

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
JOB DESCRIPTION**

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1.	Position Number (PMS):	Various		
2.	Functional Job Title:	Snow Avalanche Aide		
3.	Classification:	STO 1		
4.	Location:	Various		
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5.	Position Number:	Various		
6.	Functional Job Title of Immediate Supervisor:	Snow Avalanche Technician		
7.	Classification:	STO 5		

JOB SUMMARY	Briefly describe the reporting relationship, purpose, scope and content of the job. May be used for posting purposes.
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Under the general supervision of the Snow Avalanche Technician, assists in the maintenance of a snow avalanche safety program by observing and assessing snow avalanche activity, terrain, snow and weather conditions, maintains the program support facilities; assists in the application of active avalanche control measures.

Performs skilled technical duties independently in the office and in the field for observation and consolidation of snowpack, weather, terrain and avalanche activity information for snow stability analysis and avalanche forecasting;

Maintains avalanche program support facilities;

Conducts avalanche control measures, using explosives and other measures to stabilize avalanche hazards;

Performs other duties;

JOB DETAIL	List key duties assigned and percentage of time spent on each. State what is done, why it is done, and how it is done. Add additional sheets if required.
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65%

1. Performs skilled technical duties independently in the office and in the field for observation and consolidation of snowpack, weather, terrain and avalanche activity information for snow stability analysis and avalanche forecasting by;

- observing and collecting data for the evaluation of snowpack, meteorological conditions, terrain and snow avalanche activity
- disseminate and collate information, utilizing a computerized data system for data analysis, including statistical and analytical modeling programs, for evaluation of snowpack, meteorological conditions, effect of terrain, and snow avalanche activity;
- monitoring a manual and electronic data reporting network for standardized meteorological and glaciological observations to ensure a high level of quality and accuracy;
- working safely in stressful situations in hazardous terrain.

SNOW AVALANCHE AIDE

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15%

2. Maintains avalanche program support facilities by:

- maintaining and servicing avalanche control equipment and explosives magazines
- performing routine maintenance on manual and remote weather stations
- ensuring search and rescue caches are maintained to a state of readiness for emergency situations

10%

3. Conducts avalanche control measures, using explosives and other measures to stabilize avalanche hazards by:

- conducting short-term avalanche control measures, such as the use of recoilless rifles, avalaunchers and helicopter bombing;

10%

4. Performs other duties such as:

- presenting snow avalanche training programs to Ministry personnel,
- presenting information regarding the snow avalanche program to public information groups
- assisting with development and testing of specialized computer software for avalanche activities

CERTIFICATION

Employee I have read and I understand the contents of this job description		
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Signature		Date
Manager This description is an accurate statement of the position's assigned duties, responsibilities and reporting relationship as of _____		
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Signature	Title	Date
Personnel Job description reviewed by Personnel Officer:		
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Signature	Title	Date

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND HIGHWAYS
STAFFING CRITERIA**

1.	Position Number (PMS):	Various
2.	Functional Job Title:	Snow Avalanche Aide
3.	Classification:	STO 1
4.	Location:	Maintenance Branch

Educational and/or Occupational Certification

Secondary school graduation, with preference for a post-secondary technical diploma in forestry, geography, engineering, or meteorology with emphasis on avalanches and the properties of snow or related fields; or equivalent combination of training and experience.

Experience and/or Achievements

Abilities associated with three years satisfactory experience in snow avalanche related work, responsible for meteorological and glaciological observations, snow stability analysis, avalanche hazard evaluation, avalanche control. Experience in highway avalanche operations. A relevant diploma will be considered equal to three years.

RATED QUALIFICATIONS

KNOWLEDGE

Knowledge of snow and avalanche phenomena and evaluation and management techniques including avalanche hazard forecasting, safety measures, avalanche control measures, and search and rescue procedures. Practical knowledge of meteorology and glaciology.

SPECIALIZED ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Ability to work independently and to respond effectively in emergency situations.
Ability to conduct field work and travel safely in hazardous mountain terrain by skis and on foot under variable snow and weather conditions.
Ability to effectively communicate with the public, and senior technical staff.
Ability to operate a computer using statistical data analysis software applications.
Ability to perform routine maintenance on avalanche control equipment.

OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION

Canadian Avalanche Association Levels 1;
Valid Blaster's Certificate (with avalanche control);
Valid level 2 or 3 Occupational First Aid, E.M.T., or Standard Wilderness First Aid Ticket;
Valid B.C. Driver's License.

PERSONAL SUITABILITY

Capable of working well and/or taking charge in stressful situations with a high degree of tact and diplomacy in dealing with the public.
Willing and able to work outdoors in adverse winter weather, including blizzard conditions and extreme cold during snow investigations. Considerable exposure to moderate and high snow avalanche hazards. Must be willing and able to respond as required for avalanche cycles during the winter season.