

Full-time Research Assistant (5 months contract)

The Child Welfare Lab at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto is seeking a PhD student or candidate to assist in the initial stages of a research project designed to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit youth who are experiencing homelessness after leaving the care of a child welfare agency.

The Child Welfare Lab is partnered with the Association of Native Child and Family Services Agencies of Ontario (ANCFSAO) on this innovative project. ANCFSAO is mandated to build a better life for all Indigenous children through promoting the delivery of culturally-based services. ANCFSAO was awarded a research grant from Making the Shift (MtS). MtS is a youth homelessness social innovation lab, contributing to the transformation of responding to youth homelessness through research and knowledge mobilization specific to youth homelessness prevention and housing stabilization.

Position Summary:

Under the direction of the Project Manager and Research Coordinator and in collaboration with ANCFSAO staff, the Research Assistant will be responsible for completing an environmental scan of academic and grey literature and current child welfare legislation to determine current resources and programs in alignment with the overall objectives of the project.

The Environmental Scan includes examining current resources, strengths and needs to:

- identify findings pertaining to Indigenous homelessness, and homelessness specifically impacting those with lived experience in the child welfare system
- identify similar research that has been completed to date and identify gaps in literature
- analysis comparative parallels of available population and demographics data, including overall population statistics on homelessness, Indigenous homelessness, Indigenous youth specific data on homelessness and other relevant demographics figures
- seek to confirm statistical overrepresentation of homelessness amongst Indigenous individuals to ground the project
- reaffirm feedback from recent preliminary engagements
- validate the set-out objectives
- develop summaries of the scoping review into brief Information Sheets to inform the second phase of this project

Job Description

- review of literature and other relevant materials for the environmental scan
- data collection and data organization
- assist with analysis of the literature and data
- assist with preparation of written information sheets and written reports

Qualifications

- Preference is given to candidates who are First Nations, Métis or Inuit. Please self identify in your application.

- PhD student or candidate in social work, Indigenous health and well-being research, or related field
- Experience with literature reviews and environmental scans

Working Environment and Pay

- Ability to work remotely
- Must be available for meetings between 9:00am – 5:00pm, Monday to Friday
- 30 hours/week, \$30/hour

Thank you for your interest in this position. Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

Please email your cover letter and resume to: barbara.fallon@utoronto.ca