

Deputy Chief - Operations & Training



Nelson Fire Department - City of Nelson Competition #25EX28

Nelson Fire & Rescue Services is dedicated to excellence in emergency response, community protection, risk reduction, and the health and safety of its team. Located within the traditional land of the Sinixt, Ktunaxa and Sylix peoples, Nelson is traditionally known for its beautiful setting, vast array of recreational activities, pristine parks and vibrant downtown. We are grateful for the opportunity to work on this land. It is a year-round playground for outdoor enthusiasts and those who love the arts, culture and small-town feel, with big-city amenities like high-quality schools, post-secondary institutions, regional health care, and a competitive cost of living.

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Deputy Fire Chief reports to the Fire Chief and plays a key leadership role in overseeing the operations of Nelson Fire & Rescue Services. This position is responsible for the administration and supervision of fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency response, training programs, and other related activities. The Deputy Fire Chief ensures that services are delivered effectively, safely, and in compliance with all applicable regulations, municipal policies, and industry best practices.

As a senior leader, the Deputy Fire Chief supports strategic planning, operational readiness, and continuous improvement within the department. This role requires strong leadership, decision-making, and problem-solving skills to maintain a high standard of emergency services. The Deputy Fire Chief will act as Fire Chief in their absence.

ABOUT NELSON FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

Nelson Fire & Rescue Services is a progressive composite fire department dedicated to serving the community of Nelson, British Columbia—a vibrant city with a population of approximately 13,000. The department operates with a team of 13 full-time career firefighters represented by the IAFF, supported by 21 Paid-on-Call members. Together, they respond to approximately 1,700 emergency calls annually.

Operating from one of the oldest continuously active firehalls in Western Canada, built in 1913, the department maintains a versatile and well-equipped fleet. This includes two fire engines, an 85-foot aerial platform, a 1,500-gallon water tender, and a utility vehicle. In addition, the department is equipped with specialized trailers for sprinkler operations and technical rescue/hazardous materials response.

Minimum Qualifications:

- NFPA 1001 Firefighter Level 1 & 2 or equivalent.
- NFPA 1021 Fire Officer Level 2 or equivalent.
- NFPA 1041 Fire Service Instructor 1 or equivalent
- Incident Command Level 200 or equivalent.
- First Responder EMA-FR or equivalent.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite and Fire Department Records Management software.

Minimum Experience:

- Minimum of Five (5) years of progressive fire service experience with increasing responsibility including supervisory and/or leadership roles.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.

Conditions of Employment:

- Class 3 BC Driver's Licence with air brake endorsement or equivalent, with a clean driver's abstract.
- Criminal Records and Vulnerable Sector Check.
- Must reside within a 5km driving distance from Nelson Fire & Rescue Services.

Employment Type:

Permanent, full-time - 40 hours per week
On-site, Tuesday to Friday

Start date: January 1, 2026

Compensation:

A salary range of \$134,394.00 to \$149,327.00.

For a full job description, including required qualifications and experience, please visit nelson.ca/jobs.

To be considered for this opportunity, please submit your detailed resume and cover letter, in confidence, by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 11, 2025, to:

Fire Chief Jeff Hebert

Email: hr@nelson.ca

Subject line: **Deputy Chief - Operations & Training Competition #25EX28**

We thank all applicants for their interest in joining Nelson Fire & Rescue Services.

City of
NELSON