

Pursuing a career in the fire service is a challenging and extremely competitive endeavour. With so many applicants competing for the same job, one must stand out and present departments with the highest level of qualifications, dedication and passion. Therefore; when I found out about the Creston Work Experience (WEP) program, I felt it would be an incredible opportunity to gain the experience that would help me land the job of my dreams. I was extremely honored and grateful to be selected as 1 of 5 candidates, and was warmly welcomed by the entire department upon my arrival.

While serving as a full time firefighter in Creston I responded to all types of emergencies and routines calls, I took part in regular training exercises and drills, and completed additional fire-related courses to add to my growing resume. The Chiefs and Officers provided me with guidance and knowledge, not only on the technical skills of firefighting, but also imparted valuable insight into the nuances of life in the fire hall, and the expectations as a probationer firefighter. The department also provided resources for interview coaching and portfolio development, which helped me feel completely prepared when I walked into my interview. Lastly, I must thank my fellow WEPs, who helped me develop important interpersonal skills that enabled to me to learn to live with my peers in close quarters, and foster a sense of family; something that is essential in the fire service.

Overall, my experience with Creston Fire Rescue was invaluable, and proved to be the extra edge that lead to my successful employment with a career department. I highly recommend this program to anyone who is determined to be successful in pursuance of their goal to earn an honorable and rewarding career in firefighting.

Jennifer Simmons  
WEP 2017-2018