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**Regional Audiologist**

**Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority – Beaufort Delta Region**

**Inuvik, NT**

**Term Position**
This job opening is for a One Year Term with the possibility of an extension.

**Department Information**
The NTHSSA (Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority) is the single provider of all health and social services in the Northwest Territories (NWT), with the exception of Hay River and Tlicho regions, covering 1.2 million square kilometers and serving approximately 43,000 people, including First Nations, Inuit, Metis, and non-aboriginals. Health and social services includes the full range of primary, secondary and tertiary health services and social services including family services, protection services, care placements, mental health, addictions, and development activities, delivered by more than 1,400 health and social services staff.

**Job Information**
This position is located in the Inuvik Regional Hospital, which is a 51 bed, accredited facility serving the town of Inuvik and 12 outlying communities serviced by the NTHSSA. The NTHSSA provides and supports the delivery of health care services to adults and children on an inpatient, outpatient and outreach basis in order to enhance healthy communities and well-being through excellence, accountability and respect for regional diversity.

Reporting directly to the Rehabilitation Supervisor/Physiotherapist, the incumbent independently provides diagnostic, intervention, preventative, educational, counselling and referral services to in and out-patients, ranging from pediatric to geriatric, that suffer from hearing difficulties. The Audiologist is part of the Rehabilitation Services Department which consists of 2 Physiotherapists, 3 Occupational Therapists, 3 Speech Language Pathologists, an Audiologist, 2 Rehabilitation Assistants, 2 Program Assistants and a Child Development Coordinator.

Patients of the Audiology Department may access services directly or may be referred by physicians, public health nurses, teachers, parents, social workers, etc. The Audiologist provides direct care (i.e. assessment, diagnosis, intervention, etc.), monitors the delivery of treatment delegated to the client, family and /or school staff and acts as an educational resource to clients, family, school staff, other health care professions, etc. in various locations that include but are not limited to; the hospital, community health centers, the workplace, schools, etc.

The incumbent will design and implement (deliver directly or monitor the delivery of) programs, research, educational material and deliver workshops on topics related to hearing difficulties. Unlike Audiologists in southern institutions the incumbent must have advanced knowledge in all areas of audiology as opposed to a specialization in one area.

The Audiologist works with patients of all ages who have hearing disorders. Services are provided to people who are deaf or hard of hearing and persons at risk of hearing loss due to the noise exposure, genetic causes, and exposure to certain drugs, or middle ear infections or other identified risk factor. The audiologists manage the Infant Hearing Program in the NWT by overseeing screening through diagnostic evaluation to fitting of devices where necessary. The audiologist will work closely with speech language pathologists and other professions for rehabilitation of hearing impaired children. The audiologist is a member of the Child Development Team and will participate in meetings/co-ordination of care where appropriate. Audiologists will assess the extent of hearing loss, balance and related disorders and recommend and/or prescribe intervention (i.e., hearing aids).

Types of care delivered to the patient may include but not be limited to: hearing aid prescription and fitting, troubleshooting and maintaining hearing aids, designing and implementing rehabilitation strategies, consultation regarding noise exposure, etc. The focus of the intervention is to maximize and maintain the patient's ability to communicate effectively in home, school, social or professional settings as well as to improve quality of life. Some of the incumbent's patients have communication disorders and therefore may not be able to request assistance, or communicate needs when required.

The Audiologist evaluates the patient's need based on presenting impairment, disability and handicap. The Audiologist prescribes an intervention that meets the specific needs of the patient, keeping in mind evidence-based information, relevant best practice and clinical expertise. The intervention will contain by not limited to; identifying other necessary resources (both human and material) and educational needs (i.e., alternative communication) and cost effective intervention strategies. The incumbent may recommend further diagnostic investigation (i.e., may suspect autism) or cross referral to other health care providers (i.e., ENT Specialists, pediatricians, social workers, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, etc.).

The incumbent educates the patient, family/caregivers, school staff and the health care team involved in the health care plan on the nature of the diagnosis, purpose of the interventions and self-management strategies. The Audiologist also links the patient and family with appropriate community resources.

As an Audiologist within the Inuvik Regional Hospital, the incumbent also provides functional expertise and direction to other health care providers on the delivery of audiologist’s intervention to clients.

**Typically, the above qualifications would be attained by:**

The level of knowledge is typically acquired through the successful completion of a Master's Degree in Audiology. Candidates must have a minimum of 2-year’s work experience.

**Registrations**
The incumbent must maintain their certification as a member of Speech-Language and Audiology Canada.

For more information on health and social services careers and practicing in the Northwest Territories please visit www.practicenorth.ca.

**Immunization Status**
The successful candidate will be required to obtain proof of current up-to-date immunization status.

**Equivalencies**
Equivalent combinations of education and experience will be considered.

**Salary Information**
Salary for this position is currently Under Review.

**Eligibility**
Eligibility lists may be created from this competition to fill future term and indeterminate positions.

**Criminal Records Check**
Candidates must provide a satisfactory criminal record check. Failure to provide a satisfactory check may deem you disqualified from the competition.

**Affirmative Action**
Candidates must clearly identify their eligibility in order to receive priority consideration under the Affirmative Action Policy.

**Diversity and Inclusion**
The Government of the Northwest Territories is an inclusive workplace.  If you have a disability and you require support during the hiring process, you are encouraged to identify your needs if you are contacted for an assignment or interview so that you may be accommodated during the hiring process.

**Job Opening Information**

Job Opening ID #: 15731

Closing Date: **Open Until Filled**

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