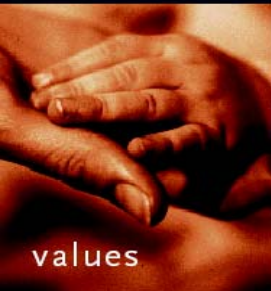




opportunity



values



balance

A CAREER IN CARING...

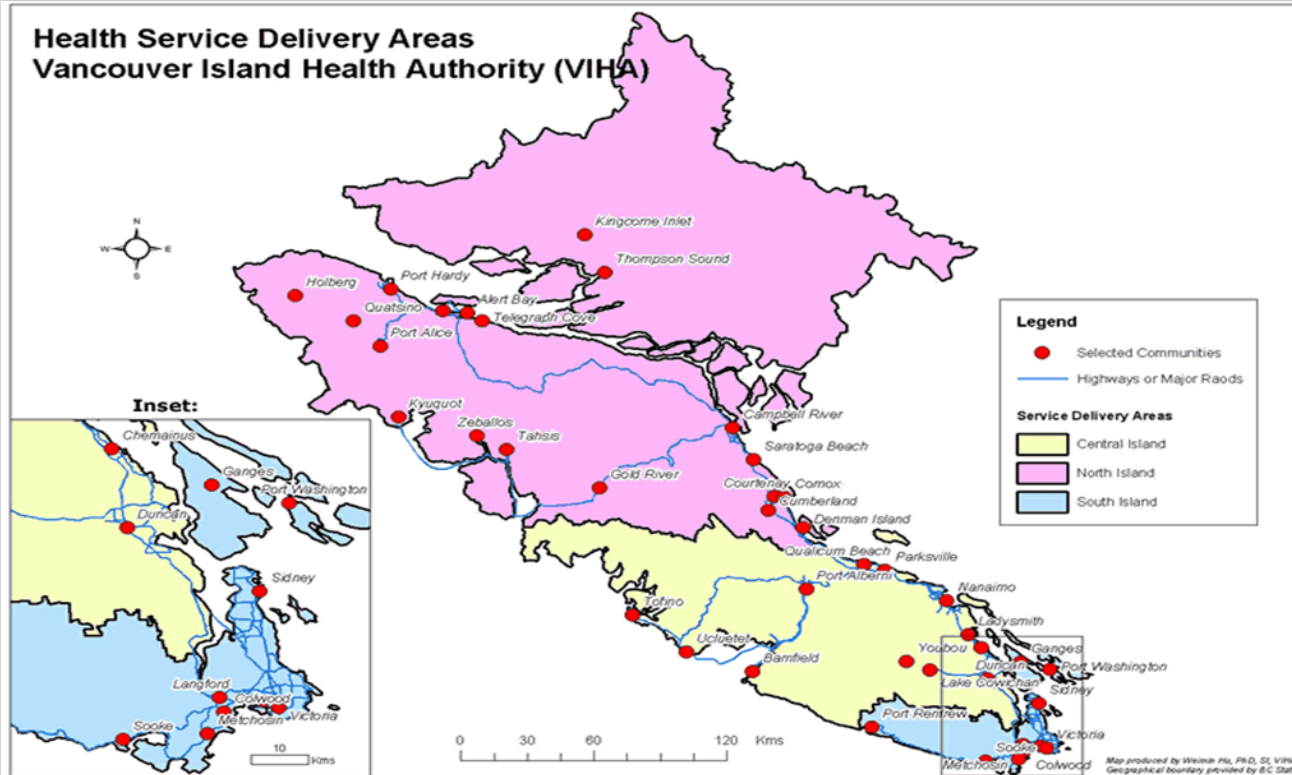


Healthcare Career Opportunities in B.C.

Who is VIHA?

- ❑ One of the largest employers on Vancouver Island
- ❑ Provides health services in acute care, long term care, residential care, and public health unit settings
- ❑ Serves an island population of more than 700,000
- ❑ Close to 600 different and challenging jobs in healthcare

Where are VIHA facilities?



- Over 17,300 employed
- Budget of about \$1.6 Billion
- 14 Unions

Healthcare Industry Trends

- Healthcare is a **growing** employment sector
- Every year, **more** people enter healthcare than leave
- The complexity of skills in healthcare are increasing
- Nursing, paramedical, and management positions increasingly difficult to fill throughout Canada

Frontline Healthcare workers

- Nurses
- Occupational Therapists
- Pharmacists
- Physicians
- Physiotherapists
- Respiratory Therapists
- Social Workers
- And many others

Behind the Scenes Work

- ❑ Biomedical Engineer
- ❑ Human Resources
- ❑ Information Technology
- ❑ Payroll
- ❑ Pharmacy Technician
- ❑ Purchasing
- ❑ Telecommunications



Behind the Scenes Work Part Two

- ❑ Administration
- ❑ Clerical Support
- ❑ Medical Laboratory
- ❑ Trades
- ❑ Sterile Supply Processing
- ❑ Food Services
- ❑ House Keeping

HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONS

Education and work details

Physician

Nature of Work

- Order medications, laboratory, and diagnostic procedures
- Assess, diagnose, and treat physiological and psychological disorders and injuries

Physician

Education

- ❑ 16 medical schools in Canada
- ❑ In 2005, UBC partnered with UVic and UNBC to offer medical school training on Vancouver island and northern B.C.
- ❑ To get into medical school, it takes **more** than just good grades
- ❑ Medical school programs at least 7 years plus minimum of 2 years of residency

Nursing (RN)

Nature of Work

- Provides safe and expert care to individuals, families, and communities. Nurses provide care through all stages of life and in a large variety of settings. High level of job security.

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, English, and math
- 4 year nursing program (RN) or equivalent. Camosun college and Vancouver Island College, in collaboration with UVic offer the RN program on Vancouver Island

Nursing (RN)

Some areas nurses work in

- Surgical
- Operating Room
- Maternity
- Emergency
- Intensive Care
- Neurosciences
- Medical
- Homecare
- Schools
- Prevention
- Geriatric
- Psychiatric
- Teaching
- Management
- Pediatric
- Street Nursing

Pharmacist

Where do pharmacists work?

- ❑ Retail Pharmacies
- ❑ Clinics
- ❑ Hospitals
- ❑ Research
- ❑ Teaching
- ❑ Management

Pharmacist

Education

- High school and 1st year university courses in biology, calculus, chemistry, English, and physics
- 4 year pharmacist program at UBC

Respiratory Therapist

Where do respiratory therapists work?

- ❑ Primarily in acute care hospitals
- ❑ Emergency wards
- ❑ Maternity wards
- ❑ Intensive care
- ❑ Neurosciences
- ❑ Operating room
- ❑ Out-patient clinics

Respiratory Therapist



Education

- 3 year program at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops

Occupational Therapist

Nature of Work

- Assist individuals with mental, physical, developmental or emotional disorders to develop or maintain self-care, work and leisure skills through activities and/or using adaptive equipment

Education

- High school courses in physics, biology, math, and English
- 4 year program offered at UBC

Physiotherapy

Nature of Work

- Maintain, improve or restore mobility, alleviate pain and preventing or limiting permanent physical disabilities through massage, exercise, hydrotherapy and the use of mechanical equipment

Education

- High school courses in physics, biology, math, English
- 4 year program offered at UBC

Speech Language Pathologist

Nature of Work

- Evaluate and treat communication disorders that include speech, hearing, language and voice impairments using tools varying from books and pictures to sound analyzers to electronic communication devices

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, physics, and English
- Degree in linguistics or psychology
- Master's degree in SLP required for entrance to practice.
- Program is at UBC

Paramedic

Nature of Work

- Respond to emergencies and provide life supporting measures until further medical intervention. Transportation of patients.

Prerequisites

- High school diploma
- Valid class 1,2 or 4 B.C. drivers license
- Occupational first aid level 3
- CPR level C

Unit Clerk

Nature of Work

- Performs clerical, receptionist, timekeeping, and other staffing and scheduling related functions in various hospital departments

Education

- 1 year unit clerk program available at Camosun and Vancouver Island University

Health Record Technician

Nature of Work

- Records medical dictation, medical-legal correspondence, and statistics all relating to patient health records

Education

- 2 year health records technician program

Radiation Technologist

Nature of Work

- Uses highly sophisticated x-ray equipment, mammography, or CAT scanners to produce images used to diagnose the extent of disease or injury
- The work is highly technical and requires considerable manual dexterity

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, math, and English
- 2.5 year diploma program offered at BCIT

Medical Sonographer Technologist

Nature of Work

- Uses medical devices to transmit ultrasound through organs, tissues, and other body mass

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, math, and English
- Full-time 12 month post-diploma program offered at BCIT
- Prerequisites include a minimum 2 year diploma in technology in an allied health field such as radiography, nuclear medicine or registered nurse

Nuclear Medicine Technologist

Nature of Work

- Use radioactive tracers that are generally injected into patient's bloodstream for diagnostic imaging and some treatment procedures. Radiation detection equipment is used to collect the data and computers are used to analyze the data and produce images of the organs

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, math, and English
- 2 year diploma program at BCIT

Medical Laboratory Technologist

Nature of Work

- Perform lab investigations related to diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease. Work in a dynamic and evolving environment. Handle potentially infectious material from patients while wearing protective wear

Education

- 2 ½ year program from UBC or BCIT

Medical Lab Assistant

Nature of Work

- ❑ Collection of specimens from patients, such as blood, sputum, urine, or stool. Initial processing and preparation of specimens for analysis. Data entry and other clerical and reception duties. There is a lot of demand in hospital and community settings

Education

- ❑ High school courses in English or communications
- ❑ 5 month program
- ❑ Offered at Camosun College

Biomedical Engineer

Nature of Work

- Ensure safe and correct performance of highly technical specialized equipment used throughout a hospital

Education

- High school courses in chemistry, English, math and physics
- Training program held at BCIT

Sterile Supply Technicians

Nature of Work

- Cleans, sterilizes, and disinfects instruments and/or equipment.
Works in areas such as: central processing, medical imaging, operating room, and endoscopy

Education

- Distance programs available from Vancouver Island University, Vancouver Community College

Pharmacy Technician

Nature of Work

- Stock, inventory, prepare blister packs and prescription labels, manage cash register, and maintain computer patient records

Education

- High school courses in biology, chemistry, English, and math
- Pharmacy technician course at and Vancouver Community College, Red Deer College

Licensed Practical Nurses

Nature of Work

- Provide care to stable patients under the supervision of an registered nurse in acute care, community, or gerontology settings

Education

- High school courses in biology, English and math
- Program offered at Vancouver Island College, Camosun, and North Island College

Community Mental Health Worker

Nature of Work

- Work with mental health patients in community and institutional settings to promote independent living. Is an area of high demand in VIHA

Education

- 16 week program offered at Camosun Colleges
- English 12
- CPR level C
- Food Safe

Rehabilitation Assistant

Nature of Work

- Work under the direction of physio or occupational therapists to meet patient rehabilitation needs

Education

- Programs offered at Okanagan and Vancouver Island Colleges