procedure and any other relevant legislation.

Legal Consultation:

Provide legal consultation and training to Agency staff in execution of its mandate under the Child, Youth and Family Services Act.

- Support the provision of services and case management practices that incorporate the enhancement and development of a positive cultural identity of the children, families and communities served
- Participate in case conferencing and decision making where appropriate on case management issues
- Provide legal advice and services to Agency staff on the interpretation and application of the CYFSA and other legislation pertaining to child welfare or family law

Court Related Activities:

Provide advice and representation for Agency staff at all levels of courts and tribunals.

- Prepare cases for presentation in court by coordinating the gathering of all information and evidence
- Draft and/or review pleadings, affidavits, briefs and all court related documents
- Represent the Agency in all levels of the courts and tribunals in relation to the Child, Youth and Family Services Act, Children's Law Reform Act, Family Law Act and other statutes in both contested and uncontested matters including adjournments, contested motions, motions for summary judgment, hearings, conferences, motions for disclosure, trials and appeals

Relationship and Team Building:

Foster a collaborative and cooperative relationship between Agency staff and community members potentially involved within the court system.

- Provide legal consultation with staff regarding case planning, abuse registration and/or adoption related issues
- Demonstrate an understanding of the challenges in balancing transparency and confidentiality in communications with the public or the media about Agency operations, issues or individual cases

Qualifications

Minimum Education & Experience

- Bachelor of Laws/J.D. Degree from an accredited university
- Membership in good standing with the Law Society of Upper Canada
- Two (2) years' experience representing children, parents, or a Children's Aid Society in Child and Family Service Act proceedings
- Experience and expertise in Ontario child welfare matters

Knowledge Requirements

- Knowledge of Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services programs and services
- Respect for, sensitivity towards as well as knowledge and understanding of Anishnawbek culture, traditions and the Seven Grandfather Teachings
- Superior knowledge of relevant legislative framework and polices reflecting current child welfare practice
- Expert knowledge, understanding of and ability to translate relevant legislation into Agency based language

Other Requirements

- Must provide a clear Police Records Check – Vulnerable Sector
- Must provide a Class 'G' Ontario Driver's Licence
- Must have \$1M auto insurance liability coverage
- Must provide an acceptable three-year uncertified Driver's Abstract

Work Site Location:

- Parry Sound

Niijaansinaanik is committed to providing a barrier-free work environment in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code. Accommodations are available upon request for candidates taking part in the recruitment process. Please submit your resume and cover letter along with three work related references to:

Bonnie Reid, Director of Human Resources
Niijaansinaanik Child and Family Services
940A Main Street, Dokis First Nation, ON P0M 2N1
Email to: careers@nijcfs.com or fax to (705) 223-7439

Application deadline is: **This position will remain posted until filled**

Preference will be given to applicants of Native ancestry, please self-identify.

We thank all those applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

For a more detailed job description, please contact
Human Resources at careers@nijcfs.com
or call (705)923-8400