

Expression of Interest

The Northwest Territories Health and Social Services Authority (NTHSSA) is seeking a Patient/Citizen Advisor to participate on the Choosing Wisely NWT Steering Committee (CWNTSC). The Patient/Citizen Advisor will receive compensation for their time.

What is Choosing Wisely?

Choosing Wisely Canada (CWC) is part of a global movement and serves as the national voice for reducing unnecessary tests and treatments in health care. The Choosing Wisely Canada campaign launched in April 2014 and Choosing Wisely NWT (CWNT) launched in February 2018. Choosing Wisely provides tools and resources to help clinicians and patients engage in conversations about unnecessary tests and treatments, and make smart and effective care choices.

Why a Patient/Citizen Advisor?

Research has shown that involvement of Patient/Citizen Advisors in health care organizational discussions and decision making helps increase the accountability and transparency of project development, ensures that efforts address patient concerns, and improves quality of care. Additionally, Patient/Citizen Advisors have an opportunity to be part of a meaningful change and contribute to the advancement of health care in the NWT.

Roles and Responsibilities

Patient Advisors will join the CWNTSC to promote the campaign and resources amongst the public and advise on CWNT initiatives from a patient perspective. As a Patient Advisor on the CWNTSC, it would be expected that the successful candidate:

- Regularly attends and participates in CWNTSC meetings
- Contributes to meeting discussions
- Assists the committee in understanding the patient/citizen/public perspectives that are relevant to CWNTSC initiatives.
- Introduces public members to CWNT and collect feedback for quality improvement
- Explains CWC and CWNT tools and resources
- Participates in appropriate training and support activities
- Participates in any evaluation of this role or the activities
- Provides a patient perspective to CWNT so materials, processes, and delivery can be improved
- Positively represents the NTHSSA

Qualities

The successful candidate will:

- Have an independent, and self-motivated drive; seeking opportunities to share
- Have experience accessing health services in the NWT (as a patient or caregiver)
- Have a diverse background
- Be trustworthy, and professional in demeanor
- Have a high level of comfort with public speaking, engaging people, and responding to questions
- Have skills in technology to use the computer for presentations, and communicate via email, and electronic documents.
- Have a passion for the Choosing Wisely Campaign and message, “More is Not Always Better”
- Have excellent communication skills
- Respond to requests, queries, and/or deliver materials in a timely manner

Time Commitment

CWNTSC meetings are scheduled every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 10:00am-11:00am. Occasionally, there will be opportunities to make presentations and/or participate in public events.

What You Can Expect

The successful candidate can expect to be:

- orientated to the NTHSSA and introduced to Choosing Wisely Canada and Choosing Wisely NWT;
- trained on how to respond to a variety of questions and comments from other citizens, and clear guidelines for messaging;
- called upon to provide insight and perspective during CWNTSC discussions (either during meetings or by e-mail);
- asked to make presentations about CWNT and the campaign’s initiatives;
- given an overview on the expense and honoraria claim procedure;
- given a package of materials to inform their work as a Patient Advisor; and
- offered training and ongoing support by the Strategy for Patient-Oriented Research (SPOR) Support Unit, which is an organization dedicated to improving capacity for individuals and families and support taking an evidence-based approach to policy.

Honoraria

For work on official business, the honorarium entitlement for individual appointments is:

- up to \$250 per day;
- \$125 (50%) per half day (3.5 hours or less)



How to Apply

Applications are due September 30th by 5pm MST and are accepted by e-mail to the address provided below. The application must include your resume along with a cover letter explaining why you are interested in this role and how you feel you will be able to contribute to the CWNTSC.

Upon initial evaluation of applications, selected candidates will be contacted to attend an interview. The successful candidate will be required to provide a criminal records check.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact choosingwiselynwt@gov.nt.ca.