

**CAMH Aboriginal Services – Acute Care
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health**

Location: 60 White Squirrel Way

Year 1 Practicum

Dates: January 10- May 31, 2024

Practicum secured for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis (FNIM) identifying students.

Practicum Description:

CAMH, Aboriginal Services (ABS) is located at 60 White Squirrel Way near Queen St. West and Ossington Avenue. ABS works to support First Nations, Inuit, and Métis (FNIM) individuals seeking support for mental health and addiction concerns. The Aboriginal Services team is comprised of FNIM social workers as well as non-Indigenous clinicians in supporting roles such as Advanced Practice Clinician Leader (APCL) and consulting psychiatrists. The ABS program focuses on approaches that center and advocate for various Indigenous knowledges as well as works with western modalities to support all client needs. In their role, ABS social workers offer short term interventions to both inpatients and outpatients by conducting one-on-one counselling sessions and various group sessions such as Sharing Circle, Drumming Circle, and Art and Mindfulness groups. Modalities such as motivational interviewing, CBT, DBT, storytelling, and ideologies based in collectivism may be utilized within both individual and group sessions. All sessions and supports are centered around supporting clients' mental health and substance use goals and occur weekly or bi-weekly.

Students will be expected to work with the ABS social work team to offer support to FNIM clients in both inpatient and outpatient settings which are delivered virtually and in person. Students will have opportunities to shadow other departments, attend trainings when applicable, participate in team meetings, as well as attend ceremony as part of the CAMH Aboriginal Caucus.

Indigenous Identity: It is important for applicants to understand their relationship to their own Indigenous identity such as: discovering, researching, reconnecting, connected. While these positions are often dynamic and changing, it is important for all applicants to feel solid in their connection and teachings as well as to have lived experience as an Indigenous person in order to support our clients and facilitate their continued cultural and spiritual growth. While colonization has created and perpetuates disconnection from our communities, language, teachings, and culture, our team asks that applicants have done the work to begin reconnecting with their community and have an understanding of their own teachings before applying to this role.

Practicum Requirements:

- Vulnerable Sector Check
- Immunizations per PHA guidelines
- Up to date COVID-19 Vaccination

- Practicum secured for FNIM (First Nation, Inuit, Métis) students

Do you require any previous experience?

No previous clinical experience is required. Students must be completing their MSW and actively enrolled to participate in placement with CAMH, Aboriginal Services.

Please indicate whether this practicum will be in-person, remote or a hybrid

This position is hybrid. Students must be able to work on site/in person when their clinical supervisor is working on site/in person. Clinicians are on a rotating schedule which is subject to change.

Please indicate whether this practicum will involve direct work, indirect work, or both

Aboriginal Services is a direct, clinical placement position with occasional indirect learning opportunities.

Number of practicums offered?

1

Field Instructor(s) name and credentials (BSW and/or MSW)

Jane Theriault, MSW/RSW

Accessibility Considerations in practicum:

Some considerations are: appointments require students to be on virtual conferencing platforms for ~4 hours/day, note take (typing and hand written), sit for long periods; in-person days may require standing for long periods and walking (5000+ steps/day), carrying light objects (under 10 pounds). This placement position strives to accommodate all student needs and specific accommodations can be organized through CAMH student centre and with the field instructor.

- Will the student have access to a private space for notes or computer use? Yes
- Are there breaks between clients/patients/meetings? Sometimes

Breaks are prioritized between all clients and lunches breaks are guaranteed; however, due to clinical demand, some appointments are back-to-back

- Is the practicum considered fast-paced? Fast

This can change day-to-day

- Is there a high noise level in the practicum? Low

- Is the site wheelchair accessible? Yes

- What are the physical demands of the practicum? [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

When remote: sitting for long periods (sessions can be 1 hour+), normative strain associated with computer work; In person: sitting, walking/moving to in patient units, standing, carrying light objects
Participation in groups like singing/drumming, beading, and painting may occur; however, it is not required for the role

Are there any other accessibility considerations that potential applicants with disabilities should be aware of? [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Since accessibility considerations differ for each individual, students can inform the Student Centre and their placement supervisor (if comfortable) for support with all accommodations.

Students registered with University of Toronto Accessibility Services may receive appropriate accommodations for practicum settings. To register: <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/departments/accessibility-services/> or call 416-978-8060

If you are interested in this practicum, please send a cover letter and resume to miri.ben.dat@utoronto.ca by 4 pm on September 28, 2023. Applications will be forwarded on to the site.