



## **WILDFIRE SPECIALIST Competition 22-16**

### **FNESS is currently inviting applicants for the position: Wildfire Specialist**

The First Nations' Emergency Services Society of British Columbia (FNESS) is a not-for-profit organization, as well as a registered charity, under the governance of a First Nation Board of Directors. FNESS assists BC First Nations in developing and sustaining safer, healthier and thriving communities. Our programs focus on Awareness, Preparedness, Mitigation and Recovery.

FNESS is expanding on both current and new initiatives in the Mitigation Department. Our team is looking for talented individuals who are passionate about making a difference for First Nation communities and empowering others across the province.

Do you have a mitigation background?

### **POSITION SUMMARY**

Reporting to the Mitigation Manager, this is a technical position based in British Columbia. The position involves travel, extensive at times, along with a hands-on approach with duties within the office. The position also plays a crucial role in advising the management team, through the Mitigation Manager. The Wildfire Specialist, in accordance with the Mission Statement and Guiding Strategic principles of FNESS, is responsible for providing guidance, support and technical expertise for the operational needs of the Mitigation Department.

### **Duties and Responsibilities (include but are not limited to):**

#### ***General***

- Provide leadership, support and direction to the Mitigation staff in meeting the goals, objectives and deliverables of the Mitigation Department.
- Develop and maintain a progressively effective and efficient Mitigation Program to support BC First Nation communities, from community to landscape levels including developing best management practices.
- Project Management, including financial reporting.
- Build relationships and collaborate with First Nations, professional associations, stakeholders, funding agencies, forest licensees and other resource agencies to promote a coordinated approach in data collection and information sharing.
- Analyze mitigation issues, consult experts and advise on mitigation options, including policy-based input, and recommend solutions to the Mitigation Manager consistent with the Wildfire Act and other pertinent acts and legislation.
- Support the FNESS Emergency Operations Centre as required.
- Other duties as designated by the Mitigation Manager.

### **Specific**

- Engage with communities to determine wildfire training needs.
- Support various types of wildfire crew development for First Nations, such as Indigenous Initial Attack crews, Entry Level Fire crews, Type II, and Type III crews, etc.
- Work with BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) to determine potential training collaboration opportunities.
- Assist in the coordination, development and/or delivery of wildfire training courses which may include cultural and prescribed fire.
- Provide instruction for course delivery.
- Assist educational institutions with course development and delivery where applicable.
- Participate in operational burning when required.
- Support the design and delivery of bootcamps for First Nations.
- When required, work with the FNESS Strike Teams and the Integrated Support Group in a response capacity.
- Determine the needs and build the FNESS wildfire instructor network internally and externally.
- Identify appropriate wildfire-related equipment standards to support crew development.
- Support prescribed fire burn boss training and certification.
- Carry out the deliverables of the Coordinated Training Strategy that are identified in the Shared Cost Agreement with BC Wildfire Service and the associated Work Plan.
- Support the development of a business case for long-term, sustainable funding.

### **Applicants for this position should possess the following competencies:**

- Sound knowledge of wildfire practices, standards and management to support the needs of the Mitigation Department.
- Physically capable to travel and participate in field work, as often required throughout BC.
- Experience working closely with First Nations.
- Strong communication skills; written and public speaking.
- Ability to integrate technology into the workplace.
- Wildland firefighting knowledge and experience.
- Sound knowledge in fire ecology.
- Sound knowledge of fire behaviour.
- Background and knowledge in wildfire management.
- Ability to develop and administer contracts.
- Capable of working and communicating effectively in fast paced, high pressure environments.
- Be fluent in common communication software such as Microsoft Outlook as well as Microsoft Teams.
- Skillful and knowledgeable enough in the field to provide helpful suggestions and ideas as to how to safeguard our network and ensure our communications are always functional and responsive.
- Have a developed understanding of current wildfire training curriculums in BC and in other parts of the country, as well as the United States.
- Demonstrated Project Management experience in a similar field.

**Applicants for this position must possess the minimum following qualifications:**

- Degree in a field related to forestry, resource management or equivalent knowledge, plus one (1) year related experience; **OR**,
- Technical diploma in a field related to forestry, resource management, or equivalent knowledge, plus three (3) years related experience; **OR**,
- Grade 12 plus five (5) years related experience; **OR**,
- An equivalent combination of education, experience and training may be considered.
  - Related experience is defined as operations or other disciplines related to natural resource management.

**Preferred qualifications:**

- Adult Instructor Training Certificate or teaching degree or degree in a field related to forestry, resource management or equivalent knowledge, plus (5) or more years' experience, both theory and practical in wildfire suppression-related duties
- Certified to instruct s-series courses to at least a Type III wildfire crew standard
- Task Force Leader or Strike Team Leader Certification
- Danger Tree Assessor (DTA) – Wildland Fire Module Instructor Certification
- Participation on Incident Management Teams (IMT's) an asset
- Incident Commander Type 3 an asset

We are looking for the right fit to support the Mitigation Department. The successful candidate must possess a valid Class 5 BC driver's license, clear current criminal record check and will be required to supply a current driver's abstract.

*Preference may be given to individuals who self-identify as being of Indigenous ancestry.*

**TERMS:** Full Time Employment Agreement

**LOCATION:** Remote Work

**HOURS OF WORK:** Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Deadline for receiving applications is:** Will remain open until filled. Only successful candidates will be contacted.

**Please forward a current resume and cover letter to:** [HR@fness.bc.ca](mailto:HR@fness.bc.ca)

Attn: Corporate Services Manager

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