



EXPRESSION of INTEREST – HOSPICE ATTENDING PHYSICIANS

Hospice Halifax is a compassionate and supportive community of staff members, volunteers and donors dedicated to providing the best end of life possible for patients and their families. Our new Hospice residence will be opening its doors in early 2019. Visit our website www.hospicehalifax.ca for information and updates.

Hospice Halifax is committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive culture. We encourage applications from Aboriginal People, African Canadians and racialized persons, persons with disabilities, and persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and all candidates who would contribute to our Hospice community.

Position Description:

Hospice Attending Physicians are primary care physicians with a special interest/additional training in palliative care who are passionate about the Hospice philosophy of care. Their primary function is to provide the day to day medical clinical care of patients admitted to Hospice Halifax in collaboration with all team members.

The hospice will have a roster of 5-6 physicians who will work in flexible rotations of 1 to 3 weeks in duration, to provide 24/7 medical coverage for up to 10 people residing in Hospice Halifax. Each physician will work a maximum of 0.5 FTE during their rotation. Each rotation will be a minimum duration of one week of coverage which will include; patient admissions and hospice visits, after hours call, telephone consultation, team meetings, education and outreach. Call is taken from home after hours. A nurse is on site 24/7 in the Hospice.

Physicians are independent contractors and not employees of Hospice Halifax. They will report to the Medical Director of Hospice Halifax. An Alternate Payment Plan, with an on-call stipend, is the proposed model of remuneration. The physician will fulfill the roles and responsibilities of the position as outlined in the Alternate Payment Plan deliverables. These deliverables will fall under 4 domains: clinical care, education, capacity building and outreach.

Qualifications and Experience:

Physicians will demonstrate compassion, interest and experience in caring for patients and families at the end of life. Hospice physicians will embrace working in teams and possess the ability to work well in a team-based environment with joint decision making. They will be known to “go the extra mile” for the patients and families in Hospice Halifax.

Licensure:

- Duly licensed by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia
- Credentialed with the Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA)
- Have CMPA or similar medical protection coverage

Education/Experience:

Physicians must have significant experience in providing quality hospice and palliative care to patients in their practice setting.

Recommended education (completed or to be completed within a reasonable timeframe):

- Have a CCFP Certificate of Added Competence in Palliative Care or have completed a Year of Added Competence in Palliative Care or have a RCPS subspecialist designation in Palliative Medicine (after 2019)

AND/OR

- Have taken courses such as the Victoria Hospice Medical Intensive Course, LEAP (Learning Essential Approaches to Palliative Care) or similar education that demonstrates a strong knowledge of the principles and practice of a palliative approach to care

Additional skills:

- Are skilled regarding the use of opioids, including methadone. The online methadone course provided at no cost by Virtual Hospice (or similar) is recommended.
- Have a plan to maintain and improve their own level of proficiency in the provision of Palliative Care.
- Currently use, or are willing to use, an Electronic Medical Record and prescribe using the Drug Information System software.

Hospice Halifax strives to provide the best possible end of life experience for Nova Scotians. We are dedicated to being a compassionate organization – for our patients, families and each-other. It would be a pleasure to have you join us at Hospice Halifax. **Please forward your resume and cover letter directly to s.connidis@hospicehalifax.ca** along with your preferred/ work availability.

Please contact me with any questions you may have. I look forward to hearing from you.
Sincerely,

Stephanie Connidis MD, CCFP (COE)(PC), RACGP
Medical Director, Hospice Halifax

NOTE:

Submission closing date: November 23, 2018

Interviews will begin: December 3, 2018

Orientation will precede the opening date: rotations begin April 8, 2019