UNION JOB DESCRIPTION

JD6207

JOB TITLE:	Environmental Health Officer - Multiple Openings	**JOB DESCRIPTION NO.:**	6207
CLASSIFICATION:	Public Health Inspector/Environmental Health Officer P1	**GRID/PAY LEVEL:**	H-F-P1
COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT:	Health Science Professionals	**HSCIS NO.:**	55401
UNION:	BCGEU; CUPE	**JOB/CLASS CODE:**	MO
PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT:	Public Health	**BENCHMARKS (If Applicable):**	
REPORTING TO:	Supervisor, Environmental Health		
FACILITY/SITE:	VIHA: - SI/CI/NI - Community Health (Continuing/Public/Mental)		

JOB SUMMARY:

In accordance with the Vision, Purpose, and Values, and strategic direction of Island Health (Vancouver Island Health Authority), 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 Supervisor Environmental Health, within the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and working as part of a multi-disciplinary team, the Environmental Health Officer carries out inspections and regulatory duties within the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) including both urban and rural areas. Duties and responsibilities include investigating complaints and inspecting eating and food handling establishments, sewage disposal systems, water supplies and public services premises. The Environmental Health Officer enforces compliance with municipal by-laws, government acts and regulations.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Performs a variety of duties to minimize the occurrence of disease and public exposure to environmental health hazards through methods such as performing epidemiological investigations into food borne illness outbreaks and epidemics of waterborne and zoonotic diseases, identifying conditions and initiating investigations into areas which are injurious or potentially hazardous to human health, initiating and conducting health assessments.

2. Provides technical assessments for a variety of clients Including the general public, private industry and licensed professionals such as engineers, surveyors and architects, government agencies and municipalities. Responsibilities include reviewing and assessing plans or proposals for the operation or construction of a variety of facilities, reviewing on-site sewerage system filings, assessing, evaluating and recommending approval or rejection of bare land subdivision applications.

3. Provides consultation and education to others including the general public, government agencies, local and authority officials, architects and engineers. Responsibilities include evaluating and documenting critical health and safety hazards, advising on necessary corrective actions and preventative measures to be in compliance with the current Federal, Provincial and regional requirements and interpreting and providing advice, guidance and direction on legislation, policies and procedures.

4. Ensures compliance with Environmental Health Legislation and standards through methods such as issuing operating permits for food facilities, and water systems, issuing orders and withdrawing operating permits from non-compliant premises, initiating other legal action and participating in prosecutions by preparing briefs, gathering evidence, and appearing in court as an expert witness.

5. Collects fees for Health Operating Permits in the field and delivers to field office for processing.

6. Represents the Health Protection program on various community based and in-house committees such as the Food Safety and Drinking Water Committees.

7. Documents and accesses a wide variety of information utilizing computerized information/management systems.

8. Contributes to the practicum experience of students by performing duties such as providing supervision, clinical education and guidance to students and providing feedback on performance.

9. Maintains and updates knowledge in environmental health issues through methods such as reviewing literature, consultation with other professionals and attendance at relevant education programs as requested and approved in order to contribute to the continuing improvement of services.

10. Participates in continuous quality improvement/quality assurance activities through methods such as evaluation and measurement of outcomes of programs, follow-up of unusual occurrences, identification and participation in research studies and contribution to the identification of new policies and best practices for the profession and the organization.

11. Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Education, Training And Experience

Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Health or equivalent recognized by the Board of Certification, Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors. Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada). Eligible for registration with the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, BC Branch. Valid BC Driver's Licence. Three (3) years of recent related experience or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.

Skills And Abilities

- Ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.
- Ability to work independently, organize workload and establish priorities.
- Ability to exercise sound judgment, decision-making and problem solving.
- Ability to establish relationships with internal and external contacts.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position.
- Ability to obtain cooperation and coordinate the work of a variety of government representatives, non-profit agencies, landlords and business owners and families.
- Ability to operate related equipment.