



# NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO WOMEN'S CENTRE

EMPOWERING WOMEN BY PROVIDING A SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT TO EXPLORE THEIR NEEDS

## **Gender Based Violence Navigation Advocate**

This position is a 35 week contract, 35 hours per week at \$24 per hour.

COVID 19 related constraints may require work from home.

Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre seeks to hire an advocate to begin implementation of a newly developed, cross sectoral protocol for Thunder Bay and District to support women and their children who are at significant risk of harm from intimate partners. This community-based advocate will work with self identified women, in collaboration with legal and social sectors to ensure they have appropriate support, referrals, and ongoing, cross sectoral risk assessment and effective safety planning that is trauma informed, considers sociocultural factors and is culturally and COVID safe. Our approach is intended to be healing-centred and empower women to be active partners in critical decision making. This project is funded by the Canadian Women's Foundation Safer and Stronger Grants program to address the need for increased response to gender based violence as a result of COVID 19.

### **Duties:**

- Receive referrals of women at risk and provide a coordinating/ case management role to connect them to appropriate support and resources.
- Ensure that women are receiving appropriate safety planning and risk assessment and that this information is shared among appropriate service providers.
- Build working relationships with relevant staff across sectors.
- Using the High Risk Navigation Protocol, coordinate meetings of staff from relevant legal and social service sectors in situations of high risk. Ensure all parties have the required and up-to - date information on each case. Provide a liaison role between participants across sectors.
- Develop and facilitate an advisory group of women who have experienced violence to guide the protocol's implementation.
- Manage information and records as required.

### **Qualifications**

- Educational background and work experience in legal advocacy, social work or social justice
- Strong understanding of the legal system and the systemic response to gender-based violence in Thunder Bay and District. Previous experience supporting women in the social service or legal system is preferred, especially with regard to safety planning and risk assessment.
- Demonstrated analysis of gender-based violence and anti-racist, anti-oppressive principles.
- Demonstrated understanding of the impacts of colonialism and the intersections with the systemic response to violence against Indigenous women.
- Excellent communication, collaboration, and interpersonal skills, in addition to demonstrated organizational abilities.
- This position requires a high level of confidentiality and the ability to respond well in crisis situations.



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Please email resume and cover letter (applications without a dedicated cover letter will not be considered) by February 15<sup>th</sup> to:

**Hiring Committee, Northwestern Ontario Women's Centre at [ed@nwowc.org](mailto:ed@nwowc.org).**

Please do not contact the office directly - we will notify all applicants and contact those we select to interview.