

Desiree Spence (She/Her/Hers)

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PROFILE

Proud Métis woman and fourth year Health Studies student at the University of Manitoba with a special interest in fostering health and well-being in Indigenous communities. Strong sense of connection and dedication with the local community that has been nurtured through past outreach and programming initiatives. Well-rounded knowledge of Indigenous cultures, and traditional ways of healing in a trauma-informed capacity with Indigenous peoples.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Health Studies

2020 - Present

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB

Expected Date of Graduation: May 2023

Relevant Courses: Indigenous Peoples in Canada, Integration of Health Determinants of Individuals, Indigenous Medicine and Health, Introduction to Social Epidemiology

WORK EXPERIENCE

Program and Office Assistant

June 2022 - Present

Klinic Community Health | Winnipeg, MB

- Managed in-person, phone and email inquiries and recorded client information to complete intake forms
- Optimized MS Office to create reports, answer emails, and create and coordinate calendars
- Conveyed information on services and referrals to help clients experiencing challenges and barriers
- Assisted in the creation and delivery of programming including educational activities, trainings, and workshops
- Multitasked while providing administrative and clerical support to colleagues in a busy office

Residential Support Worker

May 2020 - September 2020

Indigenous Women's Healing Centre Inc. | Winnipeg, MB

- Resolved conflicts between residents effectively, ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved
- Maintained client files on a daily basis, ensuring all are up to date, organized, and filed accordingly
- Attentively and empathetically cared for residents under emotional distress and physical pain by utilizing a framework based on traditional Indigenous ways of healing

Community Engagement Program Facilitator

May 2019 - September 2019

Nine Circles Community Health Centre | Winnipeg, MB

- Assisted with volunteer recruitment and training for 50 volunteers for numerous events and fundraisers
- Collaborated with a team of staff to organize, plan, and execute a city-wide fundraising event for 200+ attendees
- Responded to general inquiries from public regarding the volunteer program by email, phone and in-person
- Created content for social media, website, and newsletter to promote services and events and solicit donations
- Wrote content for inclusion in the Nine Circles annual province-wide report

VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT

Consent Culture Workshop Facilitator (volunteer)

September 2020 - Present

Justice for Women | University of Manitoba

- Facilitated three-hour workshops to over 1,000 students to foster a better understanding of consent
- Updated PowerPoint presentation regularly, ensuring all information and data presented is current
- Responded to questions and concerns from workshop attendees accurately, referring to external resources

Event Volunteer (Seasonal)**May 2018 – Present**

Manito Ahbee Festival | Winnipeg, MB

- Greet and usher patrons, providing a welcoming atmosphere
- Respond to general queries and questions about Indigenous culture and teachings to
- Maintain confidentiality and respect of festival information

WORKSHOPS & CERTIFICATIONS

Responding to Sexual Violence Disclosures Sexual Violence Resource Centre	2022
Bringing in the Bystander Workshop Sexual Violence Resource Centre	2022
CPR & First Aid Canadian Red Cross	2019
Mental Health First Aid Mental Health Commission of Canada	2018
Class 5 Driver's License	

AWARDS

Cyril Tobias Memorial Bursary	2022
Chuck and Libby Winograd Indigenous Scholarship	2022
Chloe Patricia Jean Bushie Memorial Scholarship	2021
Business Council of Manitoba Indigenous Education Award	2020 – 2023

INTERESTS

- Beadwork
- Sewing
- Jingle dress dancer