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The Core Competency Profile describes the knowledge, abilities and attitudes commonly required of career development practitioners in Nova Scotia. The Profile defines what is expected of a proficient and experienced career development practitioner who is adept at working with diverse clients in a range of contexts.

This Profile builds on the *Canadian Standards and Guidelines for Career Development Practitioners, Core Competencies* (2012). They have been reorganized and contain expanded detail to support the development of a voluntary certification program that measures an individual's ability in terms of their knowledge and abilities against the standard.

The Core Competency Profile can be used by individuals, organizations, and professional bodies to:

- Set performance criteria to be measured in professional certification programs
- Inform HR practices such as recruitment, selection, performance appraisal, and training
- Develop curriculum and align educational programs with professional standards of practice
- Design and conduct prior learning assessment (PLA)
- Benchmark skills and knowledge to inform professional development and guide professional practice

About Career Development Practitioners

Career development practitioner is an umbrella term that refers to people who help others to identify and clarify a career direction as well as help to navigate seeking, planning, or managing changes in their lives by helping them make career, educational, and work decisions. Career development practitioners help individuals explore self and options, articulate career directions, and assist with planning to meet these goals. The Canadian Standards and Guidelines define career development as "a process that involves choosing, entering, adjusting to, and advancing in a career and integrating the work role with other life roles". Career development practitioners, therefore, advise, coach and facilitate client needs on a range of issues, such as:

- Helping define and manage career and personal development directions and goals
- Making life/career decisions
- Identifying and selecting education and training options to fulfil life and career goals
- Achieving balance between work and life
- Transitioning to and between work experiences
- Improving personal satisfaction by matching people and careers
- Finding employment

Career development practitioners provide essential services, enabling citizens to become effectively engaged in society through personal development goals and links to employment, education and training, and other services. Career development practitioners help individuals adapt to an increasingly more complex, interdependent and changing world. These services are essential to helping increase job creation, economic growth, and Nova Scotia's long-term prosperity.

There are a number of related terms that may be applied to career development practitioners¹ in their day-to-day activities, such as employment counsellors, employment specialists, employment support workers, career coaches, and vocational rehabilitation workers. The range of titles reflects the diversity of roles and work settings in which career developers practice. For example, career development services are often provided in:

K-12 schools

- Post-secondary institutions
- Community-based organizations
- Government departments and programs
- Worker's compensation boards and related organizations
- Human resources firms
- Businesses and corporations of all sizes
- Private agencies
- Penitentiaries
- Recruitment firms
- Insurance companies

The nature of jobs in the career development field requires some practitioners to be generalists with respect to the core competency areas, while others specialize in particular knowledge and skill areas. Examples of specializations within the field of career development include case management, curriculum and training development, human resources, assessment, and group facilitation and instruction. This profile describes the core functions of career development practitioners in both general and specialized roles.

Career development practitioners have usually completed post-secondary education in a related field, such as psychology, social work, education, or human resources. As with many growing professional fields, formal education and professional credentials have become increasingly valuable. This led to the development of formal training programs specializing in the field of career development at a range of levels in the post-secondary system, as well as the development of voluntary certification programs in several Canadian provinces. Despite being generally well educated, many career development practitioners lack specialized training in the field.

Development of the Profile

The profile was developed through a process of research, consultation and validation. The process aimed to take full account of the views and experiences of career development practitioners from across Nova Scotia, with representatives from a complete range of workplace contexts.

The profile is based on the *Canadian Standards and Guidelines for Career Development Practitioners, Core Competencies* (2012), adapted to reflect current practice and a Nova Scotian context, with added detail to support the development of a provincial certification program. The profile is written to represent a *competent, fully proficient* level (rather than an *entry to practice* level) and take into account emerging issues and trends, with the aim to make the profile both current and forward looking.

Setting the profile involved three keyphases:

- 1. **Benchmark review of current practice** involving collection of relevant, pre-eminent standards, guidelines, or other documented norms from around the world, and comparing these to the Canadian standards.
- 2. **Developing a draft framework and revised core competency profile** specific to Nova Scotia which was broadly disseminated for review and comment by practitioners across the province, and validated by a representative group of experienced practitioners.

3. **Extended validation and ratification of the document** to verify content integrity and address all feedback that resulted in amendments or refinement.

 $^{^{1}}$ It is important to note that Career Development Practitioners are different than Career Counsellors. Please see the Glossary for the general definition for Career Counsellor.

Structure of the Profile

The structure of the Core Competency Profile has been developed with the aim of making the profile explicit and accessible to encourage their use in a wide variety of settings. The overall structure of the profile aligns with the way career development practitioners fulfil their core duties:

- Professional ethics and an emphasis on cultural diversity and inclusion practices are at the core of the profession. These common values or principles serve as an anchor to the profession and inform all practices.
- Performance for any of the core competencies requires effective interpersonal and foundational skills. Career development practitioners use communication skills in all aspects of their work and must establish an effective



working alliance with their client. Knowledge on career development theories provide practitioners with a framework for exploring needs and for implementing interventions that respond to these needs.

- Functionally, the main role or purpose of a career development practitioner is to provide services, characterized by a formal consultation and developmental cycle. Career development practitioners assist clients with identifying needs and solving problems related to employment, training, and employability issues. Specific interventions or services are offered such as needs assessments, the provision of information, assistance with setting goals and action plans, employability related interventions, making referrals, or offering specific programs (e.g. job search skills or career training). Practitioners conduct on- going monitoring of the client's needs, provide continued support, and evaluate the success of the programs and services to ensure that the identified needs are being met effectively.
- Regular administrative duties and ongoing professional development responsibilities ensure that career development practitioners maintain a commitment to quality assurance. This includes the ability to contribute effectively in teams and collaborate with a multitude of stakeholders.

Within this overall structure, the profile contains six major competency categories: [1] Ethics, [2] Diversity and Inclusion, [3] Administration, [4] Interpersonal and Foundational Skills, [5] Career Development Services, and [6] Professional Development/Career Self-Management. Each of these categories contains the skill statements that describe what a competent career development practitioner must know and what they must be able to do. The statements are written to be inclusive of the range of work contexts and the diversity of clients.

The major categories also contain contextual information. Each section starts with a statement explaining why the skill category is important or how it relates to the role of a career development

practitioner. Examples are used where there is a need to further illustrate how a skill is applied. Additional resources may also be noted, such as commonly used authentic workplace materials (e.g. forms, charts, manuals).

Each skill also contains a series of *context rating scales*. The ratings are based on consultation with subject matter experts who were asked to rate each skill against the following dimensions:

- Relative level of **importance**: "What is the relative importance of this skill to the overall profession?"
 For example, certain skills may be more critical because they are enabling skills or describe the essence of the job, whereas other skills are relatively less important because they are 'nice to do' rather than 'essential'. Ratings were based on the following scale: (1) not important; (2) somewhat important; (3) important; (4) very important; and (5) extremely important.
- Degree of difficulty or complexity: "What is the level of difficulty or complexity associated with this skill?" Ratings were based on the following scale: (1) relatively easy or simple; (2) somewhat difficult, minimal complexity; (3) moderate level of difficulty or complexity; (4) fairly difficult, reasonably complex; and (5) highly complex and very difficult.
- Amount of time to become proficient² in the skill: "How long would it take a typical new entrant to the profession to become proficient in the skill, able to perform with autonomy in the appropriate range of contexts?" The rating is based on a defined period of time. The profile or definition of a typical new entrant was established as a woman in her mid to late 30's, with an undergraduate degree or college diploma in social sciences. The new entrant has diverse work experiences that involve helping others, such as social work, teaching and human resources. The new entrant is proficient in use of English and comesfrom mainstream society, representing the prevalent attitudes, values, and practices of a Nova Scotian. (This definition serves as benchmark only; there are great differences in actual profiles of new entrants. It is also important to note that the field is becoming increasingly more diverse in its workforce.)
- Criticality or risk focuses on the consequences of not performing the skill well: "What is the level of risk when this skill is not performed at all or correctly? Is the skill critical to ensuring safety or security?" Ratings were based on the following scale: (1) no risk or consequences; (2) some risk, limited consequences; (3) risk or consequences can be mitigated with some effort; (4) risk or consequences are moderately high; and (5) public safety or security a serious concern.
- Frequency with which the skill is performed or needed: "How often is this skill performed?"
 What specific circumstances (when relevant) will occur before this skill is performed?"
 Ratings were based on the following scale: Infrequently/Rarely, Daily/Routinely, Weekly, Monthly, or a specific defined timeframe.

Summary of the Context Scales

	IMPORTANCE		DIFFICULTY/ COMPLEXITY	TIME TO BE PROFICIENT	CRITICALITY/RISK		FREQUENCY
1	Not Important	1	Relatively easy or simple		1	No risk or consequence	Infrequently/ rarely
2	Somewhat Important	2	Somewhat difficult, minimal complexity		2	Some risk, limited consequences	Daily/routinely
3	Important	3	Moderate level of difficulty or complexity	Defined as a period of time, e.g. number of months or years	3	Risk or consequences can be mitigated with some effort	Weekly
4	Very Important	4	Fairly difficult, reasonably complex		4	Risk or consequences are moderately high	Monthly
5	Extremely Important	5	Highly difficult, and very difficult		5	Public safety or security a serious concern	Other specific time frame

 $^{^2}$ Note: Competency is not attained through time spent in the profession alone. This scale is a guideline that denotes the average period of time for an individual to become proficient under ideal conditions.

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1.0 ETHICS

OVERVIEW

Career development practitioners adhere to ethical principles, values and codes which guide professional behaviour and inform decisions to resolve ethical dilemmas. Identifying and solving these dilemmas requires sensitivity, sincerity, understanding, and commitment. Working through ethical conflicts is part of what career development practitioners encounter daily. Avoiding and preventing situations that could give rise to a conflict of interest, or the appearance of a conflict of interest (i.e. perceived), is one of the primary means by which a career development practitioner maintains confidence in the impartiality and objectivity of the profession.

1.1 Follow Code of Ethics

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity		to be cient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency		
5	3	2 ye	ears	4	Daily/Routinely		
ŀ	KNOWLEDGE		PERFORMANCE: To be Check off by the Mentor				
Develop a Learning Pla	n on the following:		At the time of the review, does the candidate:				
 Current legislation and procedures, for any personal information. Personal information. Employment land control of the control of th	ethics and conduct stand and organizational requ or example: mation protection, confi aw on and vulnerable sector of records, reporting fety e.g., equality, accommo iscrimination a qualified career develo	dentiality policies dation, pment	- Us	nin professional image: se words and actions cor- ofessional values aintain credentials gage in professional developertunities oid and disclose real, ap- inflicts of interest in-judgementally: spect individuals' views sist clients in making ow- scuss pros and cons of o e impartial information, r services and products a entify needed resources ents' needs to be met e accurate, current and i ovide clients with sufficie ake informed choices outes to a work environr inclusion, for example: tively intervene to prom omote equality of oppor ovide advice and assista cluded lapt services to meet need entify and refer people t other services that can be inse awareness of needs e services only for which pment practitioner is que-	relopment parent and potential and rights rn decisions, e.g., ptions advice and support as stated: and support to allow relevant information: ent information to ment that promotes ote rights rtunities nce to people who are eds of excluded people o local network groups help of particular groups of the career		

Inform clients of types of se limitations or conditions of confidentiality, legal obligat Respect clients' rights and w Maintain client confider measures to respect prinformation Take action to prevent wharm, e.g., disruptive clees Maintain records on cases in Document recommend measures or alternative.	the service, e.g., limits to ions vell-being: ntiality, e.g., take ivacy and protect or remove clients from ients, nvolving ethical issues ations on preventative
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1.2 Follow Ethical Decision-Making Model

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
5	3	3 years	4	Daily/Routinely
KI	NOWLEDGE		PERFORMANC	E
Career develo must know:	pment practitioners	Career development	practitioners must be ab	le to:
— Discritreatr— Gross— Perso	uations, for example: mination or unfair ment of people s negligence nal gain over others vful behaviour	 Gather relevant consult with qua Reframe issues, Identify effect or Identify possible Identify solution Propose alte Examine risk Determine b Use client-center Solution sho Client will m 	lified colleagues e.g., identify opportunitie n respective stakeholders constraints or actions: ernatives ks and benefits of each al pest alternative or course red approach, for examplould fit individual's needs	ternative action of action le: ased on informed choices

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

The Code of Ethics (2004), published by the Career Professionals of Canada, is "intended as a platform for the Canadian Standards and Guidelines for Career Development Practitioners". Elements of this Code of Ethics are reflected in the above standard.

2.0 DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

OVERVIEW

Career development practitioners have a growing need for increased and improved diversity and inclusion practices. Nova Scotia has an increasingly diverse population influenced by factors such as greater worker mobility, migration, and demographic changes (e.g. aging workforce).

Individuals from minority groups represent a significant and growing proportion of clients. Cultural diversity refers to individuals or groups with varying characteristics including: gender, age, sexual preference, spiritual beliefs, socioeconomic status, physical and mental capacities, and geographic location. Career development practitioners need to provide culturally appropriate information or programs, and ensure that barriers to engagement are reduced or eliminated. Career development practitioners require an open-minded attitude towards other cultures.

2.1 Carry Out Inclusionary Practices

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time t Profic		Criticality/Risk	Frequency	
5	4	4 yea	ars	4	Daily/Routinely	
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career development practitioners must be able to:			
employment-relat such as: — Discrimination — Harassment — Job stress — Absenteeism — Safety and he Referral options for service providers, authority or capace — Government for inclusion initial initia	help individuals overconed problems and person alth or programs available thr (i.e. outside of own compity), for example: unding for dedicated diviatives organizations specializing litural groups organizations offering specializations offering specializing uployment and persons versions of the special speci	rough other petency, ersity or g in services ecialized with	- Maap relev Adap relev A F	coach and treat each client which mental ability, general ability, or religion accept, respect and value at or develop programs the ant, for example: Acknowledge diverse here accepts and content or information access and cultural knowledge, for the accept accepts and cultural knowledge, for accepts and cultural knowledge, for accepts and cultural accepts and accepts and accepts and accepts and proceduces and proceduces and proceduces and proceduces and monitor retermine: Evel of satisfaction amore accepts accepts accepts and provement accepts and provement accepts accepts and provement accepts accepts and provement accepts accepts and provement accepts accepts accepts and provement accepts accepts accepts and provement accepts	ased on physical ander, language, as individual differences that are culturally sitages anation on different as or example: Os that have the diverse as on diversity and ares that improve assults of interventions and clients from	

 <u>, </u>
Determine the extent to which individuals from various ethnic or minority groups access services, for example: Compare client profiles and activities to regional demographics and statistical data, e.g., unemployment rates Consult ethnic, minority, and disability groups to determine if needs are being met Identify and address systemic barriers embedded in policies, practices, programs that inadvertently exclude individuals or minority communities: Remove barriers, e.g., accommodation for persons with disabilities, employment
 supports, provide translation services or vocational assistance Refer clients to additional sources of support when needs are beyond competence, authority or capacity Identify funding sources and other supports that may be available to support clients to gain access to jobs or self-employment, for example: Government funds to improve accessibility for individuals with a disability

2.2 Create and Maintain an Inclusive and Welcoming Work Environment

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	2	1 year	3	Daily/Routinely
KNO	WLEDGE		PERFORMANCE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:	Career developmer	nt practitioners must be	able to:
 Code of Ethics Human Rights Duty to accommod 	date	 Listen carefully asking Be patient and understanding Be collaborativ 	onment free of discrimin	ople are saying or s to improve

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES *The Code of Ethics* (2004), Career Professionals of Canada Canadian Human Rights Act

3.0 ADMINISTRATION

OVERVIEW

Career development practitioners must be competent and diligent in administrative practices in order to be efficient and effective in fulfilling responsibilities to clients, colleagues, employers, and self. Administrative competencies support all functions of the organization and role of a career development practitioner. Career development practitioners constantly balance a full and varied schedule and can often be faced with multiple priorities to be completed.

3.1 Maintain Client Records

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time t		Criticality/Risk	Frequency		
3	2	3 mo	onths 3 Weekly/Mon				
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMANO	CE		
 Legislation and pr requirements, e.g. and Electronic Doo Confidentiality pol 	ractitioners must know: ocedures regarding conf , Personal Information P cuments Act icies and procedures, e.g	rotection	 Career development practitioners must be able to: Identify types of records required, e.g., case files, client assessments, case notes, meeting notes, authorization forms, résumés, portfolios, reports Collect client information: Demographic information 				
organization			- II - II - II - Maint - Er - Cc - St - Secure - Re - Er - Ca - Er - po - D - po - be - Inforn - Ae - in - Back t - D - Co	Education qualifications Employment history and Language capabilities ain records: Insure records are accurate complete and current core or delete old or unn e files to preserve client estrict public access to o insure paper files are lock abinets or offices insure electronic files are rotected elete or destroy old recordicted in clients of recordkeeping dvise clients on own abiliformation up electronic data etermine frequency omply with organization rocedures	and experience I status ate, objective, Decessary information confidentiality: ffices and files ked and secured in De network password Ords as per legislation, Shred paper files Design process Design		

3.2 Use Time Management Techniques

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Criticality/Risk		Frequency
4	3	1 year	2	Ongoing
KNOV	VLEDGE		PERFORMANCE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:	Career development	practitioners must be ab	le to:
Organization's mis Work or case load	sion	 Consider need Prioritize goals are Order by level Set short-, means Identify steps Rank tasks are Identify tasks Determine the Set timelines: Identify crit Schedule tasks Monitor progress Identify incorneeded, e.g., Ensure dead Modify procedure 	el of importance or urge edium-, and long-term g s to fulfil each task: coording to importance as that can be carried out me and resources to cortical dates asks: mplete tasks and make a adjust time lines, critica	and urgency simultaneously mplete each task adjustments, as

3.3 Collect, Analyze and Use Information or Basic Research Techniques

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 years		4	Weekly
	KNOWLEDGE		PERFORM <i>A</i>	NCE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:	Caree	r development practitio	ners must be able to:	
example: — Copyright law — Privacy protect — Protection of I — Conduct of pulegislation — Restrictions in copyright • Sources of primary — Surveys — In-depth inter — Focus groups — Field observat • Sources of second — Public-use dat — Literature	ction, e.g., 'Freedom of In Privacy Act' Iblic opinion research, e.g I sharing, e.g., licensing a Iy data: Views	formation and g., do-not-call greements, anada data	• Id	lentify information to see or example: — Available programs — Current labour man economic, social, de political variables — Data for reporting plentify sources of informed Government databates — Professional journal Newspapers — Consultations with elect research collection bols where needed, for election Focus groups — Focus groups ollect and compile informations	or services ket factors, e.g., emographic or eurposes nation, for example: eses ls experts methods and example: satisfaction surveys

Statistical reports from associations, governments Research methods, e.g., focus groups, interviews, field observations, document reviews, tracking, surveys	 Organize into format that supports analysis and review Determine that information is reliable and valid, i.e. accurate, relevant, current Interpret findings, i.e. make a conclusion based on evidence and reasoning, e.g. Determine if information or results meet goals Develop recommendations and conclusions Follow copyright laws: Cite sources, i.e. ensure credit is given Do not plagiarize or make unauthorized use of copies of another author's work Store information Ensure confidentiality and security of information and data

3.4 Develop information materials

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency		
3	3	1	year	2	Monthly		
K	NOWLEDGE			PERFORMANCI	Ē		
3 3 1 KNOWLEDGE Career development practitioners must know: Types of information materials required, for example: — Contact lists of employers seeking workers — Guidelines on developing effective resumes — Community resources and supports — Referral sources — Bus schedules and maps Methods for obtaining different types of information			Career development practitioners must be able to: • Determine what information to provide • Obtain suitable information • Define the audience (different clients) and related characteristics • Prepare content: — Ensure all relevant information is included — Select vocabulary suitable to audience — Use plain language — Ensure content is coherent, grammatically correct, consistent • Determine the life cycle of the information materials • Determine structure of the materials to most effectively deliver the content				

3.5 Access and use information and communications technology

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 years		3	Ongoing
KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMANCE		
Career development practitioners must know:			Career development practitioners must be able to:		
 Common information and technology communications tools and services, for example: Web media, e.g., blogs, podcasts Social media, e.g., Facebook, Twitter 			_ '	o up to date with techno Define needs, e.g., track communications with co	ing client information,

- Online training
- Information databases, e.g., job banks, contact databases, learning management systems
- Software programs

- Conduct research on available information and communications technology or tools
- Consider available resources
- Select information and technology-based resources services that meet needs
- Look for information and communications technology updates to existing products or services
- Learn how to use new and updated software
- Use various information and communications technology resources and services, for example:
 - Job banks
 - Online career planning and assessment instruments
 - Internet search engines
 - Databases, e.g., Labour Market Programs Support System (LaMPSS)
- Provide input in the development of technologybased tools, when possible

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

4.0 INTERPERSONAL & FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

OVERVIEW

Communication is a significant part of a career development practitioner's job and is essential to working effectively and efficiently. It is an important skill that promotes a positive and professional image of industry, organization and self. Effective communication and use of interpersonal skills ensures that clients and stakeholders feel respected, are understood and informed, and ultimately that respective needs can be met.

Establishing a working alliance between the career development practitioner and the client is essential. This process establishes a respectful and trusted partnership between the client and career development practitioner and is necessary for achieving jointly established objectives.

Career development practice has a long history and builds on many theories or models, all of which look at the field of practice in different ways. Combined, the theories or models serve as a framework for practitioners to help guide and improve their practice; there is no single all-encompassing theory that guides practice.

4.1 Establish and Maintain a Working Alliance

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 year	´S	3	Daily/Routinely
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	ICE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career d	levelopment practitione	rs must be able to:
	Career development practitioners must know:			espectful and non-judgm Respect individuals' view Be open to different per ee on a collaborative app Make decisions jointly, in making own decisions ore client's expectations stions, reflect on and suit with identifying and seconds and tasks to be ach jointly) a permission from client opect clients' rights and w Maintain client confident measures to respect priniformation	vs and rights rspectives and views broach i.e. assist clients i, i.e. ask immarize points eeking agreement iieved (individually to continue services ell-being: tiality, e.g., take

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time t Profic		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 years		3	Daily/Routinely
KNOWLEDGE				PERFORMAN	CE
areer development pr	ractitioners mustknow:		Career dev	elopment practitioners r	must be able to:
General definitions models, including: Humanistic, e.g. needs must be higher levels Behavioural, e reinforcement behaviour Developmental through variou different issue General definitions theories, including Trait-Factor The traits such as i career choices traits to job face. Holland's Care to be in one of (realistic, invested enterprising, control satisfying work close match be environmental. Super's Theory people qualify impose their so choices; people developmental establishment, career transitic. Krumboltz's Hapeople developments establishment, career transitic. Krumboltz's Hapeople development: people development: peof the world Constructivist Theory of the world based unique perceptions planning is about con one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the or of Career on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on the world on one's own person help make the vision Chaos Theory of Career of the world on the w	g., Maslow: individuals' be met before they can man, s.g., Skinner: use positive to encourage desirable of the stages and each stages as to resolve to each of career development is early people have well conterests and values, and are made by matching to tors er Typology Theory: people fix personality categoristigative, artistic, social, conventional) and the most extween personality factor of Life-Span/Life-Space for a number of occupated for a number of	defined defined des destand des des des des des des des des des de	Descri Descri Pr sit pe qu ar He co de m He Use th Co th Re ld cli co th Co th Co th co th cli co th cli co th co th cli co th co th cli co co th co co	be major career develop be purpose of career devovides different ways of tuation or problem, i.e. herspective ffers a systematic approauestions for consideration and validate interventions elps build a common term evelopment practitioners elps establish criteria to geasure quality of service elps confirm and inform elps inform policies and precise to inform practice onsider multiple ways of sues onsider different possible e client's words, defined eflect on personal views a entify theories that are refert's needs, e.g., during onceptualization and plar formation to guide discussions.	ment theories velopment theories looking at the same elps broaden the ach to help identify n, interpret findings minology to use in career guide decisions and s practice practice procedures e, for example: looking at needs or e interpretations of needs or issues and decisions elevant to the case nning ssions and tical framework or needs; explain how ns are informed by

and unpredictable change

- Different concepts on the meaning of "careers", for example:
 - Lifestyle involving a sequence of work or leisure activities (Herr and Cramer)
 - Sequence of occupations, jobs and positions engaged in or occupied throughout the lifetime of a person (Marinelli and Messing)
 - Sequence of major positions occupied by a person throughout life, including work-related roles and vocational, familiar and civic roles
- Summary of one's life experiences, including work, leisure, and education

4.3 Use Listening skills

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 years	3	Daily/Routinely
KNOV	VLEDGE		PERFORMANCE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:	ioners must know: Career development practitioners must be able to:		ole to:
Styles of commun Assertive or si Clear and dire		 Maintain approp Face speaker: Use eye cont Choose an appropend of the proper cont Remove dist Listen with emparence of the propend prope	cact opriate physical environmentations of thy: gement (i.e., keep an operation on speaker and message) finish what he/she wanted of in what is being discussintact of message, e.g., expression and ideas by to clarify; ask open-encements to confirm under the open open open open open open open ope	en mind) e; provide undivided ed to say (i.e., don't sed, e.g., nod, smile, appreciation, thank ded questions rstanding: seek responses eeded ort the speaker's

 $^{^{3}}$ The theories contained in this document are meant to serve as examples and do not represent a complete list.

	 Determine if message reinforces or contradicts body language (i.e., note discrepancies) Where there is a discrepancy, search for meanings
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

4.4 Use Speaking Skills

Importance	Difficulty/	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
5	4	2 years		3	Daily/Routinely
	KNOWLEDGE	,		PERFORMAN	
Career development processing to the communication reaction audiences, e.g., cu Communication te Use of empath upset" Use of open-ending the communication te Use of close-ending the communication te Use of empath upset" Use of open-ending the communication telephone to the communication telephone te	Complexity 4 KNOWLEDGE ractitioners must know: eeds, styles and preferen	Profici 2 yea aces of eling Il me" ere do you	• Be p - C - Be	PERFORMAN evelopment practitioner repared, for example: Gather necessary inform Know the target groups of the communication groups of the comm	Daily/Routinely Se must be able to: Paration and facts and stakeholders coals and key messages respect and sensitivity or message and invite Cise: Clently Clume Coals Coal
			— II	Hearing impairment, wh Developmental impairm irm client has understod Observe body language Ask questions Review what was said	ent, where relevant od message: unication barriers league who speaks thent

4.5 Use Writing Skills

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
3	4	3 y	ears	3	Daily/Routinely
ŀ	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMANC	E
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career dev	elopment practitioners r	nust be able to:
Protocol for different formats, for example:			 De Av Ensure Use co Adapt audien Pe Re Ne Te Pro 	ain language: efine terms or concepts oid complex rhetoric, e.g e content is clear, accurate rrect grammar content and structure ace, considering: actions ading ability eeds chnical understanding eferred language rmat, tone and style suit	e and concise of material to suit

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A Plain Language Handbook: Write for Your Reader, Northwest
Territories Education, Culture and Employment,
www.nwt.literacy.ca

5.0 CAREER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

OVERVIEW

Career development practitioners provide a range of services that assists people in making educational, training and occupational choices and to manage work or career goals that fit lifestyle needs. The process helps people to reflect on their ambitions, interests, qualifications, abilities, and the factors that influence career decisions. It allows them to understand and navigate the labour market and education systems, while helping them plan and make decisions about work and learning.

Career development services follows a *developmental* cycle: identification of client needs, determining the ways and means to best meet the client needs, implementing interventions and programs, monitoring the delivery of these services, and continuing to follow up or provide ongoing client services to ensure success.

5.1 Conduct Needs Assessment

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
5	4	3 years		4	Daily/Routinely
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career dev	relopment practitioners i	must be able to:
for example: — School to wor — Work to school — Migration — Employee to see	elf-employed status erson to a person with a ent tools, for example: nent tools, e.g., interest ersonality inventory, ty skills or interests		releval rel	lients find and locate information to their needs: etermine client's ability to andling systems, e.g., know assification systems, comentify information source ablications, websites, expone and qualify client information source and qualify client information source and qualify client information source and qualify client informations, where inventories, aptitude to including learning disabilities approach assist client with understance and increased and increas	o utilize information- powledge of nputer skills, literacy es, e.g., perts, colleagues ormation e appropriate, e.g., ests, psychological lity, abilities: eent, e.g., explain nding assessment ds, e.g., job quirements , e.g., housing, : adiness programs ograms e activities for special services, ehavioral health)

5.2 Determine Intervention

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to Profici		Frequency	
5	4	3 yea	ırs	4	Weekly
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career de	evelopment practitioners	s must be able to:
such as: — Pre-employab — Career decisio — Work search — Skill Enhancer — Job maintenar — Career growth • Referring and refe	on-making nent nce n rral programs gn, i.e., the format of train		that i	gn an individual developmentudes, for example: dentification and contact dentification and contact dummary of assessment short and long term goal dentified programs or of time frames of services. Client responsibilities case manager responsibility life roles and responser development, e.g., carmunity clients to programs or inferrals): dentify recommended sease client for input agree on selection of sercomplete necessary doctonsent forms for the development with other program and determine ability and capped to the case management clients in the development clients with the integral consistive attitude consistiv	t information information information is ther resources needed sillities sibilities that affect e for a child, role in information providers ervices vice provider(s) umentation, e.g., client end service providers: pacity to fulfil needs t responsibilities nent of work habits, for sommitments well with others portunities, exhibits goals and monitors sets priorities tion of career in i.e. help ensure nal responsibilities dentified needs, e.g., esses, skills and knowledge essed rmine format

5.3 Implement Intervention

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity		e to be ficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	5	4	years	3	As Required
K	NOWLEDGE			PERFORMANC	Ε
Career development pra	actitioners must know:		Career deve	lopment practitioners m	ust be able to:
organization, local Job search skills, p Job search cycles Adult learning prin Adults are intedirected Adults bring lilearning expension Adults are goal Adults are releated Adults are releated Adults are prand	rocesses and documents riciples, for example: ernally motivated and se fe experiences and know riences al oriented evancy oriented	lf-	activities — Preparra — Accongen — Provuse — Encongen — Stimapp — Adjuadju • Engage — Preparra — Provucase • Maintair — Provuse — Obsr — Provuse	pare for session, e.g., coordingements, prepare materisms and differences wide opportunity for all contracts are strategies to accommodourage, acknowledge and tributions are lication sust physical environments lighting, change room colleagues and referring pare information (i.e., instruction sust briefing (i.e., instruction)	ordinate site erials inguistic, cultural, dients to engage (i.e., late individual needs) d validate client content and its t as needed, e.g., n set-up programs, as needed: tions and summary of identify effective

5.4 Monitor & Evaluate Programs and Interventions

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to Profici		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	2 yea	ars	4	Daily/Routinely
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	ICE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career d	evelopment practitioner	s must be able to:
program with — Milestones set — Contingency p required • Evaluation method — Formative eva service period — Summative ev program or se effectiveness a — Internal evaluation	tes for review and adjust client to evaluate against plans to adjust program versions, for example: aluation: occur during program to assess compliar valuation: occur at the enervice period, e.g., to asses	where ogram or nce nd of ess	• Mon	gn evaluation methods as: Ensure measures for effiand impact itor programs: Assure that needed serv provided Verify service plan is bein planned Verify integrity of data contended protocol and entools) Offer to assist with prob	iciency, effectiveness, ices are being ng carried out as ollection (i.e., follow nsure proper use of

- External evaluations: conducted by independent evaluators
- Aspects of program to be evaluated, for example:
 - goals and objectives
 - effectiveness of program, client progress
 - clients' responses to program and delivery, e.g., non-verbal indicators, survey
- Develop monitoring and evaluation plan:
 - Establish criteria, e.g., key variables to verify objectives are being met
 - Determine monitoring activities, e.g., document review, direct observation, interviews, data review
 - Set schedule for monitoring activities
 - Determine evaluation methods
 - Define human resource requirements and expertise to fulfil monitoring and evaluation activities
 - Manage budget, e.g., define expenses

- Administer evaluations:
 - Conduct orientation or training of those responsible for collecting data
 - Collect data at prescribed intervals
- Review results:
 - Compare results to goals and objectives
 - Identify and analyse unexpected results, e.g., client leaving program ahead of time
- Report results:
 - Determine reporting format, e.g., project management reports, memos, success stories
 - Be timely, (i.e., ensure information can be acted on as needed)
 - Be accurate, balanced and impartial
- Incorporate results of evaluation, for example:
 - Make recommendations
 - Adjust programs
 - Identify new programs' information needs

5.5 Follow Up and Provide Ongoing Support or Client Services

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time Profi		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
3	2	1 y	ear	2	Daily/Routinely
KNOWLEDGE				PERFORMANO	Œ
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career dev	elopment practitioners	must be able to:
Organization's and	cies, procedures or guid I stakeholder service star , use of Labour Market P aMPSS)	ndards, or	- Co ou - Co - Re • Manag future - De se - Ide ro co - Pr ob • Invite p aimed • Mainta provid - As - Up - Pr - Pr • Mainta	nine follow up activities, ontinued monitoring of succession plete paperwork to classion programs acontact: etermine if client seeks contices entify best means for mattine telephone calls, occurrespondence ovide service, e.g., help is estacles to change oast clients to engage in at updating programs ain working relationships ers, for example: k service providers for foodate names of contacts odate information on available information on avail	ervice or program ose services contracts bout ongoing and ontinued contact or aintaining contact, e.g., casional e-mail dentify affective planning activities s with service eedback ailable services ces elevant

NOVA SCOTIA CORE COMPETENCY PROFILE

 Maintain record of activities, detailed notes, e.g., discussions with client, date of last contact

6.0 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER SELF-MANAGEMENT

OVERVIEW

Career development practitioners have an ongoing commitment to professional development to support their career goals. Career development practitioners strive to maintain their skills and be current in their practice. Career development practitioners rely on and routinely collaborate with colleagues, and work to develop an atmosphere of professionalism and mutual support.

Career development practitioners are expected to contribute to an effective working team and model behaviour that shows respect, helpfulness and co-operation. They pass on relevant information, receive and act on constructive feedback, and help others improve their practice. Career development practitioners are expected to seek advice and support to resolve issues and improve client services. Working in a team environment requires continued personal and professional development, often as a result of feedback from the team and the working arrangements that arise through diverse team dynamics.

6.1 Demonstrate Commitment to Ongoing Professional Development

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to Profici		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
5	3	3 yea	rs	3	Monthly
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career de	evelopment practitioner	s must be able to:
responsibilities Available developr Organisation's polipersonal developr Processes within the Learning methods	of work role including the ment opportunities and ricy and procedures in terment he organization for making and development activities address identified gaps of	resources rms of ng decisions ties that can	curre for e	itor trends and development and future requirem xample: Review trade magazines, Participate in professionate in professional development in profes	ents of the work role, websites al conferences, d career fairs al associations and rmance from qualified elopment needs pment plan that vledge, abilities, and lopment goals ities to address the actions or activities tegies that will be used met d in the development

6.2 Develop Productive Working Relationships With Colleague

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	3	3 year	S	3	Weekly
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	ICE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career	development practitione	rs must be able to:
 details, meeting no Best methods to c within the organiz. Role in relation to 	ommunicate with appropation others in the work team ibilities of other colleagu	priate parties	coll Kee Offe Offe Acc info Pro per Cor Mai exa —	pect the roles and responseagues p colleagues informed of the rideas and information of the response r	of own activities to colleagues then needed: with colleagues the poly of any difficulties active feedback and ters: formation to improve the on their the defense on their and willing attitude

6.3 Develop Productive Working Relationships With Stakeholders And Other Service Organizations

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity		e to be ficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	3	3 y	years	3	Weekly
ŀ	NOWLEDGE			PERFORMANC	Е
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career deve	elopment practitioners m	nust be able to:
 Organization's stakeholders, including background information and nature of interest or role Vision, values, objectives, plans, structure and culture of organization 		(i.e., ref — Pre pro gov — Ind the gro — Det exp • Maintai — Ide	stakeholders and other ferral network): pare list of potential stal widers, competitors, emperiment, labour unions ividually, determine why organization or how the ups termine if the organization or list of services offered ntify types of clients eligiered	keholders, e.g., service ployers, associations, they are important to by serve client needs or on can meet their by each organization:	

 Describe how the services can be accessed Identify referral process, if applicable Identify information available Identify and meet information needs Consult colleagues and stakeholders in relation to key decisions: Identify concerns, priorities, expectations Make informed decisions taking into account stakeholder views
 Identify and resolve conflicts of interest, for example: Reduce opportunities for corruption or improper conduct Demonstrate the role/activity is being undertaken in fair, unbiased manner Monitor and review effectiveness of working relationships

6.4 Respond to Disruptive or Threatening Behaviours

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time t Profic		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	4 yea	ars	3	Daily/Routinely
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career de	velopment practitioners	must be able to:
Types of disruptive example: — Physical abuse — Verbal abuse — Threats or inti	midation e.g., sexual, racial, cyber nduct		behave — None —	nize occurrence of disru- viour: Maintain positive work er dentify signs of distresse evels of irritable, unruly of ehaviour explain consequences of hreatening behaviours (i) Use humour, where apprond constructively, for ex else direct appeal statem ttention now." Falk calmly, (i.e., non-thread make confident comman not going to do that, you isten to client's issue, (i.e. express themselves) ecknowledge client's feel esk questions to help reg onversation fake individual aside to de ect self and others from i eysical confrontations, for elect colleagues and clien folace chair or other barri lient enlist the help of others fall 911	nvironment ed client, e.g., high or aggressive disruptive or .e., give a warning) opriate example: ents, e.g., "I need your eatening) ds, e.g., "No, you are are going to" e., allow client to sings eain control of siscuss issues ntimidating behaviour r example: ets of potentially

6.5 Be Familiar With Labour Market Information

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time t		Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	3 ye	ars	3	Monthly
	KNOWLEDGE			PERFORMAN	CE
Career development p	ractitioners must know:		Career de	velopment practitioners	must be able to:
 Industry sector Wages and lal Labour marker unemploymer Demographic Skills or labour Types of labour m Jobs, wages, b Employment and data Trends Productivity Labour market tree Occupations p 	oour costs et matching and long-terr nt s ir shortages arket information, for ex senefits, conditions of em and unemployment rates	ample: aployment s, supply-	inform — Po — Fo — Evaluate examp — Lo — In — In — Keep — and tr — A' — D — So — So — Po	ook for trends or overall lentify significant conten nplications or application etermine conclusions or current about local labo	market needs nds market statistics, for themes nt (i.e., that has n to needs) recommendations ur market information urces

6.6 Apply Labour Market Information

Importance	Difficulty/ Complexity	Time to be Proficient	Criticality/Risk	Frequency
4	4	3 years	3	Monthly
KNOV	VLEDGE		PERFORMANCE	
Career development p	ractitioners must know:	Career development	practitioners must be ab	le to:
Job interviewsUse of recruit	eparation, e.g., résumés skills and practice	Communicate lab purpose: — Provide accu — Explain labou understand hobjectives Apply market infosearch strategies 1. Assist clients experience 2. Demonstrate	arket information is accupour market information rate and current information for market information to now it applies to their wormation to individual cation in identifying marketable link of client's skills and ne labour market	for specific, applied ation help clients ork search and career areer plans or job e skills, knowledge and

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES www.workingincanada.gc.ca http://careers.novascotia.ca/

APPENDICES

GLOSSARY

Action plan: A sequence of steps that must be taken, or activities that must be performed well, for a

strategy to succeed.

Accuracy: Data concept concerning the ability of a measurement to match actual value of the

quantity being measured.

Career counselling:

An interpersonal process focused on facilitating career development that involves choosing, entering, adjusting to, and advancing in a career and integrating the work role with other life roles. The process seeks to enhance personal development, as well as facilitate personal awareness about occupations, life/career decision making, career planning, careerpathing, or other career development related issues.⁴ A counsellor is an individual withspecial training who advises and assists students, employees, disabled

persons and substance abusers.⁵

Client: The person or organization receiving professional services.

Client

driven/client centered:

The provision of services focused on the needs of the individual.

Conflict of interest:

A real or perceived situation where an individual or group could benefit from their influence over others.

t. Illiderice over others

Cultural diversity:

Differences in race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, physical ability, language, beliefs, or customs among various groups within a community, organization or nation.

Duty to accommodate:

The duty to accommodate means that sometimes it is necessary to treatsomeone differently in order to be fair. For example, asking all job applicants to pass a written test may not be fair to a person with a visual disability. In such cases, the duty to accommodate may require that alternative arrangements be made to ensure full participation of a person or group. Career development practitioners, employers and others have a duty to accommodate only when a person's need or needs are based on any of the grounds of discrimination in the *Canadian Human Rights Act* ⁶

Empathetic confrontation:

A questioning technique used to help identify inconsistencies in other person's words or actions, and is used to seek an explanation for a contradiction.

Ethnicity: The beliefs, values, customs, or practices of a specific group (e.g. its characteristics,

language, common history, and national origin). Every race has a variety of ethnic groups.

Ethnocentrism: The attitude that the beliefs, customs, or practice of one's own ethnic group, nation, or

culture are superior; an excessive or inappropriate concern for racial matters.

Evaluation: A systematic assessment of ongoing or completed programs. The aim is generally to

determine the relevance and fulfilment of objectives, effectiveness, impact and

sustainability, and to inform future decisions on similar programs.

Intervention: A process, activity or initiative that is intended to improve or alter a course of action.

Usually involves the implementation of programs aimed at addressing the identified need.

Labour Market

Programs
Support System
(LaMPSS):

A common system and set of business processes developed to focus on the administration of labour market programs and services for three Nova Scotia government partners:

Department of Community Services; Office of Immigration; and Labour and Advanced

Education.

Monitoring: Routine collection and analysis of information to track progress against set plans and

check compliance to established standards. It helps identify trends and patterns, adapt

strategies and inform decisions.

Multiculturalism: Being comfortable with many standards and customs; the ability to adapt behaviour and

judgments to a variety of interpersonal settings.

Person with a Disability:

A disability is defined as any functional limitation or restriction of an individual's ability to

perform an activity. In the context of employment, a disability is any condition that creates a barrier to employment, and may include individuals that have long-term physical, mental,

intellectual or sensory impairments.⁷

Programs: Any range of service offering provided to clients, including workshops, one-on-one

consultation, goal setting

Reliability: Referring to assessment, the extent to which the assessment is consistent when repeated

under the same conditions.

Self-Concept: Refers to how someone thinks about or perceives themselves.

Social inclusion: Positive actions taken to change the circumstances that lead, or have led, to social

exclusion; enabling people or communities to fully participate

Stakeholder: Any person or organization that is actively involved in a project, or whose interests may be

affected positively or negatively by execution of a project. Stakeholders can be internal to

the organization or external.

validity: Referring to assessment, the degree to which the assessment measures what it is intended

to measure.

⁴ Canadian Standards and Guidelines for Career Development Practitioners, Core Competencies (2012)

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⁶ http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/eng/content/duty-accommodate

⁷ Adapted definition from Collaborate Partnership Network (CPN Board Meeting definition approved in March 2011.)

CORE COMPETENCIES SUMMARY CHART

CORE COMPETENCIES SUMMARY CHART

4.0	1.1	1.2				
1.0 Ethics	Follow Code of Ethics	Follow ethical decision- making model				
0000000	2.1	2.2				
2.0 Diversity & Inclusion	Carry out inclusionary practices	Create and maintain an inclusive and welcoming work environment				
	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	
3.0 Administration	Maintain client records	Use time management techniques	Collect, analyze, and use information or basic research techniques	Develop information materials	Access and use information and communications technology	
4.0	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	
Interpersonal & Foundational Skills	Establish a working alliance	Work with knowledge of career development theories	Use listening skills	Use speaking skills	Use writing skills	
5.0	5.1	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.5	
Career Development Services	Conduct needs assessment	Determine intervention	Implement intervention	Monitor and evaluate programs and interventions	Follow up and provide ongoing support or client services	
	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6
6.0 Professional Development/ Career Self- Management	Demonstrate commitment to ongoing professional development	Develop productive and working relationships with colleagues	Develop productive and working relationships with stakeholders and other service organizations	Respond to disruptive or threatening behaviours	Be familiar with labour market information	Apply labour market information

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