



Canadian
Children's
Literacy
Foundation

Fondation pour
l'alphabétisation
des enfants
canadiens

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Posting date: June 3, 2025

Closing date: Applications will be reviewed as they are received, and interviews will take place on a rolling basis until the role is filled.

Compensation: Commensurate with experience

Time Commitment: To be determined in alignment with project deliverables, the strategic plan, and the successful applicant's clinical schedule

Location: Anywhere in Canada (virtual work environment)

The Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation / Fondation pour l'alphabétisation des enfants canadiens ("CCLF") is a charity that was founded in May 2017 with the mission of ensuring that all children in Canada are equipped with the literacy skills they need to achieve their full potential.

Seeking a Medical Education Champion for Early Literacy Integration

The Opportunity

Canada faces a growing literacy crisis, with over 25% of children starting school without the skills needed to learn to read. Literacy is a key social determinant of health and The Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) Early Years Task Force has emphasized the importance of [early literacy](#) and [early relational health](#) as fundamental to child development. In addition, healthcare providers play a critical role in addressing this gap: families who receive literacy guidance from their healthcare providers are 2.5 times more likely to read to their children. Despite this, early literacy training remains rare in medical education.

The [Early Word/Premiers mots](#) program is Canada's leading healthcare-based early literacy initiative, and has trained over 1,600 healthcare providers to integrate literacy into patient care. We've developed an MOC-certified learning module with the Canadian Paediatric Society, delivered Grand Rounds and residency presentations, and continue to engage medical leaders and learners nationwide. Now, we're seeking a champion to take this work further.

The Role

We are looking for a physician (licensed in Canada) to work with the Canadian Children's Literacy Foundation to:

- Assemble and lead a national steering committee to embed early literacy in medical training.
- Advocate for early literacy integration into medical school and residency curricula.
- Engage with medical associations, training institutions, and policymakers.
- Support research and evaluation on the impact of early literacy promotion in healthcare.

For more information on this work, find a detailed brief [here](#).

Interested in applying?

Please send your CV to Nina Shukla, Director of Healthcare and Early Years Initiatives, at njshukla@childrensliteracy.ca to arrange a conversation.