



North Shore Rescue Team

A society associated with the North Shore Emergency Management Office

Information for Applicants to the North Shore Rescue Team

Application procedure

Applications are received throughout the year with major reviews carried out in the spring and fall. Short-listed candidates are interviewed to confirm their qualifications and general suitability as team members. The Team's normal complement of active members is 45 to 50. Recruitment of new personnel will generally reflect the need to maintain an adequate strength to fulfill the Team's responsibilities.

New members are brought on to the team as members-in-training for a two-year probationary period. During this period, members-in-training may be called to assist with team operations.

Applicant requirements and skills

Prospective members must have a home life and employment situation that will allow full participation in training, search and rescue operations, and other activities of the team. Operational tasks traditionally take place overnight and often into the next day. In recent years we have averaged around 80 callouts per year.

You require mainly mountaineering skills. These include: basic climbing skills; a current standard St. John First Aid or higher certificate; back country navigation ability using map, compass and altimeter; and the ability to travel safely anywhere in the North Shore Mountains in all seasons.

You must be physically fit, have a good familiarity with the North Shore mountains and their trails, have adequate personal equipment that will allow you to operate effectively and safely in the mountains for at least a 24 hour period.

Knowledge of and experience in the local North Shore mountains are critical membership requirements as the greatest percentage of the Team's operations are in these areas. Over the years, local experienced backpackers, climbers, skiers and snowshoers have become the backbone of the team.

Over and above these outdoor skills and requirements, you must have a desire and commitment to this type of community service, and enjoy teamwork.

The Role of the North Shore Rescue Team

The role of the North Shore Rescue Team includes the following:

1. Assisting policing agencies and the BC Ambulance Service in the search and rescue of missing and injured persons;
2. Assisting policing agencies and the Provincial Coroner's Service in body recovery operations;
3. Assisting municipal agencies in search, rescue, communications, and other roles during civil emergencies;
4. Promoting education of the public in mountain safety, first aid, and search and rescue techniques.

Although they are volunteers, the life saving service provided by the members of the North Shore Rescue Team requires that they maintain the standards of unpaid professionals in assisting municipal and provincial agencies.

Training of the North Shore Rescue Team

The team formal training year runs from September through to June. Members-in-training who complete the requirements of the training manual, and in the view of the Training Officer and the Team executive would be an asset to the Team, will be brought on as a full member of the Team. During this two-year period, members-in-training are expected to attend Tuesday night training sessions. Training also takes place on occasional weekend days and involves hiking, climbing, and various technical skills practices. Other activities may include maintenance of rescue escape trails, which also helps trainees learn the areas where searches are most prevalent. Associated training activities include the maintenance of the rescue truck and team equipment.

General Information

The North Shore Rescue Team is a registered society and is administered by elected Executive Officers for the overall operation of Team affairs. These include budgeting, management of accounts, rescue truck and equipment, training and other key activities.

North Shore Rescue takes pride in offering a vital community service, and in addition to its search and rescue activities, regularly participates in a number of community events. The Team also presents public information and education programs throughout the year to schools, youth groups and others.

Personal History

Name: _____
 Telephone: _____
 Address: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Marital Status: _____
 Next of Kin: _____ Tel. No.(____) _____
 Date of last complete medical examination: _____
 State Physical Condition and Disabilities: _____

Employment

Occupation: _____
 Name of Employer: _____
 Address: _____
 Number of years with this employer: _____
 Is your employer aware of your intent to join the rescue team? _____
 Do they approve? _____
 Will they write to us acknowledging your participation? _____
 Can you get away from work anytime? _____
 Will you receive pay while away from work? _____
 Will you carry a Team issued pager? _____
 Do you have your own pager? _____

Related History and Other Volunteer/Community Service

Have you previously been a member of any outdoor or rescue group?

 Comments: _____

Skills and Qualifications

Outline the special skills and qualifications you have: i.e. hiking, rock climbing, skiing, first aid, map & compass, search techniques, job related skill, and others. (List) _____

Winter Experience

Describe your winter hiking, camping, skiing or climbing experience:

Personal Equipment

State what personal equipment you own: _____

Knowledge of Local Terrain

(State Poor, Fair, Good, Excellent beside each area. If unknown, then do not mark)

<i>Mountains:</i>	P	F	G	E	<i>Trails:</i>	P	F	G	E
Black					Baden Powell				
Crown					- Horseshoe Bay to				
Elsay					Cypress Bowl				
Fromme					- Hollyburn to Grouse				
Goat					- Grouse to Lynn				
Hollyburn					- Seymour to Deep Cove				
Lions					Grouse to Crown				
Lynn Peak					Grouse Grind				
Seymour					Grouse BCMC				
Strachan					Howe Sound Crest Trail				
					Seymour				
<i>Canyons:</i>					- 3 rd Pump				
Capilano					- Elsay Lake				
Lynn					- Perimeter				
Seymour					Dog Mtn.				

Other areas you are familiar with:

State Reasons for Applying:

Time Commitment:

Participation in the Rescue Team requires compulsory attendance one night per week (currently Tuesday) plus usually one Saturday out of four. Applicants should expect to spend up to **500 hours per year** on Team activities. Your participation in training and operational tasks will be monitored and if attendance falls below set standards, your membership status will be reviewed.

Can you give the Team this commitment?

Signature of Applicant _____

Date: _____

Note to the Applicant:

After submitting this application form, you may receive a letter or telephone call requesting your attendance at an interview or asking you to re-apply at a later date if the Team complement is full.