

# Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program

## Top Rope Climbing Instructor

### Application Package

(please specify course dates and location on your application form)

Program Fee: \$650

#### **Mail completed application form to:**

CMSG Programs  
Thompson Rivers University  
PO Box 3010  
Kamloops, BC  
V2C 5N3

# Top Rope Climbing Instructor Course

Top Rope Climbing Instructors (TRCI) instruct and supervise top rope climbing programs at established outdoor climbing venues with easy access to the base and anchors and where participants do not require anchoring between climbs or rappels.

Top Rope Climbing Instructors work for organizations such as summer camp programs, educational institutions, non-profit groups as well as climbing schools.

Course syllabus includes:

- ❑ *Front country group management and environmental best practices*
- ❑ *Climbing site management and safety briefings*
- ❑ *Bouldering hazard management*
- ❑ *Assessment and construction of climbing and rappel anchors using bolts or trees*
- ❑ *Conduct of top roping and top belaying programs, including appropriate risk management*
- ❑ *Conduct of rappelling programs, including appropriate risk management*
- ❑ *Climbing instruction principles as introduced in the Climbing Gym Instructor Level One course*
- ❑ *Emergency response for stranded or injured climbers, including risk management*
- ❑ *Screening of belay and movement skills (5.10a top rope and 5.9 leading on bolts)*
- ❑ *Industry standards of preparation and professionalism*

The Top Rope Climbing Instructor program consists of two possible formats: A single 4.5 day program or a program run over two consecutive weekends beginning the Friday evening of the first weekend.

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## **NOTICE TO PARTICIPANTS OF PROFESSIONAL GUIDE TRAINING COURSES – INCREASED RISK**

TRU and the ACMG provide training intended to develop professional skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel guides. To train professional guides it is necessary for students to participate in activities that have higher levels of risk than what may be considered reasonable by entry-level, intermediate, novice, commercial guiding, or recreational standards. This may include, but is not limited to activities such as: lead climbing where the climber places his or her own protective equipment, climbing without helmets, travel and decision making in avalanche terrain, climbing and rescue in a multi-pitch environment, students driving program vehicles, hiking in unusually rough and remote terrain, stress from examination and grading processes, students making route and hazard assessment decisions on behalf of other students, unsupervised activities; and continuing with an activity when it may not be considered reasonable by entry-level, intermediate, novice, commercial guiding, or recreational standards (for example, when fatigued, in inclement weather, or in high hazard conditions).

# Application Information

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## **To become a Top Rope Climbing Instructor**

- ❑ You must be 19 years of age.
- ❑ Prepare a climbing skills resume documenting that you have:
  - ❑ At least 2 years of climbing experience
  - ❑ 20 days of outdoor climbing experience
  - ❑ Lead climbed 10 routes at a standard of 5.9 or higher outdoors
  - ❑ Top rope climbed 10 routes at a standard of 5.10a or higher outdoors
  - ❑ References who are familiar with your personal and technical background (please include contact information with these)

(See attached page for an example of the format for your personal skills resume)

## **Prerequisites required before you can apply:**

- ❑ Climbing Gym Instructor Level 1 (or higher)
  - Note: Guide Training Rock may be a substitute for the CGI 1 prerequisite
  - Applicants with significant climbing and instructional experience as well as references may apply to the program coordinator for equivalency to the CGI 1 certification. Such applications are considered on a case by case basis and must be submitted 2 months in advance of the program date. Contact the program office for further details.
- ❑ Standard First Aid certificate 16 hours

## **To apply you must submit:**

- ❑ Registration form (attached)
- ❑ Waiver (signed and witnessed)
- ❑ Personal resume which includes:
  - Educational background
  - Related work experience (documented with location, references, responsibilities)
  - 1 – 2 paragraphs about your background and goals related to becoming a Top Rope Climbing Instructor
  - Other information you feel is pertinent
- ❑ Climbing skills resume (as outlined above in `To Become a Top Rope Climbing Instructor`)  
See attached format example.
- ❑ Letter of recommendation from an outdoor climbing operation (this can be a camp, educational institution, climbing school or indoor climbing facility)
- ❑ Two references, including contact information, who can verify your climbing skills
- ❑ Proof of current standard first aid and CPR certifications (send photocopy of certificates that shows the expiry date)

Once you have all the above, please submit your application together with full payment. Applications submitted without the course fee will be returned.

Application deadline – one month prior to course date.

# Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program

## Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Year/month/day

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Cont: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship (i.e. father, wife etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and dates of all courses or exams for this application:

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Course: \_\_\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

List any special dietary requirements (i.e., vegetarian, food allergies, etc.)

List any medical conditions (i.e. allergies, contact lenses, prescription drugs, etc.)

**Application check list. If documentation is missing, your application can be rejected unless a reasonable explanation is attached.**

Course payment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite certificates	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waiver (signed and witnessed)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Letter(s) of reference	<input type="checkbox"/>
First aid certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Climbing skills resume	<input type="checkbox"/>
CPR certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personal resume, cover letter, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>

**I acknowledge having read the application package and the attached Cancellation Policy, agree to the terms and conditions described, and certify all information in my application is true and correct.**

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Climbing Skills Resume Format (example)

A climbing skills resume can be set up in a spreadsheet format to more conveniently list the types and styles of climbs. This will present relevant information in a concise format for the application review committee. You must document at least two years of climbing experience that includes a **minimum of 20 days outdoors.**

**Climbing Skills References** two persons including contact information

### 10 Top Rope Climbs (5.10a or harder)

<b>Route</b> <i>Name of route</i>	<b>Difficulty</b> <i>Grade</i>	<b>Location/Area</b> <i>area or crag</i>	<b>Date</b> <i>month/year</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

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### 10 Lead Climbs (5.9 or harder)

<b>Route</b> <i>Name of route</i>	<b>Difficulty</b> <i>Grade</i>	<b>Location/Area</b> <i>area or crag</i>	<b>Date</b> <i>month/year</i>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

cont.

Additional Climbing Experience (use separate page if necessary)

<b>Route</b>	<b>Difficulty</b>	<b>Location/Area</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Style</b>
<i>Name of route</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>area or crag</i>	<i>month/year</i>	<i>lead/ top rope</i>

## Payment and Cancellation Policy

### Course Fees

Fees include administration, instruction, assessment, and special travel (e.g. helicopter, snowcat, lifts, etc.) while on the course. Accommodation, meals, and/or food allowances may be provided on some courses; please read logistical information carefully when you are accepted. Candidates may be required to cook meals, especially in the field or in huts and must provide their own transportation to, from, and during the course. Candidates are responsible for all their own equipment and meals, unless indicated otherwise, for each program.

## Payment

### **The following policies will be strictly enforced.**

Your application for the Top Rope Climbing Instructor program will include the full course fee as indicated on the “Dates and Fees” information are due on or before the closing date.

**Your application will become void if full payment is not received on time.** Be advised that some courses have a wait list. **If payments are not received on time, the next person on the wait list will be called to fill your spot.**

Payment can be made by cash, cheque, money order, or one of the following credit cards: Visa, MasterCard or American Express. Do not send cash in the mail. Make cheques and money order payable to Thompson Rivers University.

*Please note: if payments are late, your place on the course may be forfeited.*

### Cancellation and Refunds

### **The following policies will be strictly enforced.**

If notice of cancellation is received by the TRU more than 30 days prior to the course start date, all monies paid will be refunded. **There will be no refunds of any kind if notice of cancellation is received less than 30 days before the course starts.**

**Notice of cancellation must be made in writing to the Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program at Thompson Rivers University .**

If a course or exam is cancelled by us, all fees will be refunded in full.

It is strongly recommended that you purchase trip cancellation insurance in case you become ill or injured and are unable to attend the course. Please call for advice if you are having difficulty finding insurance coverage.

### Notification of Acceptance

Applications and payments are held until the closing date at which time applications are reviewed. Successful applicants will be notified of acceptance within four weeks after the closing date.

### Dates and Fees

Course dates and fees are updated regularly and may change without notice. For current information contact:

**Canadian Mountain and Ski Guide Program  
Thompson Rivers University  
P.O. Box 3010  
Kamloops, B.C. V2C 5N3**

[www.acmg.ca](http://www.acmg.ca)

Phone: (250) 372-0118 or (250) 828-5221 or (250) 371-5838

fax: (250)371-5845 email: [acmg@tru.ca](mailto:acmg@tru.ca)

**Thompson Rivers University  
Adventure Programs Department**

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS,  
ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND  
JURISDICTION AGREEMENT**  
BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU WILL WAIVE CERTAIN  
LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE.  
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

Initial

Please Print

Name:
Address:

**TO: THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY**  
(hereinafter referred to as "TRU")

**AND TO: HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN IN RIGHT OF THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**  
(hereinafter referred to as "THE PROVINCE")

**AND TO: THE ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN MOUNTAIN GUIDES**  
(hereinafter referred to as "ACMG")

**DEFINITIONS:**

In this agreement:

- a) the term "SKIING" shall apply to "helicopter skiing," "snowcat skiing," "backcountry skiing," "snowmobile assisted skiing," "alpine skiing," "telemark skiing," "snowboarding" "cross country skiing," and "ski touring,"
- b) the term "CLIMBING" shall refer to "alpine climbing," "rock climbing," "ice climbing," "caving," "mixed climbing," and "mountaineering,"
- c) the term "HIKING" shall refer to "day hiking," "backpacking," and "snowshoeing."
- d) the term "RESCUE" shall refer to "rope rescue," "rock rescue," "cave rescue," "mountain rescue," "helicopter rescue," and "avalanche rescue,"
- e) the term "WILDERNESS TRAVEL" shall refer to all forms of land, air, and water based travel and shall include all activities, services and use of facilities either provided by or arranged by TRU or the ACMG or in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel activities including, but not limited to: orientation and instruction sessions, transportation, accommodation, and recreational activities in addition to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel;
- f) the term "TRANSPORTATION" shall refer to all forms of transportation off road and on public roads, private roads, and logging roads, including TRU owned vehicles, leased vehicles, ferries, airplanes, student owned vehicles, snowmobile, snowcat and helicopter either provided by or arranged by TRU or the ACMG or in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel activities including, but not limited to: loading, unloading and travel in or movement around vehicles, snowmobiles, snowcats and helicopters.
- g) the term "INJURY" shall refer to all forms of physical, mental, and emotional injury in any way related to skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation activities including, but not limited to: death, breaks, strains, lacerations, dislocations, amputations, frostbite, hypothermia, trauma, anxiety, phobias, and fears.

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**ASSUMPTION OF RISKS – AVALANCHES, ALPINE TERRAIN, SKI TERRAIN, CLIMBING TERRAIN, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, WEATHER, ETC.**

I am aware that skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation involves risks, dangers and hazards in addition to those normally associated with travel in land, and air based wilderness environments. Avalanches occur frequently in the alpine terrain used for skiing and climbing and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or by climbers or skiers. Rock fall, ice fall, climber falls, and skier falls occur frequently in the alpine terrain used for climbing and skiing and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or by climbers or skiers. Bear or other wildlife attacks, rough or irregular terrain, and hiker falls are frequent hazards in the wilderness terrain used for hiking and may be caused by natural forces or hikers. Vehicle rollovers, overloaded roof racks, pulling trailers, inexperienced drivers, and hazardous driving conditions may occur in the type of transportation used for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel and may be caused by but not limited to natural forces or people.

I acknowledge and accept that TRU or the ACMG and their staff may fail to predict whether the terrain used is safe for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation or whether an accident may occur. The terrain used for skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, and wilderness travel is uncontrolled, unmarked, not inspected and involves many risks, dangers and hazards. These may include, but are not limited to: attacks by bears and other animals, ice and snow cornices, trees, falling trees, tree wells, tree stumps, creeks, rocks, boulders, forest deadfall, holes and depressions on or below the snow surface, steep slopes, cliffs, ice fall and rock fall, variable and difficult snow conditions, crevasses, snowcat roads and road banks, fences and other man-made structures, impact or collision with other skiers or climbers; hail, lightening, inclement weather, failure to predict weather, vehicle rollovers, overloaded roof racks, pulling trailers, unsafe driving, unsafe road conditions; the failure to ski or climb safely within one's own ability or within designated areas; human error, failure to forecast or recognize a hazardous situation, negligence of other skiers, climbers, hikers, or rescuers; and **NEGLIGENCE ON THE PART OF OTHER STUDENTS, TRU, ACMG OR THEIR GUIDES, EMPLOYEES, AND CONTRACTORS INCLUDING THE FAILURE OF TRU OR ACMG OR THEIR GUIDES, EMPLOYEES, AND CONTRACTORS TO SAFEGUARD OR PROTECT ME FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF WILDERNESS SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION.** Communication in the terrain used is difficult and in the event of an accident, rescue and medical treatment may not be available. Weather conditions may be extreme and can change rapidly and without warning, making travel by any means hazardous.

**I AM AWARE OF THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION AND I FREELY ACCEPT AND FULLY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR LOSS RESULTING THEREFROM.**

Initial

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS, ASSUMPTION OF RISKS, INDEMNITY AGREEMENT, AND JURISDICTION AGREEMENT (continued)**

**NOTICE TO SNOWBOARDERS AND TELEMAR SKIERS – INCREASED RISK**

Unlike alpine ski boot and binding systems, snowboard and some telemark boot and binding systems are not designed or intended to release and will not release under normal circumstances. The use of such systems or the use of a safety strap or retention device by snowboarders or telemark skiers will increase the risk of not surviving an avalanche.

Initial

**NOTICE TO PARTICIPANTS OF PROFESSIONAL GUIDE TRAINING COURSES – INCREASED RISK**

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Initial

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

In consideration of **TRU**, the **ACMG**, and **THE PROVINCE** allowing me to participate in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged, I hereby agree as follows:

- 1. TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL CLAIMS** that I have or may have in the future against **TRU**, the **ACMG**, and **THE PROVINCE** and their directors, officers, employees, instructors, guides, agents, independent contractors, representatives, successors and assigns (all of whom are hereinafter referred to as the "RELEASEES") and **TO RELEASE THE RELEASEES** from any and all liability for any loss, damage, expense or injury including death that I may suffer or that my next of kin may suffer as a result of my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation activity, **DUE TO ANY CAUSE WHATSOEVER, INCLUDING NEGLIGENCE, BREACH OF CONTRACT, OR BREACH OF ANY STATUTORY OR OTHER DUTY OF CARE, INCLUDING ANY DUTY OF CARE OWED UNDER THE OCCUPIER'S LIABILITY ACT, R.S.B.C. 1996, c.337, ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES, AND INCLUDING THE FAILURE ON THE PART OF THE RELEASEES TO SAFEGUARD OR PROTECT ME FROM THE RISKS, DANGERS AND HAZARDS OF SKIING, CLIMBING, HIKING, RESCUE, WILDERNESS TRAVEL, AND TRANSPORTATION REFERRED TO ABOVE.**

Initial

2. TO HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE RELEASEES from any and all liability for any property damage or personal injury to any third party resulting from my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation;
3. TO HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY THE RELEASEES from any and all liability for any costs they may incur for medical costs, search and rescue, evacuation, and litigation resulting from my participation in skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation;
4. That this Agreement shall be effective and binding upon my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators, assigns and representatives, in the event of my death or incapacity;
5. This Agreement and any rights, duties and obligations as between the parties to this Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted solely in accordance with the laws of the Province of British Columbia and no other jurisdiction, and
6. Any litigation involving the parties to this Agreement shall be brought solely within the Province of British Columbia and shall be within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of the Province of British Columbia.

In entering into this Agreement I am not relying on any oral or written representations or statements made by the Releasees with respect to the safety of skiing, climbing, hiking, rescue, wilderness travel, and transportation other than what is set forth in this Agreement.

Initial

**I CONFIRM THAT I AM THE FULL AGE OF NINETEEN (19) YEARS AND I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTOOD THIS AGREEMENT PRIOR TO SIGNING IT, AND I AM AWARE THAT BY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT I AM WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS WHICH I OR MY HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN, EXECUTORS, ADMINISTRATORS, ASSIGNS AND REPRESENTATIVES MAY HAVE AGAINST THE RELEASEES.**

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of applicant
Print name clearly

Signature of witness
Print name clearly

THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL, INITIALLED WHERE INDICATED, DATED, SIGNED AND WITNESSED PRIOR TO PARTICIPATING WITH TRU AND THE ACMG

