



**Minwaashin Lodge**  
Indigenous Women's Support Centre  
2323 St. Laurent Blvd  
Ottawa, ON K1G 4J8  
[www.minlodge.com](http://www.minlodge.com)

**Job Posting**  
**Traditional Counsellor / Healer**  
**Full-time Contract (female)**

(Relying on Provisions of Section 23 of the Ontario Human Rights Code)

Position reports to: Manager, Counselling Services  
Location: 2323 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, Ontario  
Work Conditions: Located in an office setting; low risk environment.  
Start Date: Immediately  
Salary: \$50,000.  
Benefits: Attractive and comprehensive benefits package including an employee pension plan

**Summary**

Reporting to the Manager of Counselling Services, the Traditional Healer will provide culturally based supportive counselling and healing to Indigenous women and their families who are fleeing violence. The Traditional Healer will have practical knowledge of traditional healing practices, specific to their nation, as well as the historic and ongoing impacts of colonialism on the health and wellness on First Nations, Metis and Inuit people.

**Responsibilities**

- Provide culturally based, traditional counselling for women and their families, both on site and in the community.
- Facilitate healing ceremonies to facilitate processing of trauma, grief, loss and other difficult experiences, as well as to support cultural reclamation.
- Refer clients to other service providers as appropriate to support their holistic wellness, ensuring needs relating to safe housing, food security and income security are met.
- Create and foster a safe and supportive environment for women and their families through awareness of trauma informed and strength-based practices.
- Collaborate with other members of the counselling team to create and execute client treatment plans.

- Work in partnership with Indigenous and non-Indigenous agencies in the Ottawa area to support client advocacy, case management and systems navigation.
- Maintain accurate statistics and progress notes.
- Ensure client confidentiality is respected and upheld to create a safe and supportive therapeutic environment.
- Other duties as assigned by the Manager of Counselling Services, including participation in Minwaashin events.

### **Qualifications**

- Demonstrated recognition as a traditional healer by the community with ability to identify teachers and mentors.
- Five years of experience working as a traditional healer/counsellor.
- Ability to facilitate traditional ceremonies and workshops on crafting, language and other cultural knowledge/skills to support healing through cultural empowerment.
- Knowledge of and experience with mainstream and Indigenous approaches to harm reduction.
- Demonstrated understanding of and experience with a variety of counselling techniques, as well as group facilitation.
- Knowledgeable of the Indigenous and non-Indigenous service system of Ottawa.
- Excellent knowledge of the intergenerational impacts of Residential Schools and the 60s Scoop, with specific emphasis on the relationship between these systems and contemporary mental health challenges in community.
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively as part of a team and collaborate with workers from a variety of agencies.
- Excellent understanding of the need for confidentiality involving clients and other employees.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, as well as the ability to complete and maintain monthly statistics.
- Ability to speak an Indigenous language is an asset.
- Excellent problem-solving, organizational and time management skills.
- Proven ability to work independently with strong sense of focus and a clear sense of professional boundaries.

### **Employer Specifications**

- Current Vulnerable Sector Check
- Current First Aid and CPR certification required (or willing to train).
- Candidate must self-identify as First Nations, Metis or Inuit

Send a cover letter, resume and 3 references to Katherine Holden, Director, Finance and HR, Minwaashin Lodge, 2323 St. Laurent Blvd, Ottawa, Ontario K1G 4J8 or email to: [kholden@minlodge.com](mailto:kholden@minlodge.com)

**We thank all those that apply; however, only those invited for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls please.**

