TITLE: SPECIAL NEEDS COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER

**SECTION:** Student Support Services

**REPORTS TO:** District Principal Student Support Services

## **SUMMARY**

Under the general direction of the District Principal Student Support Services or designate, provide support to young people with disabilities, youth and adults in the community.

## **DUTIES:**

- 1. Provide supervision and support to young people with disabilities in the community during vocational, recreational, and cultural activities.
- 2. To identify social opportunities, work experience placements, and recreational services in the community that meet individual's needs and /or enhance individual's independence, community inclusion and quality of life.
- 3. Work with community agencies, on behalf of young people with disabilities, so as to enhance their access to services.
- 4. Assists in the implementation of vocational, recreational and cultural goals and objectives for participants.
- 5. To stay up-to-date regarding each participant's case history; to continually reassess participant suitability to the program, and to advocate for referrals to other programs or services where appropriate.
- 6. Participate as a team member to explore participant's vision for their future -- their goals, wishes, and needs -- and to develop action plans that address the goals and needs; to ensure that participants and/or their families have the opportunity to actively participate in service planning.
- 7. Participate as a team member to recognize potential emergency situations; to analyze situations accurately and develop strategies in order to deal with such situations in respectful, efficient, and appropriate manner; to report problems to the Teacher and Principal of the program.
- 8. Participate as a team member to assist in the review and evaluation of participants' progress and make adjustments to goals and plans as required: to provide feedback and support to participants and/or their families.
- 9. To maintain written reports regarding participants' daily activities and progress, and to ensure that all required documentation is complete and accurate.
- 10. To act as a positive role model, providing life skills training and behaviour management; to always respect participants' dignity and right to self-determination.
- 11. Provides transportation for students as required.
- 12. Supervises students when involved in program related activities.
- 13. Attends staff, team and other scheduled meetings.
- 14. May, on occasion, be required to perform other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

- High school graduation or the equivalent.
- Successful completion of the Child and Youth Care diploma with a focus on individuals with developmental disabilities or, successful completion of the Community Support Worker diploma program, or equivalent program.
- 1 year related work experience.
- Demonstrated knowledge of community services within the Nanaimo-Ladysmith school district.
- General knowledge and understanding of the developmental needs of adolescents and the ability to
  positively influence young people by modeling socially acceptable behaviour in a range of program
  activities.
- Well developed interpersonal and written skills, including an ability to consult and work with a range of community agencies.
- Ability to work efficiently and effectively in a self-directed manner and in a team context.
- Capacity to acquire knowledge of policy and issues relevant to young people in the target group.
- Ability to maintain the confidentiality of sensitive information seen or heard.
- Physical ability to perform job requirements.
- Valid BC Class 5 driver's license and access to use of a vehicle is essential.

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