PUBLIC HEALTH CAREER PROFILES

Public Health Planner

What do you like best about your job?

I enjoy working with people to make our community better. Everything we do is in partnership – working with others to come up with ideas, solutions, and programs that work. Sometimes I'm working with people inside our organization and sometimes with community partners or the public.

Describe your typical day?

There really isn't a typical day. Some days I am attending meetings, sometimes I'm facilitating strategic planning discussions, and sometimes I'm analyzing community demographic data at a desk. Some days I'm planning a process to consult with the broader community, sometimes I'm brainstorming innovative solutions to make our community healthier, and sometimes I'm writing and editing a report.

How are you making a difference?

I'm making a difference by working on projects and ongoing programs that actually help people to be healthier, to be more connected to their neighbours, and to create new opportunities for themselves. There are many initiatives that the Region is working on but all are focused on making the community better and healthier.

What do you like about working or living in Waterloo Region?

Waterloo Region is a great place to live – big enough to be interesting and small enough to know people and to be a part of positive change. I like that I can live close enough to walk to work, the grocery store, or the library.

Why did you choose to work for Region of Waterloo Public Health?

I had worked in the not-for-profit sector and wanted to become more familiar with the services and impact that government can provide. I enjoy that I work with organizations in the not-for-profit sector every day – forging strong partnerships between the two sectors.

Region of Waterloo
PUBLIC HEALTH

What would you tell someone considering a career as a Public Health Planner?

It is a great and diverse role. While it is difficult to describe the breadth of what I do, it is a great place to get a lot of valuable experience in many areas and topics.

Areas you could work in:

- Child and Family Health
- Health Protection and Investigation
- Healthy Living
- Infectious Diseases, Dental and Sexual Health

Qualifications you need:

- Masters level degree in a health or social sciences discipline, or two undergraduate degrees
- Accumulated experience in public health research, planning and evaluation, health promotion and policy development, data analysis, report writing and communications, community planning and group process evaluation

Wage/salary range:

- Approximately $69,700 to $79,200 annually (2015 rates)

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Alternate formats of this document are available upon request.