



DO NOT USE - NON-CONTRACT ROLE DESCRIPTION

JD5133

ROLE TITLE:	Medical Health Officer	ROLE DESCRIPTION NO.:	5133
DEPARTMENT:	Population and Public Health, Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer	HEABC REFERENCE NO.:	
REPORTING TO:	Chief Medical Health Officer	HSCIS CODE:	70110
CLASSIFICATION:	NCEM/Range MHO2C	JOB CODE:	70110

ROLE SUMMARY

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health) patient and staff safety is a priority and a responsibility shared by everyone; as such, the requirement to continuously improve quality and safety is inherent in all aspects of this position.

Reporting to the Chief Medical Health Officer, the Medical Health Officer (MHO) is part of a team that aims to continually improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. The MHO fulfils this role in accordance with the Vision, Purpose, Values and strategic direction of the Vancouver Island Health Authority (Island Health), the Ministry of Health's Guiding Framework for Public Health, the Public Health Act, and other relevant provincial, federal and local legislation.

The Medical Health Officer, provides medical leadership for the provision of public health services and programs, population health assessment, and community engagement within assigned geographic areas. The MHO is responsible for enforcing all public health legislation in assigned geographic areas, and, from time to time, other geographies in Island Health.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. The Medical Health Officer works to ensure that community health priorities are being identified and addressed through programs, services, policies, and supports provided by Island Health and/or its partners. They will provide population health leadership for the area, including advice on community health assessment, community engagement, health inequities, and developing partnerships to address the underlying determinants of health. This will include:

- Collaboration with the Executive Medical Director and Executive Director for assigned geographic areas on identifying and actioning community health priorities.
- Working with Island Health's Population Health Assessment and Epidemiology team and provincial epidemiology to identify and acquire data that can be used as meaningful indicators of health, the determinants of health, and the distribution of services at appropriate community levels.
- Providing interpretation of population health indicators for the executive team and external partners. Acts as a medical consultant in the specialty of public health and preventive medicine.
- Engaging with local government elected and non-elected representatives, education sector, and other community partners.
- Participation in program and service planning with a view to improvements in population health status, optimal health and wellbeing for all persons, and reduction in health inequities within communities in the assigned geographic areas and the Health Authority as a whole.

2. The MHO is responsible for handling of both individual cases of communicable diseases and large disease outbreaks, and has specific knowledge, judgement and media skills to perform this role. Provides direction and guidance to nursing and environmental health staff who are working in the area of communicable disease control.
3. Must be able to link with the appropriate local, regional and provincial agencies as required for fulfilling the mandates of the position.
4. Works with Public Health Directors and /or Managers in administering/coordinating designated core programs in public health.
5. Supports the client-focused approach to service delivery, plans, develops, and evaluates short and long-range goals and objectives, policies and procedures, and operational opportunities for improved levels of service for the Island Health.
6. The MHO works with various authorities in planning of response to public health emergencies.
7. Serves as the community liaison for public health.
8. Works with staff in the development, implementation, or enhancement of case and contact management systems for communicable disease control.
9. Works with staff in the development, implementation, or enhancement of licensing programs.
10. Works with health protection staff in responding to environmental health issues that arise. The MHO will serve as a drinking water officer for Vancouver Island.
11. The MHO acts as School Medical Officer for school districts within the assigned geographic areas and fulfills the requirements as outlined in the School Act.
12. The MHO acts as source of information about public health issues and core programs for other health care workers, the public and the news media.
13. Participates in the Public Health Quality Council, Geography specific Quality Council and Clinical Governance Improvement Initiative committees.
14. The MHO participates with the Director and/or Manager/s to hire staff, train, supervise, conduct performance appraisals, discipline and terminate staff in the department as appropriate.
15. Interprets and applies the various collective agreements for unionized staff, or terms and conditions for non-contract staff. Represents the Employer in labour relations matters and determines the disposition of grievances.
16. The MHO provides supervision or co-supervision of residents and other trainees when they are placed with the Office of the Chief MHO. Participates in teaching in the Island Medical Program and the UBC Public Health and Preventive Medicine Residency Program.
17. Undertakes or participates in funded public health research, either independently or in cooperation with other regional, provincial, or federal agencies or departments, or academic institutions, following appropriate ethics committee approval and through methods such as attending and/or leading various meetings, projects, work groups and committees.
18. Participates in the after-hours on-call rotation with the other members of the MHO team.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Medical Doctor, with Fellowship in Public Health and Preventive Medicine, preferably with a Master's degree in a related field.

Experience in all aspects of community health and core public health programs.

Medical License from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia.

Skills And Abilities

- Demonstrated leadership ability and highly developed interpersonal and communication skills and strategic thinking.
- Demonstrated commitment to client focused services and teamwork.
- Established record of evidence-informed practice.
- Ability to integrate administrative, professional and operational aspects of public health programs throughout the Island Health in an effective and efficient manner.
- Ability to develop and nurture an environment where quality improvement principles are embraced and used on a continuous basis.