



**SAFEXST
Penticton**

SUPPORT WORKER

Regular Full Time 35 hours

**Internal/External Posting Date: June 20 – July 06, 2018
(H.S.A. Union Position)**

Who We Are:

South Okanagan Women in Need Society (SOWINS) is a dynamic non-profit charity based in Penticton that has been providing safety, shelter and supports to women and their children who have experienced or are at risk of abuse since 1981.

With more than 35 years of history and experience in providing programs, resources and services to help women and their children recognize, understand and overcome the effects of violence and abuse, SOWINS has developed a respected, high profile reputation in the community with individuals, businesses and organizations, and has well developed relationships with local, regional and provincial agencies within the non-profit women's services sector.

SOWINS strives to be innovative, pro-active and compassionate while working within an organizational culture that is feminist, trauma-informed, respectful and inclusive. We actively and consistently seek opportunities to expand our programs and our effectiveness in addressing the complex issues of violence and abuse.

What We Do: Safety – Shelter – Support

Our goal is to assist and support those who have experienced violence and abuse in their recognition, understanding and recovery from the effects. Our programs and services provide safety, healing and guidance for individuals to make changes at their own manageable pace.

SOWINS provides a range of services in residential and non-residential settings to individuals who have experienced, or are at risk of experiencing, abuse. Most services focus on serving women and their children. Services include:

- Crisis intervention
- Transition House
- Second Stage Housing
- Safe, affordable housing
- Emotional support and follow-up programs
- Youth and children's support services
- Homelessness prevention
- Individual and group counselling
- Information and referrals
- Advocacy
- Public education

Our Needs:

SOWINS requires a Support Worker who will offer early intervention, support and harm reduction to individuals involved in street-based sex work and to persons engaging in survival sex through empathic first response street level engagement outreach services in a drop-in centre, mobile outreach and/or residential shelter setting.

The Support Worker Position

This position averages 35 hours per week, generally worked Monday through Friday days, but some flexibility to work evening and weekend hours may be required to meet client needs.

The Support Worker:

- Provides crisis intervention, safety planning and emotional support as well as skill building in areas identified as being of concern
- Provides information about abuse, personal safety and harm reduction, and support for decision making
- Plans, prepares and conducts group or individual supportive counselling sessions using techniques such as active listening, conflict resolution, basic group counselling and basic psycho-educational group methods to resolve the identified problems, needs and risks in working in and/or leaving sex work.
- Develops and implements issue-specific intervention and support plans within program guidelines.
- Provides referrals, advocacy and supported access to other services that will enable them to avoid further risk or violence.
- Participates in public education and prevention activities.

Extended health and welfare benefits package including Municipal Pension Plan is available after completion of probation.

Wage rate per Grid Level 11 General Services Collective Agreement (\$19.39 - \$22.58)

Funding for this position comes from Public Safety Canada.

Qualifications:

Education and Knowledge:

- Diploma in a related human / social service field
- Standard First Aid Level 1 including CPR/AED and Naloxone training

Experience:

- One year recent related experience, including street outreach work

HOW TO APPLY:

Please send a resume and a letter which speaks directly to the requirements of the position by email to: execassistant@sowins.com

Internal applicants must notify their Program Coordinator of intent to apply.

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE WELCOME TO APPLY. ONLY THOSE SHORT-LISTED WILL BE CONTACTED. EXTERNAL APPLICANTS WILL BE REVIEWED AFTER INTERNAL.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:

12:00 NOON on closing date