

Daron McDonald

My name is Daron McDonald. I am a full-time Paramedic with the British Columbia Ambulance Service (BCAS) stationed in Surrey BC at Station 249, located at Surrey Memorial Hospital. I have been a Paramedic for over 7.5 years as well as previously a BC Ambulance Emergency Medical Dispatcher in the lower mainland. I began my career in Fort St John in northern British Columbia in 2010. After nearly 2.5 years in the north I made the move towards the lower mainland and was temporarily stationed in both the rural communities of Boston Bar as well as Pemberton. During this time, while still maintaining my Paramedic status, I began working as an EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatcher) in the Vancouver Dispatch Operations Centre (VANDOC). I continued my career full-time as an EMD for nearly 3.5 years. While working in the VANDOC I accepted the position as Regional Public Education Director for the lower mainland on behalf of the Ambulance Paramedics of British Columbia (APBC), Cupe Local 873. I have continued this position into a second 2 year term as of the beginning of June this year. In this role my position entails organizing public education events including Ambulance displays, speaking to the public on the career of Paramedicine in British Columbia, as well as arranging fundraising for various organizations on behalf of APBC and the BC Ambulance Service. In this time I have raised over \$3500 for the BC Children's Hospital Foundation, more than quintupled APBC membership annual blood donations to the Canadian Blood Services, as well as arranged attendance on behalf of BCAS/APBC to events such as the annual 9-11 memorial, BC Children's Hospital Foundation Miracle Weekend, and many others. This past year I was the successful recipient of the BC Emergency Health Services Awards of Excellence for Public Education, nominated provincially by my peers. I have ambitions to change the way the public views the Ambulance service through public education relating to the extensive training, services, and resources that the BC Ambulance Service and its Paramedics and Dispatchers hold in the province. I am honoured to be invited to this event and I look forward to answering any questions you may have about Ambulance