



Position Title: Director, Partners for Mental Health Project
Reports to: Chief Operating Officer
Status: Full-time
Location: Calgary, AB
Salary: To be determined

The Mental Health Commission of Canada is a non-profit organization created to focus national attention on mental health issues and to work to improve the health and social outcomes of people living with mental problems.

The Commission, while funded by the Government of Canada, is a national body, not a federal one. It has been endorsed by all levels of government, although the Commission operates at arm's length from them.

Position Overview

This position reports directly to the Chief Operating Officer of the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

The Commission is seeking an expert to lead and co-ordinate a national volunteer initiative which will engage and support Canadians to promote, educate and create awareness of the issues related to mental illness and mental health. The Partners for Mental Health Project will act as a catalyst or spark for social movement around mental health with people championing the cause '*Keeping mental illness out of the shadows forever.*' The objectives of the Partners for Mental Health Project are:

1. *To educate Canadians about mental illness, promote mental health literacy and to reduce the effects of stigma and discrimination on individuals affected by mental illness;*
2. *To increase awareness and encourage all Canadians to value and maintain their mental health, as they do physical health;*
3. *To encourage and promote improvements in, and access to, mental health services and supports for all Canadians*
4. *To advance the goals of the Mental Health Strategy for Canada by engaging and empowering all Canadians.*

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Develop networks with federal, provincial and territorial governments, mental health organizations and the mental health community as a whole;
- Provide Partners staff with direction, mentorship and coaching;
- Work collaboratively with all of the Directors of the Commission;
- Launch and Support Partners for Mental Health Initiative:

- Recruit, manage and retain a network of volunteers across Canada
- Recruit local leaders
- Design activities to engage organizations and individuals nationally
- Create national / provincial / local strategies to develop programs and activities for volunteers interested in furthering the cause of mental health
- Develop project budgets and forecasts and monitor same
- Travel nationally and possibly internationally to liaise with other similar Projects worldwide

Skills and Attributes

- Significant experience in managing the design, development and implementation of a volunteer program.
- Highly motivated strategic thinker who has demonstrated leadership and management skills.
- Excellent communication skills. Ability to speak both official languages an asset.
- Superior writing skills, including proposal writing, public speaking and presentation skills.
- Adaptability, flexibility, diplomacy and tact.
- Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to establish solid working relationships with key internal and external stakeholders and colleagues.
- Excellent planning and time management skills, with ability to multi-task, produce and coordinate projects to tight deadlines.
- Excellent knowledge and demonstrated experience of mental health sector issues/challenges.
- Experience working with knowledge management systems as a communications tool is a plus.
- Ability to convene diverse groups.
- Ability to navigate politics and policy.

Experience and Education

- Post Secondary education in a related area.
- Experience organizing volunteers or social movements.
- Experience in a charitable or non-profit for raising cash and donations.
- Leadership track record in volunteer co-ordination.
- Proven ability to motivate and rally volunteers at the community and national level.

Applicants should send a résumé and cover letter in Ms Word or Adobe PDF Format only to Natalie Murphy at nmurphy@mentalhealthcommission.ca.

Deadline for applications is Monday, May 18, 2009.