



Fine Arts Specialist with an Indigenous Focus Programs and System Services

Scope of Responsibilities

The Fine Arts Specialist with an Indigenous focus is responsible for developing Indigenous Fine Arts programs such as drama, dance, music, and visual arts and oral story telling with a focus on Mi'kmaw arts and culture. These programs are to be developed across the Halifax Regional Centre for Education. This includes the coordination of community artists, musicians, arts organizations, educators, social agencies and businesses to develop school partnerships and projects. Working collaboratively with a team of educational professionals, the Fine Arts Specialist will demonstrate a strong commitment to student success planning in support of student learning and well-being and reports directly to the School Principal.

Competencies Required

The Fine Arts Specialist shall have the following competencies:

- a) Experience and knowledge of Indigenous ways of knowing in the context of Mi'kma'ki;
- b) The ability to address the learning styles of students;
- c) The ability to develop and maintain positive relationships that foster a climate of trust and respect;
- d) The ability to establish and work with Mi'kmaw artists, Elders, organizations, business partners, and universities to establish Indigenous fine art initiatives in the Halifax Regional Centre for Education;
- e) The ability to demonstrate an understanding and awareness of the Truth and Reconciliation documents and process;
- f) The ability to seek out partners for various musician and arts programs;
- g) The ability to access funding through the development of business partnerships and programs as well as acquisition of grants and scholarships;
- h) The ability to prepare grant proposals for specific school/community projects;
- i) The ability to provide regular, written updates outlining progress of projects, initiatives and meetings conducted;
- j) The ability to work and communicate effectively within the Halifax Regional Centre for Education with staff, students, parents/guardians and community groups;
- k) The ability to demonstrate strong oral and written communication skills;
- l) The ability to utilize current technologies;
- m) The ability to apply knowledge, experience and commitment in the area of race relations, cross cultural understanding, human rights, diversity and culturally relevant pedagogy;
- n) The desire and ability to engage in continuing education and professional development;
- o) The ability to maintain and promote confidentiality.

Qualifications

- a) Valid Nova Scotia Teaching Certificate or acceptable equivalent;
- b) Fine Arts degree or an acceptable equivalent;
- c) Indigenous ancestry required and ability to demonstrate Mi'kmaw Ways of being and knowing;
- d) Expertise in Indigenous arts and culture;
- e) Experience working with Mi'kmaw youth/students, communities, Elders and organizations;
- f) Experience teaching Fine Art is an asset;
- g) Valid driver's license and access to a reliable vehicle.

Specific Job Components

The Fine Arts Specialist shall perform tasks as assigned by the designated School Principal. These tasks may vary, from time to time, with the evolution of the organization and may include, but not be limited to the following:

- a) Develop and maintain long range and daily plans;
- b) Develop a network of connections amongst schools, community Mi'kmaq artists, organizations, universities, social agencies, artists, musicians, art educators/specialists, parents/guardians, etc. to strengthen fine arts experiences in schools;
- c) Work with students on fine arts based projects;
- d) Organize community wide arts exhibitions/performances/celebrations to enhance and strengthen the profile of Indigenous fine arts;
- e) Engage the wider community through awareness and advocacy for fine arts education;
- f) Prepare applications for specific grants and awards established for the purpose of strengthening learning in and through the arts;
- g) Provide direct support for administrators and teachers in further enhancing fine arts and in the acquisition of fine art materials and resources;
- h) Communicate on a regular basis with principals of each of the schools regarding the development of programs;
- i) Assist in the implementation of the school improvement plan in order to improve student achievement;
- j) Access multiple physical work sites within a school day;
- k) Other duties as required.