



Job Description: Field Technician

Position Available:

Field Technician - Prince George

This position is based in Prince George with the team that serves the North Rockies forecast area. Field technician positions involve approximately 850 hours of work between mid-November and early May.

Position Overview/Summary:

Field Technicians plan and safely undertake trips into mountainous terrain to collect data, make observations and produce audio-visual materials. Field Technicians provide public risk communications through social media, trailside outreach, and formal outreach and education events. They play an important role in their communities raising public avalanche awareness, education, and being the face of Avalanche Canada in their communities. They also play an important role as Avalanche Canada's ambassador in their local professional community. Field Technician duties require travel and other activities in avalanche terrain, engaging best practices, and modelling these practices to the public. Field Technicians stay abreast of new developments and, on behalf of Avalanche Canada, may carry out research and/or development projects relevant to Avalanche Canada's vision, mission, and mandate.

Principal Duties and Responsibilities:

Safe Mountain Travel:

- Assess pre-trip hazards and risk management strategies.
- Conduct trip planning, route-selection, and route-finding.
- Undertake mountain travel, including travel in avalanche terrain, using vehicles, snowmobiles, skis, and/or other means in accordance with Avalanche Canada's Avalanche Safety Plan.

Supporting Public Avalanche Forecasts:

- Liaise with Avalanche Canada avalanche forecasters to assess what information is required from which locations to support public avalanche forecasts.
- Make observations and record data pertinent to the formation and release of avalanches and report these data to Avalanche Canada forecasters.
- Provide observations and insights that promote understanding of user groups, their terrain use, and common travel practices.
- Record and report observations using professional information exchanges (e.g. InfoEx™).
- Acquire audio-visual materials to assist special initiatives.

Avalanche Risk Communications:

- Report observations and provide conditions assessments, and model terrain selection and travel techniques to the public using social media (e.g. Facebook, Instagram, blogs, etc.), broadcast media, Mountain Information Network, and other means.
- Organize and run outreach and educational events.
- Pursue informal trailside outreach and education.

Other Tasks:

- Attend conferences and workshops for Continuing Professional Development purposes.
- Participate in annual training provided by Avalanche Canada
- Carry out other tasks that fulfil the vision, mission, and mandate of Avalanche Canada.

Qualifications

Essential qualifications:

- Canadian Avalanche Association (CAA) ITP Level 2 or equivalent.
- Two winters professional operational experience working in a job that has an avalanche safety component.
- Advanced (80 hour) wilderness first aid course, or equivalent.
- Able to communicate avalanche hazard, risk, and risk mitigation strategies clearly and effectively in English, both in public and professional contexts.
- High level written, verbal, and visual media communication skills.
- Mountain snowmobiling experience.
- Possess and maintain a valid driver's license.
- Familiarity with using computer hardware, software, and online applications in technical contexts.

Desirable qualifications:

- Advanced winter driving and experience hauling trailers.
- CAA Industry Training Program Advanced Weather course (or equivalent).
- 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.
- Experience installing, maintaining, and using remote weather sensing equipment.
- French language skills.