PATHOLOGY ATTENDANT

JOB SUMMARY
The Pathology Attendant performs evisceration and reconstruction of cadavers and assists with routine post mortem examinations.
Receives, logs-in, sorts, distributes and stores Histology and Cytology samples.
Prepares samples for processing and assists Technical and Medical staff dissect tissue samples and in maintaining tissue processing equipment.
Enters patient demographic and statistical information into the computerized information system.
(Additional details below)

TRAINING / EXPERIENCE NEEDED
- Grade 12 with completion of anatomy courses,
- One year’s recent, related experience; or an equivalent combination of education, training and experience.

POST-SECONDARY INFORMATION
Vancouver Community College (part-time) [http://www.vcc.ca/programs-courses/detail.cfm?div_id=6&prog_id=145](http://www.vcc.ca/programs-courses/detail.cfm?div_id=6&prog_id=145)
- Six theory-based courses offered by distance delivery
- Followed by one on-site course

JOB TASKS - A SAMPLE
- Receives and prepares cadavers and associated paperwork in preparation for post mortem examinations. Under the direction of the Pathologist, performs evisceration and reconstruction of cadavers as well as other routine duties for post mortem examinations, including but not limited to weighing cadaver, weighing organs, tying off carotid arteries, collecting microbiology or chemistry samples.
- Assists the Subsection Supervisor with tasks related to the Autopsy and Coroner’s services as required. For example, but not limited to, collecting toxicology samples, taking photographs, arranging the transfer of bodies and paperwork between sites and arrangement of viewings when required.
- Maintains the Autopsy suite and maintains required supply stock.
- Prepares Pathology & Autopsy work areas by setting up instruments and specimens and maintaining frozen section area supplies, reagents and equipment. Fills and empties formalin and Cytolyt containers, and maintains tissue processors by changing and documenting the changes of solutions. Replenishes supplies for accessioning and grossing areas.
- Files surgical and autopsy specimens, packs and ships samples, maintains records, and discards samples according to departmental policy and guidelines.
- Receives surgical and cytology samples, confirms the documentation by checking identification with the requisition and the sample labels. Documents and follows up on any discrepancies.

FULL POSTING:
The job catalogue contains general information only and is not intended to be used as an official VIHA job description. Job information and requirements are subject to change without notice.
- Enters the patient demographic information into the computerized hospital and laboratory information systems.
- Follows established procedures in identifying the level of complexity of histology and cytology samples. Sorts samples into priority order. Labels all the samples and directs them to the appropriate work area.
- Assists Technologists and Pathologists doing gross dissection by preparing cassettes and slides in accordance with established policies and procedures. Enters statistical information and task requests into the computer system for Pathology staff.
- Scrapes excess wax off embedded blocks, sort blocks and files blocks and slides, and maintains embedding equipment.
- Demonstrates procedures and orients staff and students as requested.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.