



Canada Task Force 1  
City of Vancouver Heavy Urban Search and Rescue  
Team (USAR)



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: Team Member  
August 3, 2022

The City of Vancouver (CoV) component of Canada Task Force 1, the City of Vancouver's USAR Team, is seeking applications to fill rescue and technical support positions. These positions are in addition to members on the team from Vancouver Fire Rescue Services, the Vancouver Police Department, and the BC Emergency Health Services, who conduct their own recruitments.

For information on the team, please visit the website: <https://www.cantf1.com/> and attend an information session on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

The skill sets we often seek to fill these positions are:

- Trades Journeyperson qualifications.
- Waterworks and Sewers (Design or Operations) staff with municipal systems experience.
- Engineers. A strong component is structural engineering but others such as geotechnical and civil are also considered.
- Staff with qualifications such as driving (class 1), forklift, heavy equipment, etc.
- Emergency Management qualifications and experience using the Incident Command System.
- Rigging, shoring, breaching & braking (either as part of regular position with COV and/or can demonstrate experience with rigging from previous employment).
- Incident management support, GIS, Emergency Communications and Information Technology skillsets.
- Other specialized qualifications.

The personal commitment to the USAR team is significant. Members have to sign off on a membership commitment which includes, but is not limited to:

- Successful completion of required training programs (2 week induction training and certification course for rescue positions is set scheduled for Sept 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sept 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>).
- Management support of the application.
- Attendance at monthly drills.
- Attendance at 1 team exercise per year.
- Inoculation program as recommended for regional, national and international travel.
- Qualify for and maintain a valid passport.
- Personal readiness for deployment operations involving 10 to 14 days away from family and workplace.
- Availability and commitment for at least 5 years as a team member.



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USAR members are compensated at their regular rate of pay for team activities during their regular hours of work. Training, events and other team commitments which fall outside of regular work hours are considered volunteer and can occur several times per year.

Applicants must be Regular Full Time and confirm their availability to participate in the USAR Team with their supervisor.

Applicants need to recognize the physical and mental demands that are inherent with this type of work and can include:

- Working outdoors in inclement weather.
- Long and hectic hours performing physical labour (applicants may be required to pass a fitness test).
- Working on a rubble pile, in confined/enclosed spaces and at heights (applicants must be able to crawl through a confined space tunnel, climb a 100 foot ladder and comfortably work at heights).
- Working in areas that are potentially hazardous.
- Ability to wear and work in a respirator for long periods of time (clean shaven requirement) as well as other required personal protective equipment.
- Difficult conditions while training or on deployment which could include living in tents, sleeping on cots and eating military-style rations.
- As an emergency service, the potential exists for emotional distress during or following a deployment.

If you are interested in expressing your interest for a team member position, **please submit a cover letter, resume and membership application form outlining your relevant skills and experience through Success Factors.**

We thank all applicants for their interest in joining this proud team, but please note that the selection committee will only have time to contact the short listed candidates.

If you have any questions, please attend the information session or, reach out to:

- Darryl Forsyth, USAR Team Lead: [darryl.forsyth@vancouver.ca](mailto:darryl.forsyth@vancouver.ca) (604-326-4665)
- Kim Kennedy, USAR Team Lead: [kim.kennedy@vancouver.ca](mailto:kim.kennedy@vancouver.ca) (604-326-4676)
- Paul Hogan, USAR Team Member (& backup Team Lead): [paul.hogan@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.hogan@vancouver.ca) (604-787-4321)