



POSITION DESCRIPTION

POSITION (TITLE):	Public Health Nurse	DIVISION:	Health Protection and Clinical Services and/or Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention
REPORTS TO:	Manager	UNION AFFILIATION:	O.N.A. Local 14
REVIEWED: Direct Supervisor	Manager	DATE: (R) if revised	
APPROVED: MOH/CEO, Director	Senior Management	DATE:	January 2003
AUDITED:	Human Resources	DATE:	April 2005

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Public Health Nurse is responsible for providing public health programs and services on health protection, promotion and maintenance, disease and injury prevention and community participation and development. Public Health Nursing practice is based on the model of primary health prevention and is population focused.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Assesses, plans, implements and evaluates nursing programs and community-wide based initiatives using the current knowledge of practices and trends related to the field of public health.
2. Acts as a Public Health Nursing consultant to other professionals and community groups.
3. Acts as a resource person to communities, groups, individuals and peers.
4. Provides health education, counseling, support and advocates for healthy public policy and legislation while working within the policies of the program and those of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.
5. Establishes effective working relations with peers, appropriate professional agencies and community groups.
6. Participates on interagency committees/community coalitions as appropriate.

7. Facilitates community development and community mobilization.
8. Identifies local health issues, needs and participates in population-needs-based health planning and evaluation.
9. Initiates and collaborates on research opportunities and integrates research findings into Public Health Nursing practice.
10. Identifies funding opportunities and assists in the development of proposals, including public awareness/social marketing campaigns.
11. Functions as a preceptor to students assigned for fieldwork practice and/or observation.
12. Contributes to the development and the implementation of the Nursing Department Strategic Plan and annual program operational plan.
13. Maintains competence relevant to current practice and trends in the field of public health by participating in continuing education opportunities.
14. Other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS / REQUIREMENTS:

- Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses in Ontario.
- Baccalaureate Degree in Nursing from an approved University with identifiable community health nursing content.
- Proficiency in computer and word processing skills.
- Good inter-personal and communication skills.
- Required to provide the use of an automobile as per signed employment agreement.
- May be required to work irregular hours.
- May be expected to periodically travel in the district.
- Valid Ontario driver's license.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY:

- Follows all policies and procedures to ensure personal safety and safety of others.
- Reports any equipment or safety problems to supervisor.