



Volunteer Posting

Volunteer position title:	Peer Support Volunteer	Position Type:	Ongoing
Staff Resource Person, contact information:	Spencer Pecore Mental Health Programs Coordinator m.pecore@maxottawa.ca	Posting dates:	This is an ongoing position with start and end dates determined by the volunteer with the Peer Support Worker.
Location:	This work will be done remotely for now, with possibility of in-person support once public health restrictions are lifted.	Service area:	Individual support to guys into guys via Mental Health programming at MAX

STATEMENT OF VOLUNTEER VALUE

As a volunteer, you will play a crucial part in the daily life of MAX. We value volunteers' roles as facilitators, mentors, board directors, leaders, supporters, educators, advocates. As Gay, Bi, Two-spirit, Queer (GBT2Q) and other guys into guys, either cis or trans community members and allies, the diversity of experiences and knowledge you bring to our team is extremely important. Your skills and talent help us create larger circles of social connection and reduce health barriers for GBT2Q men.

PURPOSE OF THE POSITION

The purpose of this position is to provide one-to-one support and improve pathways to care for guys into guys. The Peer Support Volunteer will provide support to participants by practicing active listening, a strengths-based and anti-oppression approach to problem solving, and occasional referrals to resources. The volunteer will report to and be supported by our Mental Health Programs Coordinator in supporting the mental well-being of guys into guys in the area.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS

- Participate in ongoing training to acquire and practice active listening skills that are rooted in anti-oppression and MAX's values.
- Support individual community members by providing active listening, referrals to resources, and community connection while maintaining physical distancing (while COVID-19 distancing measures remain in effect)

- Provide peer support that respects the scope, capacities, and limits of the program.
- Participate in debrief sessions with program supervisors to ensure accountability and ongoing support of volunteers.
- Perform administrative tasks related to the program such as following up with requests for support and maintaining call records

QUALIFICATIONS

Required qualifications

- A genuine passion for working with the GBTQ communities
- An understanding of the social determinants of health
- Ability to communicate effectively (spoken, written) in English or French
- Ability to use email, teleconferencing, and live chat software; training will be provided
- Access to phone plan that allows local calls, blocking caller ID (confidentiality), and/or web camera and microphone
- Ability to work as part of a team
- Well-grounded understanding of the importance of confidentiality and boundaries
- Ability and willingness to accept and utilize feedback from supervision
- Adhere to **MAX's** confidentiality policies and other relevant program and agency policies and procedures

Preferred qualifications

- Ability to fluently speak French will be considered an asset
- Prior training in mental health or work experience in social service provision will be considered an asset
- Prior experience providing support as volunteer within an organization or care collective will be considered an asset

EXPECTED TIME COMMITMENT

We ask that volunteers commit to a minimum of 4 hours a month and a maximum of 5 hours a week.

For more information on the position, or if you are interested in this opportunity, please email: m.pecore@maxottawa.ca. We don't require CVs for this position, but may send some questions about experience, interest, and availability. We will be conducting intake interviews with potential candidates.