

## The true sharing of knowledge: Connecting our classrooms with our community

Northern College of Applied Arts and Technology  
&  
Child and Family Services of Timmins and District

## Who we are

Child & Family Services of Timmins & District

- Operate under C.F.S.A. to deliver child protection and mental health services to children and families
- Some services we offer in our agency
- Merger of 3 agencies in Northeastern Ontario by April 2012  
Jeanne Sauve Family Services, Timiskaming Child and Family Services and Child and Family Services of Timmins & District.



## Who we are

Northern College of Applied Arts & Technology

- 4 campuses – Porcupine, Kirkland Lake, Haileybury and Moosonee
- Child and Youth Worker Program:
- 3 Year Advanced Diploma, offered as a compressed 2 year program
- Train CYWs to work in school, residential, community settings



## How we connect?

- Advisory Committee
- Activity Lab
- Placement Students
- Job Fair
- Guest Speakers



## Advisory Committee

- The role of the Program Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Governors and the administration of Northern College in the following areas:
  - labour market and associated educational needs of the community;
  - program requirements to meet those needs;
  - future trends in fields of specialty;
  - all other matters pertaining to curriculum, facilities, placement, employment and community relations.

## Job Fair

- Fit
- Professionalism opportunity
- Networking for students
- Open to research of agency
- Resumes & shortlisting
- Interview process
- Matching process



## Placement Students

- Students engage in “real world” experiences
- Agency benefits from committed and hardworking interns who will become “work ready” professionals

## Activity Lab

- 90 hour course that occurs second semester
- Students engage in an experiential learning approach
- Hosted at CFSTD’s mental health residence
- Students prepare hands on activities to facilitate with residents (age 12-15)
- Faculty help the students prepare and supervise the activities
- Students responsible for managing the facilitation
- Staff present and intervene with behaviour

## Benefits to Students

- Opportunity to transfer theory into practice
- Fieldwork placement experience in various settings
- Opportunity to see current practice at work
- Opportunity to lead client activities with the safety net of the staff to assist
- Able to manage minor behaviours using non intrusive interventions and implement these strategies through lab sessions
- See crisis intervention work being done that they would not get in theory
- Opportunity to get feedback from frontline staff
- Opportunity to learn about professionalism from those in the field
- Opportunity to experience different CYW placement settings prior to committing to a particular setting

## Benefits to Agency

- Recruitment and retention
- Agency personnel remain current with respect to best practice in the field
- Work ready employees familiar with the agency and its practices
- “Four month job interview”
- Better assessment of written and interactive skills

## Benefits to College

- The field of Child and Youth work and the demands of the profession are rapidly increasing.
- There is an enhanced need for educational institutions to stay current and solid in both the theory and practical components of child and youth work.
- Assists in the development and evaluation of programs of study and curriculum in relation to the community, the provincial and national requirements where these apply.

## Challenges

- Number of students able to be placed
- Pregnancies
- Age of students
- Medical Limitations
- Transportation
- Voluntary client programs

## Places we'd like to be

- Split lab
- Preparation for independence program
- Community 1-1
- School suspension program
- CAMHP bed



## Q&A and Feedback



## Contact Information

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