Berens River Child and Family Services

Competition No.: 2026- 004
Position: First Nation Representative, Full-time
Salary: Depends on Qualifications
Department: Berens River Child & Family Services
Location: 388 Donald St. Winnipeg, MB
Closing Date: December 1, 2026, at 4:30pm

Position Summary: Berens River First Nation is seeking a dedicated, knowledgeable, and community-minded individual to fill the position of **First Nation Representative**. The First Nation Representative will serve as an advocate for Berens River First Nation children, youth, and families involved with the provincial Child Welfare System. The successful candidate will work to ensure that the rights, interests, cultural identity, and well-being of our children and families are recognized, respected, and protected throughout the child welfare processes. Working in alignment with Bill C-92 (An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families), the Representative will support Berens River First Nation's efforts to advance its inherent jurisdiction and responsibility for the care and protection of its children and families. The position will focus on family preservation, prevention, early intervention, family reunification, cultural continuity, and community-led approaches to child and family well-being.

Key Responsibilities

1. Child and Family Advocacy

Advocate for Berens River First Nation children and families by promoting family preservation, reunification, cultural connections, and ensuring families are supported and represented throughout the child welfare process.

2. Bill C-92 and First Nation Jurisdiction

Promote Bill C-92 and Berens River First Nation's jurisdiction by supporting community-led child and family services, prevention initiatives, and culturally appropriate child welfare practices.

3. Cultural Continuity and Family Preservation

Promote Anishinaabe culture, family involvement, early intervention, and meaningful connections to Berens River First Nation for all children.

4. Collaboration and Coordination

Collaborate with community partners and agencies to address service gaps and concerns impacting children and families.

5. Documentation and Accountability

Maintain confidential records and reports, protect family information, and recommend improvements to child welfare services.

Qualifications

- Knowledge and understanding of Berens River First Nation culture, traditions, values, and community priorities.
- Strong knowledge or understanding of child and family services and the provincial child welfare system.
- Relevant education (BSW preferred) or any other training in social work, child and youth care, family services, or a related field.
- Understanding of Bill C-92, Indigenous rights, self-determination, and First Nation jurisdiction, or willingness to develop this knowledge.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Strong computer and administrative skills.
- Excellent assessment, analytical, and problem-solving skills, including the ability to identify and assess levels of risk.

- Ability to advocate effectively for children and families.
- Strong interpersonal, organizational, and conflict-resolution skills.
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively with families, agencies, leadership, and community partners.
- Ability to maintain strict confidentiality and professional boundaries.

ADDITIONAL ASSETS

- Anishinaabe language proficiency (a priority asset).
- At least 5 years' experience in Child and Family Services, Prevention Services, family advocacy, or community-based programming involving children and families.
- Experience working with First Nation communities and Indigenous child welfare matters.
- Knowledge of customary care, kinship care, family preservation, and reunification processes.

Please send a Cover Letter and Resume by Email to: jamie.thordarson@berensrivercfs.org
The Cover Letter must include the Competition Number and Position you are applying for.

We thank all who apply; however, preference will be given to Berens River Band Members and Indigenous candidates (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) meeting the position requirements. All Indigenous applicants are asked to self-declare within their cover letter.