



**Aboriginal HIV & AIDS Collaborative Centre/
The Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network
Aboriginal Community Research Associate (CRA)**

Title: Aboriginal Community Research Associate

Status: Part-Time casual employment: Approximately 2.5 hours per week

Regions: British Columbia; Manitoba; Quebec and Newfoundland & Labrador

Host Organizations: To be determined

Please submit cover letter and resume or CV: Position open until filled.

Overview: The Aboriginal HIV & AIDS Collaborative Centre and the Canadian Aboriginal AIDS Network is a dedicated, CAAN-led team of investigators that will advance Aboriginal community-based HIV & AIDS research that benefits Aboriginal Peoples in Canada as well as international Indigenous populations. The AHA Centre fosters an innovative environment striving for scientific excellence and trust where investigators with a wide range of experience, Aboriginal community members and Aboriginal People Living with HIV & AIDS share responsibility for direction setting and decision making.

The work of the Centre is facilitated by an ‘on the ground’ presence across the country in the form of an AHA Community Research Associate (CRA) in every province and territory over the course of 5 years. AHA Centre activities focus on four broad areas:

- partnership building and maintenance;
- capacity building;
- research promotion and support; and
- knowledge-to-action.

There are 4 positions to be filled: British Columbia; Manitoba; Quebec and Newfoundland & Labrador

Responsibilities: The Community Research Associates will report directly to the study CBRMs (Marni Amirault in Dartmouth, NS and Sherri Pooyak in Victoria, BC). The overall project guidance will come from the study Co-Investigators.

Community Research Associates working on the project will be responsible for:

- Building and maintaining relationships through team and CRA meetings, with an emphasis on communications;
- Increasing capacity building opportunities in his/her region;
- Engaging in general communication between The AHA Centre and local Aboriginal AIDS Service Organizations;
- Facilitating capacity building and grants crafting workshops;
- Assisting the AHA Centre to greatly diversify the reach of the Centre;
- Contributing towards CAAN’s highly evaluated Wise Practices.

This Community Research Associate position is designated for a candidate who identifies as Aboriginal, with preference given to an Aboriginal person living with HIV or AIDS.

Qualifications

- Proven experience in and knowledge of conducting HIV & AIDS Community-based research in the Aboriginal community.
- A university degree is an asset but not required.
- Applicants can have a combination of life experience as well as research experience.

Skills

- Excellent writing skills for a wide variety of audiences (academic, general public, Indigenous and ACB communities)
- Excellent communication and computer skills (MSOffice, research data bases, search engines, data storage, Endnote, email)
- Excellent organizational and interpersonal skills Self-directed with an ability to work in a collaborative team environment
- Knowledge of the Aboriginal HIV and AIDS epidemic in Canada and related social and health concerns;
- Experience and/or knowledge of HIV and AIDS research, prevention, care, treatment and support;
- Possess and apply problem-solving skills.
- Ability to speak and write in French would be an asset

Abilities

- Perform public speaking at related conferences and meetings;
- Ability to teach and provide research advice;
- Excellent verbal and written communication including the ability to apply open-minded attitudes and communication toward all individuals;
- Excellent relationship building and conflict resolution skills with an ability to interact and work effectively with both community and academic organizations; and
- Demonstrated ability to work as a team and independently;
- Demonstrate an ability to learn and be self-directed;
- Apply assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation procedures to the approved CBRM work- plan and within organizational mandate and requirements;
- Apply open-minded attitudes/respect toward individuals from varying walks of life (Injecting Drug Users, 2-Spirited people (Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Trans-gender), Sex Trade Workers, Street-Involved people, etc);
- Maintain and apply knowledge of related policies and procedures (e.g. Integrity in Research policy, Tri- Council Policy for Conducting Research with Aboriginal People, etc) and develop new policies as required.

Working Conditions

CRA's will work in an office environment.

Travel is required outside usual office hours.

Applicants must be ready, willing and able to travel evenings and weekends, as required.

Interested applicants should send a current resume/CV with a cover letter detailing their relevant educational and work skills and experiences for this position to **Marni Amirault** at marnia@caan.ca or **Sherri Pooyak** at sherrip@caan.ca

These positions are open until filled.