



## **CULTURAL AND PRESCRIBED FIRE SPECIALIST Competition 22-12**

### **FNESS is currently inviting applicants for the position: Cultural and Prescribed Fire 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 positions also play a crucial role in advising the management team, through the Mitigation Manager. The Cultural and Prescribed Fire Specialist, in accordance with the Mission Statement and Guiding Strategic principles of FNESS, are 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 First Nation communities throughout BC, 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 resources 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.

### **Specific**

- Engage with communities to determine traditional burn areas and objectives within traditional territories.
- Work with Fire/Knowledge Keepers, and community elders.
- Implement Lightship and GIS for a variety of functions such as:
  - Design logical burn units for long-term use.
  - Work with communities to apply for existing funding to develop fuel management prescriptions and burn plans in order to create shelf-ready projects.
  - Assist communities with burn planning.
- Work with BC Wildfire Service (BCWS) to determine burn planning support.
- Develop contracts for traditional territory prescribed fire plan, prescription development, burn plan development, and pre/post fire effects monitoring.
- Collaborate with BCWS, Wildfire Risk Reduction (WRR), Ecosystem Restoration (ER) programs to determine linkages, efficiencies, and synergies.
- Collaborate with First Nation communities and BCWS for operational prescribed fire support.
- Participate on the Provincial Cultural and Prescribed Fire Steering Committee and Operational Working Group.
- Assist in the development and delivery of prescribed fire training courses.
- Provide instruction for course delivery.
- Assist educational institutions with course development and delivery.
- Participate in the operational burning when required.
- Work with communities to deliver or make prescribed fire training available where the capacity exists.
- Must maintain continued professional development requirements with the Association of BC Forest Professionals (ABCFP).

### **PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND OTHER SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE**

- Sound knowledge of scientifically based Forest Fuel Management standards and management practices to support the needs of the Mitigation Department.
- Sound knowledge of legislation, policy, standards, and practices related to Wildfire prevention, mitigation, and FireSmart™ principles.
- Good understanding of the FireSmart Canada Neighbourhood Recognition Program and FireSmart principles.
- Physically capable to travel and participate in field work, as often required throughout BC.
- Experience (demonstrated) working closely with First Nation community organizations.
- Strong communication skills; written and public speaking.
- Knowledge and experience working within wildfire prevention/mitigation programs (provincial/federal).
- Ability to integrate technology into the workplace.
- Wildland firefighting experience.
- Cultural and prescribed fire experience.
- Sound knowledge in fire ecology.
- Sound knowledge of fire behaviour.
- Sound knowledge of Fuel Management Prescriptions, Operational Fuel Treatments, Community Wildfire Protection Plans and/or Community Wildfire Resiliency Plans.
- Ability to develop and administer contracts.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- Diploma in Forestry or Natural Resources Technology.
- Must be able to register with the ABCFP and be in good standing within 2 years of being employed at FNESS.

### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

- Degree in Forestry or Natural Resource Management.
- Registered Professional Forester (RPF), Registered Forest Technologist (RFT), or Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) with a minimum of 3 year's field experience in forest fuel management may be considered for this position.

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.*

**TERM:** 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

First Nations' Emergency Services Society

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