



**Northside Rising –
Staff Position for Inspiring Communities**

Community Coordinator

To be distributed starting August 29, 2018

What if there was a better way to build stronger communities across Nova Scotia?

No one organization is responsible for the challenges communities face. No one organization is capable of fixing these challenges. It will take a collective, community-led approach that gets many assets pulling in a common direction.

Inspiring Communities (<https://inspiringcommunities.ca>) aims to do this by changing how communities tackle systemic challenges to the health and well-being of Nova Scotians. We bring together diverse voices and sectors to find ways of working differently together. This includes residents, community organizations, governments and business.

We use many different and inclusive community engagement techniques to help us follow the Collective Impact approach to resolving serious issues. Collective Impact takes a structured approach that proactively and intentionally engages and supports multiple stakeholders who work together towards a shared agenda with specific and measurable goals.

Success has been demonstrated when there is equitable engagement of community members with lived experience, service organizations, private sector partners including small business and corporations, and various levels and departments of government.

As part of this work, Inspiring Communities is working hand in hand with the Northside communities. Called Northside Rising, it has been working over the past year gathering information, making contacts and talking to people about the complicated challenges such as out-migration, unemployment, poverty and addiction faced by the community. Now, the time for moving into action has arrived.

The Community Coordinator will be a vital part of the Northside Rising team helping to create a shared agenda for addressing our community's challenges.

YOUR ROLE

As Community Coordinator for Northside Rising, your role is to work closely with the Northside Rising team to organize the community around its shared agenda and support the process of identifying new ways of tackling longstanding social challenges. This means a SHARED:

FOCUS

We are stronger when we are focused and the insights and assets of the community are aligned to resolve challenges like addictions or poor access to health care. No one organization is responsible for or able to solve the issue on their own.

OWNERSHIP

The issues we are facing affect everyone. Together, we are stronger. Residents, community organizations, businesses, and governments organize as equal partners with a shared commitment to act.

LEARNING

Dedicated resources are put in place to guide the process, capture and communicate what's working, and collect data to inform decision making. The best decisions can be made with the latest and most relevant information.

ACTION

Innovative and research-based strategies for longstanding issues are identified and implemented. We cannot end poverty and build prosperity on frameworks alone. We must take action -from the community to the provincial level.

WHAT NEEDS TO GET DONE

The Community Coordinator will identify individuals and diverse groups of people and organizations who care deeply about the priority issues, and facilitate innovative ways to mobilize people towards the changes they want to see in their lives and community.

Keys roles in your work are to:

- Actively identify, recruit, build and maintain relationships with residents and leaders from across the community, including neighbourhood, networks, service organizations, businesses and local government; people who are interested and prepared to commit to action towards the shared agenda.

- Actively seek out and engage other residents and leaders from neighbourhoods, networks, service organizations and businesses who are interested in the shared agenda however may be facing a variety of barriers to engagement.
- Participate in the development of indicators and an evaluation framework to measure progress toward short-term and long-term goals identified for the priority areas of focus.
- In partnership with the Project Leader, provide support to the local Inspiring Communities committees and work groups, including training in how to host a meeting, and facilitate and build community capacity.
- Develop and maintain a growing data base of all stakeholders to support the timely and ongoing engagement and communication with all interested parties and to facilitate connections around shared interests and goals.
- Implement regular communications with the Northside Rising community, including face to face dialogue, facilitated sessions, community meetings, participation at related events and other emerging approaches that enable highly effective engagement.
- Facilitate a variety of conversations and events with individuals, and small and large groups that support positive change and mobilize collective action.
- Develop and maintain a centralized source for research data, information, referrals and consultation.
- Champion and role model working collectively towards the shared agenda.

A GREAT NORTHSIDE COORDINATOR BRINGS:

- Experience in mobilizing community for positive change and evidence of effective results in the areas of relationship building, collaboration and systems thinking.
- Ability to build trust and support with community leaders, as well as with vulnerable populations living with social challenges.
- An understanding of Collective Impact and other social innovation models and how they can be delivered in Northside.
- Experience with diverse group facilitation techniques including world café, open space, Deep Democracy, and a willingness to stay abreast of and bring forward new and innovative approaches to community conversations and engagement models.
- Demonstrated knowledge of and experience within the Northside community and issues facing its residents.
- Effective skills in project management and ability to manage multiple initiatives simultaneously with high attention to detail and documentation.
- Demonstrated excellence in verbal and written communication.

- Ability to work independently and manage activities as assigned.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel and Power Point).
- Being comfortable in an emergent, ambiguous, and fluid working environment.

This position is a two-year full time contract, with the possibility for renewal. It is anticipated that the successful candidate would commence work by early October, 2018.

Generally the hours of work will be Monday-Friday however there is a requirement for flexibility to work occasional evenings and weekends and at times that will support maximum access and participation of the community.

The position will be based out of a Northside community space.

The salary range is \$45,000 to \$50,000 depending on experience. References will be required that speak to the responsibilities listed above.

If this is the kind of work that inspires you, then please apply with a cover letter and resume to Paul Shakotko, Senior Director, Inspiring Communities:
pshakotko@inspiringcommunities.ca

Your cover letter should include information that demonstrates your knowledge and ability to deliver the roles outlined above. Also please speak to **how your experience, training and leadership skills are aligned to the requirements of this position.**

Applications will be accepted until 12:00 noon on Friday September 21 , 2018

There is currently only one position for NR Coordinator, but we will make reasonable efforts to contact everyone that applies.

Thank you.