

Job Posting: Avalanche Canada, Revelstoke, BC

Job Title: Assistant Avalanche Field Technician
Location: Fernie, BC, Canada
Employment type: Part-time seasonal
Application deadline: First round deadline August 31, 2016. Competition open until vacancies filled.
Job Start Date: November, 2016

Job Summary

Avalanche Canada has an assistant avalanche field technician position available for the winter season 2016-17. We are looking for an enthusiastic, highly motivated person to join our dynamic field team based in Fernie.

This part-time seasonal job is a temporary position for next winter to backfill a leave of absence. It offers approximately 60 to 70 ten-hour days of work in the southern Rocky Mountains of Alberta and British Columbia. Working on some weekends is required.

Avalanche Canada is a world-leader in public avalanche safety. Our warning service team delivers high quality public avalanche information and is involved with development, testing, and implementation of innovative new products and services. This is a great opportunity to become part of a progressive and influential group who are passionate about avalanche safety and mountain culture in general.

You can learn more about Avalanche Canada at: <http://www.avalanche.ca/about#vision>

Job Description

Job Title: Assistant Avalanche Technician
Unit Name: Public Avalanche Warning Service
Reports To: Forecasting Program Supervisor

Position Overview:

Technicians travel safely and efficiently in the backcountry, often in avalanche terrain, using snowmobiles and skis to obtain weather, snowpack, and avalanche information to support the public avalanche information products and services produced by avalanche forecasters in Revelstoke. Technicians play an important role in raising public avalanche awareness and promoting recreational avalanche education. Public outreach in person, by social media, and through other means is also part of the job. Technicians stay abreast of new developments and research and, on behalf of Avalanche Canada, may work on projects pertaining to topics relevant to Avalanche Canada's vision, mission, and mandate.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:*Data collection:*

- Mountain travel often in avalanche terrain, using vehicles, snowmobiles, skis, and/or other means.
- Collect, record, and submit to public avalanche forecasters in Revelstoke weather, snowpack, and avalanche occurrence data at recognized industry standards (e.g. Canadian Avalanche Association Observation Guidelines and Recording Standards for Weather, Snowpack, and Avalanches, etc.).
- Report to other users and share information from the field using professional data exchange systems (e.g. InfoEx™) and the Avalanche Canada Mountain Information Network.

Public outreach:

- Participate in outreach and awareness events.
- Assist in public relations with local backcountry users.
- Create and distribute pertinent information by various means including blogs, social media, public presentations, etc.

Other Tasks:

- Participate in annual training provided by Avalanche Canada.
- Carry out other tasks assigned by the Forecasting Program Supervisor that fulfil the vision, mission, and mandate of the Public Avalanche Warning Service.

Essential qualifications:

- Canadian Avalanche Association (CAA) ITP Level 1 or equivalent.
- Two winters experience travelling in avalanche terrain.
- Familiarity with using computer hardware, software, and online applications in technical contexts.
- Advanced (80 hour) wilderness first aid course (or equivalent).
- Able to communicate avalanche hazard and risk clearly and effectively in English, both in public and professional contexts.
- Valid driver's license.

Desirable qualifications

- CAA Industry Training Program Introduction to Weather Skills for Avalanche Workers course (or equivalent).
- Professional experience in avalanche related activities.
- Familiarity with Avalanche Canada's Lizard Range & Flathead, and South Rockies Public Forecast regions.
- Experience in various snow climates, especially those found in the interior ranges of British Columbia.
- Digital photo and video production experience.
- Teaching, public speaking, and media experience.
- Ski guiding certification.
- Mountain snowmobiling experience including hauling trailers in winter conditions.
- Experience installing, maintaining, and using remote weather sensing equipment.
- French language skills.

Terms of Employment

Location:

- This position is based in Fernie British Columbia, a dynamic, active community that is endowed with numerous recreational opportunities including a world-class ski resort, backcountry powder skiing, mountaineering, rock climbing, hiking, mountain biking, fishing, and more.
- Travel to other parts of Canada may be required.

Duration and Schedule:

This is a temporary seasonal position starting on or about November 15, 2016 and ending on or about May 15, 2017. Re-hire in the future is possible but not guaranteed.

Actual days and hours of work will be determined based on the needs of the field team as well as the successful candidate's availability. Working on some weekends and some holidays is required.

Compensation:

- Wage: Commensurate with experience.
- A benefits plan is available, including medical/dental and a registered retirement savings plan program.
- Continuing Professional Education and CAA professional membership dues support available.
- For more information: contact the Warning Service Manager: Karl Klassen, kklassen@avalanche.ca.

Other:

- Prior to hiring, successful candidates will be required to provide a:
 - Criminal record check.
 - Driving abstract.

Overview of Avalanche Canada Operations

Avalanche Canada (AvCan) is a non-government, not-for-profit organization dedicated to public avalanche safety. We issue daily avalanche forecasts throughout the winter for many of the mountainous regions of western Canada, providing this free information via our website and our app, Avalanche Canada Mobile. We also coordinate and deliver avalanche awareness and education programs, provide curriculum and support to instructors of Avalanche Canada training programs, act as a central point-of-contact for avalanche information, and work closely with avalanche research projects, both at home and abroad.

Avalanche Canada is staffed with highly skilled and dedicated employees who achieve individual success and contribute to the success of Avalanche Canada by working as a powerful team to deliver programs and services for the public and AvCan members; collaborate with a variety of private, public and non-government organizations; and interact with peers in public avalanche safety operations throughout Canada and around the world.

Applications and Selection Process

Avalanche Canada is committed to employment equality. All applicants are encouraged, but preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents living in Canada.

All applicants will receive a confirmation by email acknowledging receipt of the application. An initial round of applicant screening will be conducted immediately after the initial deadline of August 15, 2016. Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted after the initial confirmation.

These opportunities will remain open until filled, so applicants are encouraged to apply even if the initial deadline has passed.

To Apply

Send an up-to-date résumé and a cover letter by email to:

- Karl Klassen, Avalanche Canada Warning Service Manager: kklassen@avalanche.ca

Application Format:

Format your application as follows:

- A cover letter of no more than one page with ALL of the following:
 - Full name, address, phone number(s), and email address.
 - A statement describing why you want to work for Avalanche Canada and why you feel you are the right person for this position.
- A C.V. or résumé that lists the following pertinent information:
 - Relevant post-secondary and technical training, education, and certification. Include copies of diplomas, certificates, etc.
 - Proof of current membership in relevant professional bodies (e.g. Canadian Avalanche Association, Association of Canadian Mountain Guides, etc.).
 - A history of professional experience.
 - A list of employers with an emphasis on avalanche industry employers. Please include names and contact information for supervisors.
 - A minimum of two references, at least one of which is an avalanche professional.
- PLEASE NOTE: Avalanche Canada will contact prior employers and references.
- PLEASE NOTE: Your C.V. or résumé should focus on qualifications and experience pertinent to professional avalanche work.