

Searching for SAR Techs

RCAF Public Affairs

If you're looking for a change and a challenge in your military career, consider the opportunity to become a Search and Rescue technician (SAR Tech). It's hard to imagine a more rewarding occupation anywhere in the CAF – or anywhere in the world, for that matter. This proud and prestigious trade accepts Regular and Reserve Force members who undergo an occupational transfer from within the CAF.

“We're looking for military personnel who are physically fit, highly motivated, and who want to make a real difference in their contribution to Canada and Canadians,” says Chief Warrant Officer Greg Smit, SAR Tech Chief and Senior Occupational Advisor. “Our motto is ‘That Others May Live’, and we embody these words every single day across Canada, conducting real-world life-saving missions around the clock, 365 days a year. To do this, we maintain an individual skill-set that includes parachuting, scuba diving, mountain climbing, and paramedic-level medical skills. But we operate as part of a dedicated and highly trained SAR team. I believe it is absolutely the most exciting and rewarding career you can have.”

SAR Tech training takes place at the Canadian Forces School of Search and Rescue (CFSSAR) at 19 Wing Comox, as well as at satellite training locations such as Jarvis Lake, Alberta; Eloy, Arizona; Jasper National Park, Alberta; and Esquimalt, British Columbia.

The course duration is about 12 months, after which graduates receive their SAR Tech “wings” and orange beret.

SAR Techs will become experts in an incredibly wide range of skills, including parachuting, scuba-diving, mountain-climbing, wilderness survival and emergency medical treatment at the paramedic level. They will operate from fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters – the latter including hoists into and out of austere locations or vessels on the high seas.

As part of highly trained and well respected crews, SAR Techs help save the lives of hundreds of Canadians every year, from coast to coast to coast.

If this sounds exciting to you, and you're up for the challenge, you should contact your base or wing personnel selection officer.

The deadline for submission to National Defence Headquarters is November 10, 2016.

For additional information, contact Chief Warrant Officer Gregory Smit at Gregory.Smit@forces.gc.ca; by telephone at 204-833-2500 ext 5389; via CSN at 257-5389; or via BlackBerry at 204-292-0427.

THAT OTHERS MAY LIVE

