



Executive Director, Land Operations

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THE ORGANIZATION

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Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency (SPSA) is a treasury board Crown corporation created in November 2017 to streamline public safety services in Saskatchewan. In response to an increase in the frequency and severity of natural and man-made disaster events (e.g., wildfires) impacting municipal, First Nation and Métis communities Saskatchewan is one of the first province in Canada to establish a more integrated and streamlined approach to wildfire and critical emergency management services to our citizens.

The agency's mandate is to provide or support public safety services for and with the people, municipalities, public safety service providers and the Government of Saskatchewan. Programs and services now include: Sask911, SaskAlert, the civic addressing registry, wildfire management, emergency management and fire safety.

As Saskatchewan's provincial public safety organization, the agency works in partnership with municipalities and First Nation communities to build the resilience and capacity for local communities to respond to emergencies; to improve the safety of Saskatchewan residents; and to enhance public safety across the province.

The SPSA is also home to the Saskatchewan Fire Commissioner and is responsible for providing support to local fire departments, establishing standards and training, ensuring compliance for the National Fire Code, and designating inspectors as Peace Officers when required.



THE OPPORTUNITY

Job Title:	Executive Director of Land Operations
Reports to:	Vice President of Operations
Direct Reports:	Five (5) Land Operations Managers, one (1) Section Manager of Intel Services
Indirect Reports:	75 full time employees, 357 seasonal employees and 400 wildland firefighters
Location:	Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

THE MANDATE

The Executive Director of Land Operations directs the operational delivery and response for wildfire, flood, and emergency events with a diverse staff of 6 managers and 432 in-scope personnel. The position has evolved to include all emergency response, including but not limited to (wildfire, flood, Covid-19, oil spills, community evacuation, check stops, train derailment, search and rescue, training (public, volunteer, ministry, municipal or agency), investigation, and or any other public emergency response within the province.

The Executive Director ensures coordination and oversight of the desired "One Government Response" by providing direction to managers and when operationalizing the provincial emergency operations center to support ministries, crowns, or agencies during significant emergency events.

Working alongside the executive management committee, the Executive Director sets standards, develops, or approves strategic direction, develops, or approves policy and standard operating procedures and is responsible for the development and continual improvement of the SPSA. It is the responsibility of this position to lead the change management within the land operations division and ensure SPSA strategies and directions are understood and delivered to the applicable managers, senior supervisors, and staff.

Key Accountabilities

- Direct the development and implementation plans to successfully manage all wildfires and emergency incidents within the province by ensuring direction is in line with SPSA applicable acts and regulations, policy's, standard operating procedures, or expectations. Demonstrate high levels of communication, ensuring process and chain of command are in place for the deployment of staff, equipment, and aviation resources, prioritizing multiple fire situations or emergency incidents.
- Provide high level communication to management of full time and contract employees throughout land operations

- Directs managers to lead, develop and implement long and short-range supervision and emergency response for the Public Safety Agency's strategies that align with agency priorities.
- Emergency Management and Agency Corporate priorities.
- Ensuring all aspects of Public Safety are achieved to promote a healthy environment while minimizing losses and maximizing public safety.
- Provide oversight management and ensure there is managerial accountability assigned and variable budgets. Create budget turnarounds and fiscal forecasts, determine budget priorities, and approve expenditures.
- Represent the Government of Saskatchewan's concerns and ensure the SPSA's interests are protected while being a member of the national Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Center (CIFFC), Resource Management Committee (RMC) and Canadian Multi Agency Coordination Group (CMAC)

Opportunities and Challenges

- Integrate strong, effective organization units into one unified, engaged, high-performing team.
- Build greater understanding of anticipated intensity and frequency of environmental disasters and proactive strategies for supporting safe, resilient communities.
- In collaboration with key stakeholders, establish better understanding of measures for preventative and response program impacts.
- Establish a visible, credible, recognizable, and trusted Agency brand among Saskatchewan people.

Attractions

- Play an integral role on the Executive Management Team during the growth of a young Crown corporation focused on supporting and integrating public safety in Saskatchewan
- Experience the richness and diversity of Saskatchewan's environment, economy, people, and cultures.
- Bring to life a bold new approach to wildfire and emergency management and response in our province.
- Integrate and inspire operational and administrative teams who share a high degree of passion and commitment to keeping Saskatchewan citizens safe; and
- Have a strong, positive impact on the public safety for all Saskatchewan citizens.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

The successful candidate will have the following:

Education

- A combination of formal education (either a university degree or diploma in applied environmental science or resource/land management, Emergency Management, or related Business degrees) and extensive, progressive experience and knowledge in wildland fire management and/or emergency management

Experience

- Extensive supervisory management experience and decision making to maintain a global perspective while demonstrating leadership on multiple, diverse projects.
- Demonstrates leadership, objective setting work planning, and motivation and human resource management skills to manage a large, diverse team of permanent, contract and seasonal staff who turn over regularly and come from a wide cultural background and which are stationed in remote locations across the province.
- Demonstrated fiscal management and accountability experience in a large, complex, and dynamic organization.
- Progressive and multi-year expertise and complexity of knowledge for all emergency incidents and responses including wildfire behavior, knowledge of weather, topography, forest ecosystem management and other factors that inter-relate to affect fire behaviour in order to apply provincial preparedness, fire suppression tactics and strategies to manage the impacts of the large wildfires effectively.

Competencies and Attributes

- Extensive knowledge of internal and external stakeholders, their interest and connective relations to wildfire and emergency management.
- Well-developed written and oral communication skills
- The ability to promote culture of safety in compliance with all pertinent legislation and the Saskatchewan Occupational Health and Safety Act, Regulation and Code.
- Expertise in national and international wildfire and emergency management programs / agencies to participate as a chair of or member of working committees responsible to develop national and international standards and strategies.
- Expertise relating to indigenous issues, cultures, ambitions, and relationships in order to develop partnerships with First Nations and Metis regarding fire prevention, fuels management, training, fire suppression, emergency management and evacuation processes.

THE COMPENSATION

An excellent compensation package awaits the successful candidate.

- Dynamic, challenging work for talented individuals;
- A competitive salary;
- Comprehensive benefits package including pension;
- Vacation, scheduled days off (SDO) and other types of leave;
- Inclusive work environments;
- Advancement opportunities; and
- Flexible work arrangements

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Saskatchewan Public Service Commission is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion and recognizes that a diverse team benefits and enriches our work and is essential to operational excellence. We welcome applications from all qualified individuals and encourage women, members of racialized communities, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, and persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity to confidentially self-identify at time of application. In accordance with provincial legislation, accommodation will be provided by Optimum Talent and Saskatchewan Public Service Commission throughout the recruitment, selection and/or assessment process, upon request, to applicants with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply.

APPLICATION

If you wish to be considered for this position, please email your application materials in confidence to Colin Dolson at cdolson@optimumtalent.com, or submit your application online at: <https://optimumtalent.com/view-career-opportunities/current-career-opportunities/>.

The information received will be treated in the strictest confidence. We thank all candidates for their interest; however, only the candidates selected for further consideration will be contacted.

