

# Employment Opportunity



## Skowkale First Nation

**Position Title:** *Elder in Residence*  
**Position Location:** *Chilliwack, BC*  
**Salary:** *\$29.51 - \$35.24*  
**Work Term:** *Part Time Position*

**Summary:** We are seeking a dedicated and knowledgeable Elder in Residence to play a pivotal role in enriching the cultural experience for children at S'íwesá: ylhem Childcare Centre. The successful candidate will serve as a cultural guide, mentor, and source of wisdom, ensuring the seamless integration of Stó:lō traditions, values, and teachings into our child care program. As a key member of our team, the Elder in Residence will contribute to the holistic development of the children, foster a sense of identity and belonging in childcare strengthen our commitment to cultural diversity.

### **Responsibilities and Duties:**

- Provide cultural guidance to staff, parents, and children, ensuring the integration of Stó:lō traditions, values, and teachings into the childcare program.
- Act as a cultural liaison between the childcare center, families, and the broader community.
- Facilitate storytelling sessions, sharing traditional stories, legends, and teachings to enhance cultural awareness among children.
- Collaborate with educators to incorporate cultural elements into the curriculum, promoting a well-rounded and culturally diverse learning experience.
- Provide support for cultural ceremonies, celebrations, and events held within the childcare center.
- Assist in organizing and participating in culturally significant activities that promote a sense of community and belonging.
- Support language preservation efforts by incorporating basic Halq'eméylem language elements into daily interactions with children.
- Collaborate with language specialists, if available, to develop language-focused activities and resources.
- Serve as a mentor and role model for staff members, sharing cultural knowledge and fostering a deeper understanding of Stó:lō traditions.
- Offer emotional and spiritual support to children and families, promoting a sense of identity, belonging, and well-being.
- Participate in community events and initiatives that align with the goals and values of the childcare center.
- Any other related tasks and duties as directed.
- Other duties as required or assigned.

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

- In-depth understanding of Stó:lō traditions, values, and teachings, with the ability to impart cultural knowledge to children, staff, and families.
- Proficient storytelling skills to engage children in traditional stories, legends, and teachings, fostering cultural awareness and understanding.
- Familiarity with local Halq'eméylem language, and the ability to incorporate language elements into daily interactions to support language preservation efforts.
- Experience in developing and facilitating age-appropriate cultural activities and ceremonies for children, ensuring cultural integration within the childcare program.
- Strong mentoring skills to guide and support childcare center staff, fostering a deeper understanding of First Nations traditions and cultural sensitivity.

### **Training, Education, Certification, and Experience**

- Elder or respected community member with extensive knowledge of Stó:lō culture, traditions, and teachings.
- Strong oral communication skills, including the ability to engage and communicate effectively with children.
- Demonstrated experience in facilitating cultural activities, ceremonies, and storytelling sessions.
- Understanding of early childhood development and the ability to integrate cultural elements into age-appropriate learning experiences.
- Familiarity with Halq'eméylem language and a commitment to language preservation.
- Ability to work collaboratively with staff, parents, and community members.

**Working Conditions**

- The work environment includes both indoor and outdoor spaces, participating in various activities.
  - The position may involve some physical activity, including the ability to participate in outdoor activities and ceremonies.
  - Elder in Residence will work collaboratively with childcare center staff, parents, and community members, promoting a cooperative and supportive work atmosphere.
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While we sincerely appreciate all applications, only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Preference may be given to candidates of Indigenous ancestry **s16(1) CHRA** and have knowledge of local First Nations traditional customs and practices.

**HOW TO APPLY**

Applicants should send a resume and cover letter outlining how they meet the specific requirements of the position to [careers@jouta.com](mailto:careers@jouta.com). Position open until filled.