NON-CONTRACT ROLE DESCRIPTION

JD5292

ROLE TITLE:	Occupational Hygienist	**ROLE DESCRIPTION NO.:**	5292
DEPARTMENT:	Health, Wellness & Safety	**HEABC REFERENCE NO.:**	1872473
REPORTING TO:	Manager, Health, Wellness & Safety	**HSCIS CODE:**	06099
CLASSIFICATION:	NCEM/Range 8A	**JOB CODE:**	91527

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 Manager, Health, Wellness & Safety, the Occupational Hygienist is responsible for coordinating the planning, development, implementation, maintenance, and evaluation of an organization-wide Occupational Hygiene Program. The Occupational Hygienist provides leadership to provincial, organizational and operational leaders and clinical staff in the development, implementation and evaluation of facility design standards, education and training, and equipment/product selection as it relates to Occupational Hygiene programs and in alignment with provincial and federal regulations. The Occupational Hygienist works collaboratively to support strategic planning initiatives through designing, developing and leading research studies, exposure assessments and product evaluations and liaises with various external agencies to exchange best practice program and process innovations. Represents Island Health on external committees, including determining and selecting new vendors/products.

Travel may be a requirement of this position. Transportation arrangements must meet the operational requirements of Island Health in accordance with the service assignment and may require the use of a personal vehicle.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Develops, implements and evaluates Island Health policies, regional programs, procedures, and protocols for preventing exposures arising in or from the workplace which may cause illness, disease, or significant discomfort for employees. These standards encompass anticipating, recognizing, evaluating and controlling chemical, biological, and physical stresses in the work environment.

2. Consults, interprets, and provides direction to senior leadership, managers, and the Occupational Health & Safety team on the provincial Workers Compensation Act, Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, standards of practice, and related federal regulation and standards.

3. Conducts reviews of literature and research to develop and implement evidence-based best practice across Island Health and Provincial programs.

4. Provides leadership to and engages the Occupational Health & Safety team and department managers, supervisors and employees on: the interpretation and application of WorkSafeBC regulations, CSA/ANSI standards of practice, other applicable local, provincial and federal regulations and standards, appropriate intervention and/or prevention measures, and methods to report and record occupational hygiene issues.

5. Conducts initial and ongoing exposure monitoring to quantify exposures by applying statistical methods and modelling to prepare relevant technical reports and associated requirements. Determines effective control measures to limit worker exposures through the hierarchy of controls and advises on associated controls which may include: facility modifications, equipment purchases, changes in work practices, training, and/or protective equipment.

6. Develops, implements, and evaluates standardized instructional programs and training materials to assist managers, supervisors and employees.

7. Organizes and leads provincial and Island Health regional committees/working groups with key stakeholders to address prevention strategies for assessing, evaluating, and controlling hazardous exposures.

8. Provides direction to Human Resources, leaders and other clients respecting grievances that pertain to the OH&S program. This includes analysis and strategizing on the employers' position, preparing appropriate correspondence, participating in meetings with employer/union representatives and consulting legal counsel.

9. Provides direction to leaders and other clients and/or directly with Provincial and Federal regulators strategizing on the employers' position, preparing appropriate correspondence, participating in meetings with regulators to assist in mitigating potential administrative fines or disruption of services that could result, for example, from WorkSafe BC inspection/investigations.

10. Initiates, prepares, leads, and/or participates in relevant research project proposals and submissions related to occupational hygiene issues.

11. Develops Island Health facility design standards for use on new construction and/or renovation projects or major changes in work practices. Participates in and advises on occupational hygiene requirements throughout the facility design process.

12. Participates in provincial and regional committees for new product and equipment procurement contracts and determines required criteria for selection and evaluation of vendors/products.

13. Develops communication strategies and promotional materials to enhance awareness and promote knowledge of occupational hygiene issues and encourage employee participation in the development of new initiatives.

14. Reviews and determines the impact of relevant articles in the collective agreements, human rights legislation and all other applicable external guidelines and regulations.

15. Represents the department on selected internal and external committees within the health authority and provincially.

16. Prevent and reduce the occurrence of workplace injuries by supporting effective investigation of accidents/exposures, and providing analysis and interpretation of unusual conditions/safety concerns and recommendations to prevent future occurrences (education, discipline, etc).

17. Performs other related duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

A level of education, training and experience equivalent to a Master's degree in Occupational Hygiene and five (5) years of recent related experience in a healthcare environment including experience in program planning, implementation, evaluation and adult education.

Registration, or eligible for registration, with an appropriate professional organization.

Registration, or eligible for registration, as a Registered Occupational Hygienist (ROH), a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH), or a Canadian Registered Safety Professional (CRSP).

Valid Class V BC Driver's License.

Skills And Abilities

- Demonstrated ability to lead, plan, organize and problem-solve
- Ability to collaborate within a team environment
- Working knowledge/understanding of the principles of adult education and skill in teaching and motivating a diversity of staff

- Ability to work within an environment subject to continuously changing priorities
- Working knowledge of relevant regulations and legislation and their applicability to a health care environment
- Proficiency in the use of personal computers
- Physical ability to carry out the duties of the position