CANADIAN RED CROSS
CROIX-ROUGE CANADIENNE

POSITION: Infection Prevention and Control Delegate
DURATION: 8 weeks
LOCATION: Ebola-affected West Africa (various countries)

Do you want to make a difference? Join the world's largest humanitarian network. The Canadian Red Cross Society, a non-profit, humanitarian organization dedicated to helping the most vulnerable in Canada and throughout the world, is currently seeking an **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Delegate.**

As part of the coordinated response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the Canadian Red Cross is seeking qualified personnel to join the fight against Ebola. The response requires efforts on multiple fronts, including community outreach, contact tracing, surveillance, safe and dignified burials and case management. This job description covers a profile required specifically for the case management component. Selected applicants will be deployed to a Red Cross Ebola Treatment Centre (ETC) in West Africa between mid-November 2014 and April 2015.

Every mission will initially be limited to four weeks internationally due to the hardship of having to work under heavy personal protective equipment. Prior to deployment, the Red Cross will provide you with mission-specific training including an extensive practical course on Ebola and related safety procedures. During the mission, you will be working in a well-established ETC. After deployment, the Red Cross will extend your contract by an additional three weeks rest period during which you will be instructed on how to self monitor. This is not a quarantine period. Anyone deploying in this way will be placed under a Red Cross contract with pay and benefits. All applicants will need to meet the health and professional standards established by the CRC.

Click here to see a video of our recently returned delegate from Sierra Leone:
http://www.redcross.ca/what-we-do/global-health/west-africa-ebola-virus/ebola-response-jobs

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The IPC delegate will work as part of a team of International Red Cross and Red Crescent clinicians and support staff. S/he will ensure adherence to infection prevention and control protocols and contributes to a high level of biosecurity within the ETC aiming at limiting the risks of hospital transmission of EVD. The IPC delegate will coach, mentor and supervise both international and national staff in the ETC.

- Works in the IFRC Ebola Treatment Centre and contributes to high quality of care to patients
- Plans, organises, documents and evaluates the IPC measures in the ETC
- Participates in internal or external meetings to ensure continuity and quality of the IPC work in the ETC
- Ensures consistent infection prevention and control procedures are in place, updated and followed at all times
- Evaluates and re-evaluates the IPC measures
- Works with the disinfection teams maintaining a clean hygienic environment
- Ensures safe and dignified burial of the deceased
- Carries out other task within his/her area of responsibility as requested

QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:

- Relevant training as a nurse, paramedic, hospital technician, water and sanitation expert, hygiene promoter or other applicable area is required
- Minimum of 3 years health care experience

- Documented education in infection prevention and control is preferred
- Previous work with infection prevention and control would be preferred
- Practical work in epidemic response is a preference
- Resource poor hospital settings is preferred
- Previous humanitarian aid missions is a preference

Skills and Abilities:

- Strong communication skills, both written and verbal, in English are required
- Additional language skills in French are an asset
- Works well in a multi-disciplinary team
- Works well under pressure
- Can live in basic conditions
- Flexible to changing needs and fluctuating workload
- Ability and willingness to follow strict infection prevention and control protocols.
- Good knowledge of barrier nursing

WORKING CONDITIONS

Working in West Africa in direct contact with infectious diseases such as Ebola is very demanding, both physically and psychologically. The living conditions in West Africa are difficult and you will be expected to live in basic living conditions (hotel) near the Ebola Treatment Centre. Working hours are according to shift requirements but you will be expected to be available 24 hours per day.

During the 3 weeks post-mission self-monitoring period, you are expected to be a minimum 4 hours' drive from a certified medical facility in Canada, and should undergo a systematic self check related to any potential exposure and your health status.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested parties may submit their application by applying on the Canadian Red Cross Online Career Website.

This position is open until filled.

Applications will be reviewed as they are submitted.