



miskanawah

empowerment • strength • family

Miskanawah (meaning, 'many little paths' in Cree) is an Indigenous-led organization offering supportive services grounded in cultural traditions and teachings, and we believe children, youth and families thrive in a culturally responsive community.

Miskanawah recognizes our home fire as the heart of belonging and essential to building strong, resilient Indigenous communities. Founded on the principle of Wahkotiwin: living in relationship, Ka-pe-kiwehtahat (meaning, 'bringing them home' in Cree) is an extension of Miskanawah's community of care, where we envision our circle of relatives supporting Indigenous children, youth, families and single adults in building their home fire using traditional approaches to healing and wellness. Through the development of culturally grounded housing support services, Ka-pe-kiwehtahat seeks to increase access to affordable, safe housing options and prevent housing breakdown for Indigenous people in the Calgary community.

POSITION

Ka-pe-kiwehtahat: Cultural Oskayapewis

Program: Ka-pe-kiwehtahat

Reports to: Cultural Services Team Lead

Salary: \$50,000 - \$55,000

Location: Calgary, AB

Position Type: Full-Time

Hours: Monday to Friday (37.5 hours/week)

Position Summary:

The Cultural Oskayapewis is responsible for connecting program participants with appropriate cultural or ceremonial resources for underlying support in their journey to stable housing.

Core Competencies:

- Cultural Sensitivity
- Client Focus
- Adaptability
- Communication
- Resourcefulness
- Harm Reduction
- Teamwork

Job Responsibilities:

- Engage the Housing Support Team to invite culturally grounded supports in participants' housing journey, to build cultural capacity within Ka-pe-kiwehtahat and the larger housing community.
- Walk alongside participants to invite and engage cultural offerings, from the first point of contact with Ka-pe-kiwehtahat, and throughout their housing journey.
- Support Miskanawah's cultural mandate: 'protecting the smudge', and the continuation of cultural offerings beyond program-specific involvement.
- Collaborate with the Ka-pe-kiwehtahat Housing Support Team and housing providers to build relatives (cultural understanding and systems awareness).
- Support participants to connect with the appropriate cultural support people (Elders, Knowledge Keepers) and traditional medicines to bless participant homes when requested.
- Ensure diversity in Elders and ceremonies offered is reflective of the diverse needs of participants.
- Develop Miskanawah's network of Elder relations to ensure participants have access to Elders and ceremonies that meet participant's specific cultural heritage and preferences.
- Connect and support participants in one-to-one Elder meetings as requested.
- Offer and invite participants to attend sweat lodges and any other ceremony that aligns with their needs.
- Provide cultural mediation (sharing circles, one-to-one Elder support and/or ceremony) when challenges arise with housing providers.
- Invite and offer the larger Miskanawah community of care into the participant's circle of support.
- Educate participants to engage in respectful home maintenance and relations with housing providers, to prevent eviction and preserve tenancy.
- Work collaboratively with sector agencies, key stakeholders, and community resources.
- Follow up on referrals to ensure that families, youth, singles & Elders are accessing support.

Skills & Experience:

- Previous experience with Indigenous people and communities required
- Awareness of cultural support services within Miskanawah and the Calgary community, and a working knowledge of how to access culturally relevant healing opportunities.
- Experience helping individuals experiencing stressful situations
- Excellent oral communication skills required
- Knowledge of Housing First and Harm Reduction best practices an asset
- Experience working with the homeless population an asset

- Proficient computer skills required
- Skill in developing and maintaining community partnerships
- Act as a role model, showing positive interaction and problem solving
- Ability to exercise good judgment and maturity

Job Requirements:

- Diploma in a human service field with related experience
- Minimum 2 years of experience working with vulnerable persons
- Knowledge of and willingness to engage in Indigenous cultural traditions
- Ability to effectively communicate both verbally and in writing
- Ability to respond quickly in a dynamic and changing environment
- Ability to work individually as well as part of a team
- Valid Standard First Aid Certificate with CPR level C
- Current Police Security and Child Intervention Record checks with satisfactory results
- Suicide and Self-Harm Awareness Training
- Crisis Intervention Training
- Indigenous Awareness Training
- Diversity Training
- Harm Reduction and Naloxone Training
- Use of a reliable vehicle with \$2,000,000 liability, permission to carry passengers and business coverage on the vehicle
- Valid driver's license and a driver's abstract with minimal demerits

Work Conditions:

- Interaction with youth, employees, management, and the public at large
- Interaction with others under varying circumstances, including situations of a highly sensitive nature
- Attendance and participation in training
- Intermittent physical activity including walking, standing, sitting, and lifting
- Occasional overtime
- Working in a busy environment with frequent interruptions
- Flexible hours, including occasional evenings and weekends

We offer the opportunity to be part of a creative and positive work environment, a competitive salary, supports for professional development, opportunity for advancement, and the chance to be part of a team that supports children, youth and families to thrive within a culturally responsive community.

Please submit a cover letter and resume to careers@miskanawah.ca and reference **"Ka-pe-kiwehtahat Cultural Oskayapewis "** in the the subject line.