

FireSmart Canada Role Level 3

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Specialist

Role Description

Role Level 3:

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Specialist*

*(Note in BC these responsibilities/activities are carried out by their Wildfire Mitigation Specialist position in support of the BC Home Partners Program)

Purpose:

The HIZ Specialist is responsible for facilitating the FireSmart Canada Advanced Home Assessment Program, Home Partners Program (BC only at this time) or other FireSmart Canada-sanctioned home assessment programs in their local area, to help residents identify and reduce wildland fire property hazards.

Under direction from a FireSmart Program Coordinator or other community authority, the HIZ Specialist will meet with residents on request to conduct the FireSmart home assessment approved for their jurisdiction, submit assessments for approval, report back to the residents on results, and provide advice and guidance on implementing the FireSmart Canada Home Ignition Zone guidelines.

Responsibilities and activities:

1. **Work collaboratively with the FireSmart Program Coordinator or other municipal or community authority to deliver the FireSmart Advanced Home Assessment Program (or Home Partners Program) within their jurisdiction.**
2. **Conduct FireSmart Advanced Home Assessments (or the assessment program approved in their jurisdiction) through some of the following activities:**
 - As directed by the FireSmart Program Coordinator (or equivalent), meet with homeowners requesting a FireSmart Advanced Home Assessment.
 - Complete the assessment and discuss findings with the homeowner.
 - Provide information on the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone and related FireSmart guidelines and best practices.
3. **Submit Assessment for approval and brief homeowners on Assessment results and recommended actions:**
 - Submits the completed Assessment to the approving authority.
 - Conduct a return visit to the property following Assessment approval and brief homeowner on the results and provide a list of recommended actions to address hazard reduction on the property.
4. **Provide briefings and information concerning the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone and the Advanced Home Assessment program:**

- As directed by the FireSmart Program Coordinator, present and explain the FireSmart Home Ignition Zone and the Advanced Home Assessment Program to FireSmart Neighbourhood Committee members or community groups at large.

5. Additional responsibilities as needed:

- Provide feedback to FireSmart Program Coordinator or similar authority on program improvements and performance
- Engage with subject matter experts like the Wildfire Agency Liaison, local Fire Chief or FireSmart Program Coordinator for support as needed
- Liaise with the FireSmart Brand Ambassador to review general Home Assessment results and observations for the neighbourhood
- Participate in ongoing training opportunities as they are made available by FireSmart Canada

Minimum qualifications, knowledge, skills, and abilities:

- Knowledge of the Wildland-Urban Interface
- Knowledge of Wildland-Urban Interface Fire Behaviour
- In-depth knowledge of the Home Ignition Zone concept, structural vulnerabilities, and mitigation best-practices
- Previous experience with wildfire and/or structural firefighting or management.
- Currently or previously employed in those or related emergency management fields for a minimum of 12 months.
- Experience with public speaking, presenting and/or engagement
- Excellent public relations, interpersonal, and communication skills
- Familiar with all [FireSmart Canada Resources and Materials](#)

Role training requirements:

- Successful completion of FireSmart 101 (optional)
- Successful completion of the Level 1: FireSmart Ambassador training
- Successful completion of Advanced Home Assessment or Home Partners Program training, including successful completion of two Assessments under supervision.