

PUBLIC HEALTH PLANNER

Q What do you like best about your job?

A I enjoy the Public Health Planner position because it allows me to do so many different things. I work on research projects, evaluations, facilitate planning sessions and run focus groups. I provide training and support to both students and colleagues. Plus I get to work for an organization that provides an in-building, employee funded fitness centre in a location close enough for me to bike to work.

Q Describe your typical day?

A One of the things I like about this job is that there is not really a typical day. I work on self directed research projects, reports, and planning processes for longer term timelines. The remainder of my time includes responding to public requests, working with colleagues across the province, providing input into consultations and staying on top of developments taking place across Public Health.

Q How are you making a difference?

A I make a difference in the community by ensuring that the programs and services we provide are based on good evidence, are properly evaluated and that they are offered in a way that is easy for citizens to access and understand.

I make a difference within the organization supporting co-workers, creating tools to support our work and organizing peer led training to improve our awareness and use of new research, methods and tools.

continued on reverse



“I’ve been working with Region of Waterloo Public Health as a Public Health Planner since 2001.”

“I have an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from the University of Waterloo and a Master of Community Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University.”



Region of Waterloo
PUBLIC HEALTH

Q What do you like about working and living in Waterloo Region?

A I came to Waterloo Region as a university student and decided to stay here because I enjoy the community so much. Waterloo Region is a great place to raise a family. It has the feel of a small community with the opportunities of a big city. The strong university presence and ongoing immigration to the area means that the community is always changing and evolving. It is just a great place to live.

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

A I chose to work for Region of Waterloo Public Health because the role allows me to use the full range of my skills and training in a challenging and rewarding environment. I am challenged by the ongoing changes and enhancements in the field of Public Health and I am supported by Region of Waterloo to find creative and innovative ways to develop research and improve the health of our citizens

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

A The Public Health Planner role requires you to interpret and write reports for a variety of different audiences. I would encourage you to develop strong writing skills, focusing on clear writing as you will need to translate complicated research information into short papers that will be used to shape policy development and inform the public.



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For information about other careers with Region of Waterloo Public Health, please contact us at 519-883-2000 ext. 5354
TTY: 519-883-2427

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/ph

Areas You Could Work In:

- Child & Family Health
- Health Protection & Investigation
- Healthy Living, Planning & Promotion
- Infectious Diseases, Dental & 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 & evaluation, health promotion & policy development, data analysis, report writing & communications, community planning & group process evaluation

Wage/Salary Range:

Approximately
\$63,000–\$72,000 annually
(2010 rates)