



Nunavut – Chief Public Health Officer – Full Time

Inuit in Nunavut have a long history of resilience and self-sufficiency that has eroded through changes in the Inuit way of life over the past 50 years. As a result, Nunavummiut face many physical, mental, and social challenges. The provision of health care programs and services to alleviate these challenges is impacted by geography, technology, demographics, and growing demands for limited resources.

Health care services of primary health care, midwifery, mental health, rehabilitation programs, public health, health protection and health promotion are delivered through community health centres and a variety of offices. There is one major 35 bed accredited hospital in Iqaluit and two regional health facilities. Additional tertiary care services are contracted from Ottawa, Yellowknife, Edmonton, Churchill, and Winnipeg often necessitating individuals to be away from their communities and families for extended periods of time.

The **Chief Public Health Officer** is a key position whose mandate impacts health needs and the development of a population health strategy and public health policy for the territory. The Chief Public Health Officer is ultimately responsible for coordinating the develop of the population health strategy and public health policy while functioning as part of a multidisciplinary team of public health professionals composed of epidemiologists, environmental health, communicable disease, public health nursing, health promotion specialists and others, using an intersectoral approach which involves all Government of Nunavut departments and relevant stakeholders. This approach is necessary as: (a) it eliminates the “illness care model” and works to improve overall health status; and (b) health status is profoundly influenced by social and economic variables beyond the scope of the Department of Health.

Reporting to the Deputy Minister, the Chief Public Health Officer is a strategic leadership position responsible for assessing the health status and threats to the health of Nunavummiut and responding to the needs by working with individuals, families, communities, organizations, and all levels of government to improve, protect and promote the health of Nunavummiut. The Chief Public Health Officer is responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of standards of public health practice in Nunavut and advocating for the preservation and improvement of the health of Nunavummiut. The Chief Public Health Officer works closely with the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer, the Executive Director of Population Health, Regional Directors and Government of Nunavut Departments, Health

Canada, and the Council of Chief Public Health Officers to improve the health and social wellbeing of Nunavummiut and contribute to Nunavut communities thriving economically, socially and culturally.

The Chief Public Health Officer contributes to the achievement of a representative public service by focusing on the removal of systemic barriers and the continual recruitment and development of Inuit within the division. The Chief Public Health

Officer is accountable for incorporating Inuit Societal Values into the day-to-day operations of the Public Health Division and the Department

- Seven positions report directly to the Chief Medical Officer of Health including a Deputy Chief of Public Health
- The combination of knowledge, skills and abilities would normally be acquired through completion of a Medical Degree, FRCP Public Health and Preventive Medicine (formerly known as Community Medicine) preferred with 5 years' experience as a Medical Officer of Health. Other specialist qualifications or public health training will be considered. Experience in northern health and aboriginal health issues would be an asset. **THE INCUMBENT MUST BE LICENSED IN NUNAVUT PRIOR TO COMMENCING DUTIES AS CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER.**

This is a Highly Sensitive Position. Criminal Record and Vulnerable Sector Checks are required.

A full job Description or to apply can be achieved by contacting Kevin Kirkpatrick, Vice President, Avery Professional Group, kevin@averyprofessionalgroup.com or 905-447-2151.