



# Okanagan Nation Alliance

250-3535 Old Okanagan Hwy, Westbank BC, V4T 3L7  
Phone (250) 707-0095 Fax (250)707-0166 [www.sylx.org](http://www.sylx.org)

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## ***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY***

### **Child and Family Community Planner (Term position)**

The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) is the Tribal Council for the eight member communities of the Okanagan Nation which includes Osoyoos Indian Band, Upper Nicola Band, Upper and Lower Similkameen Indian Bands, Penticton Indian Band, Westbank First Nation, Okanagan Indian Band and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. The ONA's mandate is to advance, assert, support and preserve Okanagan Nation title and rights. Further, the ONA is charged with providing members with a forum to discuss and form positions on areas of common concern.

Under the general direction of the Child & Family Lead, the Community Planner will be responsible for preparing communities to assume Child & Family service delivery once this is transitioned from MCFD to the ONA. This includes developing community plans in alignment with the ONA Plan and standards, and ensuring community-based staff, and families are prepared.

Building on the groundwork laid by our cultural values, guidance provided by both the community, and latest best practices in Indigenous family wellness, an operational model has emerged that will enable the ONA to exercise jurisdiction over our children and families. The Child & Family Plan requires a uniquely Syilx approach to service delivery that addresses complex root causes and reinforces our community's ability to create healthy environments where children are safe and thrive. The Syilx culture, the nsylxcən language, and the Enowkin'wixw process are the foundation upon which this Plan rests. Families are at the centre and cultural practices are embedded within the service delivery approach. Support and prevention are prioritized and Family Decision Making (FDM) is the guiding principle of the Syilx Child and Family Services.

#### **Key Responsibilities:**

##### ***Community-Based Planning***

1. Responsible for the development of community Child & Family Plans in alignment with the ONA Plan and standards of practice through:
  - i. Conducting effective community engagement with all ONA communities assigned personnel (for example the Wellness Committee members and Health & Social staff) and community members (e.g. using focus groups, interviews etc.)
  - ii. Working in collaboration with the ONA Child & Family Nation Planner to ensure alignment with the ONA model and standards of practice.
  - iii. Ensuring the incorporation of Indigenous knowledge, beliefs, values, and best practices into the plans.
2. Collaborate with the Child & Family Nation Planner to develop the transition plan for the transfer of responsibility of Child & Family Services from MCFD to ONA and community.
3. Identify education and awareness needs within community and develop and implement strategies to build capacity to meet those needs, to ensure community and families are ready for the transition.
4. Work with the ONA Communications and Syilx Public Relations Specialist on the development and implementation of an appropriate communication plan for the communities.
5. Promote community awareness and understanding of ONA's Child & Family Plan and mandate within community and with partners.

##### ***Technical Support***

1. Remain current on trends and research in order to deliver advice and support.

2. Coordinate and provide technical Child & Family support and expertise to committees and working groups as delegated by the Child & Family Lead. This may include convening and chairing meetings, developing Terms of Reference, leading planning sessions, drafting papers, crafting Briefing Notes, communiqués, policy documents, recommendations and writing reports.

### ***Other***

1. Actively participate in the Wellness staff meetings.
2. Ensure compliance with the Wellness Department Manual and contribute to its periodic review and update.
3. Manage any delegated budget in line with ONA policies and procedures.
4. Contribute to integration and collaboration within the Wellness Team, community and partners.
5. Actively participate in assigned ONA events.
6. Other duties as appropriate and required for this position.

### **Qualifications and Competencies**

The position will require the following qualifications, values and competencies.

### **Qualifications**

1. Must have a Degree in social work, indigenous studies, community development, health or related field.
2. Must have a minimum of 5 years work experience in Child & Family and Child Protection Services including in a planning capacity.
3. Equivalent qualifications and experience will be considered

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

1. Demonstrated experience and knowledge working with Indigenous child and family services.
2. Must have knowledge of court processes and CCOs (child in care orders)
3. Understanding of Indigenous cultural norms, protocols and traditional wellness and healing.
4. Must be knowledgeable of the Federal and Provincial Government programs and plans pertaining to Child & Family Services.
5. Experience in research and planning.
6. Experience in effective community engagement processes and planning.
7. Be in compliance with appropriate professional standards and ethics.
8. Familiar with Okanagan Nation culture and traditions.
9. Excellent computer (Microsoft suite) and organizational skills.
10. Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills and presentation skills.
11. Proven coordination, facilitation and conflict resolution skills.
12. Project coordination skills are highly desirable.
13. Must have the ability to manage time and prioritize workload in order to efficiently deal with the workload expected of the position.
14. Indigenous Ancestry preferred.
15. A reliable vehicle and a valid BC Driver's License and driver's abstract required.
16. Flexible work hours/willingness to work on evenings and weekends.
17. Current criminal record (vulnerable sector) check with the RCMP.

**Hours:** Full Time, Term position 37.5 hours per week

**Application Procedures:** Please send a current resume and covering letter to:

**Holly Hutton, Wellness Program Assistant**  
Okanagan Nation Alliance  
#101 – 3535 Old Okanagan Hwy, Westbank BC, V4T 3L7  
Email: WellnessHR@syilx.org Fax: (250) 707-0166

**COMPETITION OPEN UNTIL FILLED.**

Thank you for your interest, **No Phone Calls Please** only those short-listed will be contacted