

The Employment Journey

PEI's Top Source for Career Planning and Job Seeking

Golden opportunities in Healthcare

by Gloria Welton

Do you know what health profession Olympic Gold Medal bobsledder **Heather Moyse** is trained for?

Many of her western PEI neighbours, friends, and fans would know the answer is Occupational Therapy.

Did you know there are over **60** healthcare careers on PEI that provide rewarding work, a good living, and attractive benefit package?

PEI Health Sector Council (PEIHSC) along with other professional healthcare groups are working together to spread the word about the various healthcare career options that exist on PEI.

“One of our goals is to raise awareness and exposure to the variety of health careers on PEI,” says **Crystal-Lynn O’Meara**, Executive Director of PEIHSC. “We also want to give students and career planners an opportunity to speak directly with healthcare professionals, giving them a chance to receive firsthand information.”

Health Career Expos

Recently, the PEIHSC organized Health Career Expos for high school students from the western, eastern, and French school boards. “Over 500 high school students attended the expos,” says Crystal-Lynn.

“A wide variety of healthcare professionals took the time to come to the expos and talk to students about their jobs.

“The PEI Health Sector Council would like to thank all of the professionals who participated in the expos and made them a success. They were enthusiastic and students were eager to hear more. Many of the professionals said they would be glad to speak to students who have further questions.”

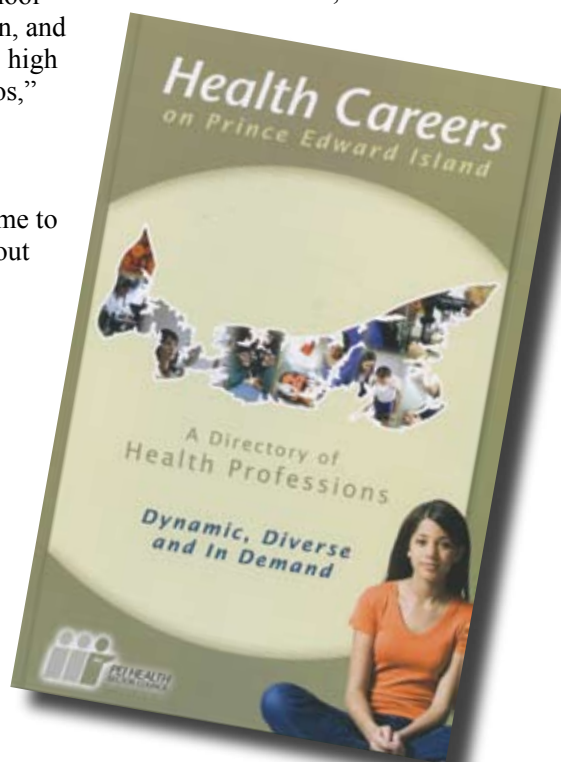
Dismissing myths

- Not all health careers require many years of study. Educational requirements range from college to university to specialized training.
- Not all health careers require shift work. Although most jobs in an institutional setting require shift work, many job settings such as public nursing, private practice, government, and educational institutes have day-time hours.
- Not all health careers work directly with the public. Many healthcare positions require working behind the scenes and having limited contact with the general public. Examples include Health Records Technician, Medical Physicist, and Medical Laboratory Technologist.

Directory of Health Careers on PEI

PEIHSC’s **Health Careers booklet** is available in hard copy and on-line. “This booklet provides details of over 60 health careers on PEI, outlining the job description, salary, high school credit requirements, and post-secondary institutions,” says Crystal-Lynn.

“Our goal is to have the booklet easily accessible to all who are interested in a career in healthcare, including students, teachers, parents, guardians, and school counsellors, and adult learners.”



www.peihsc.ca

“Together we need to promote the variety of careers within the healthcare sector on PEI,” says Crystal-Lynn O’Meara, Executive Director of PEIHSC.

Top healthcare jobs in demand

Most health careers are in demand globally. The **Department of Health and Wellness** and the **Department of Community Services, Seniors & Labour** lists the following positions as being in demand on PEI:

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| Biomedical Engineer | Physician |
| Child Protection Social Worker | Physiotherapist |
| Denturist | Psychologist |
| Diagnostic Sonographer (Ultrasound) | Resident Care Worker |
| EEG/EMG Technician | Radiation Technologist (X-ray) |
| Health Records Technician (soon to be referred to as Health Information Management) | Radiation Therapist |
| Medical Laboratory Technologist | Respiratory Therapist |
| Nurse | Speech Language Pathologist and more |
| Occupational Therapist | |
| Orthotist | |
| Pharmacist | |

Read about six health professionals who attended the recent Health Career Expo in Summerside on page 8 and 9.

For further information about the over **60** careers in the health sector on PEI or for a copy of the **Health Careers on PEI** booklet, call **367-4460**. To view the booklet on-line, visit **www.peihsc.ca**