

## Tanner Lange – Recipient of COPR’s PCP Award of Excellence for 2022



The COPR 2022 PCP Award of Excellence goes to Tanner Lange with a score of 795 out of 800. Tanner Lange grew up in the small town of Cabri, Saskatchewan and moved to Swift Current, Saskatchewan with his mom and older sister at the age of 12. After graduating from high school, Tanner pursued a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Regina and convocated in 2015, after which he began a teaching career at Maverick school in Swift Current working with at-risk youth. At the age of 27, he reached out to a former hockey coach and went for a tour of the Swift Current Fire Hall. During the tour, it became readily apparent to me that I had a passion for Fire and Emergency Services. I was hired by my hometown fire department in April 2021.

Tanner completed the Primary Paramedic Program, a part-time program in Swift Current at Great Plains College which was brokered through Sask Polytech, in June 2022, graduating with Great Distinction. He was also the recipient of Great Plains’ Academic Achievement award. Although it was a challenge being in the program while working full-time and having a young family at home, Tanner is very grateful for how it all played out, as he was able to

continue living at home, spending more time with family than if he had moved away to attend school. Throughout this program, he developed a very keen interest in pathophysiology and pharmacology, spending a great deal of time conceptualizing material, and doing what he could to ensure he truly understood the “how” and “why” instead of memorizing facts from the textbooks. To do so, he would often approach his instructors with his queries, and they were always more than willing to help or, at least, have a conversation about the question to try and establish an appropriate answer. He would also utilize other resources in pursuit of the answers he was looking for. Tanner believes these resources contributed greatly to his success and he would like to thank his instructors for their patience and their willingness to share their knowledge.

Outside of working, Tanner keeps busy and loves spending time with his family outdoors, whether it be hiking, camping, campfires, picnics, or playing sports. He has played hockey his entire life and likes golfing during the summers. He also plays guitar and enjoys home renovations.

In addition to his instructors, Tanner would like to thank the Swift Current Fire Department for accommodating his schedule and providing him with time away from work when it conflicted with school, which allowed him to maintain his priority of success in the PCP program and COPR exam. Most of all, he would like to thank his wife, Sharla, and his two sons, Kenley and Bensen. Their support of his pursuit of a career in Fire and Emergency Services has meant the world to him. They have sacrificed many hours of time with him during the course of his program, and for that he is so grateful.

While this award comes as a surprise to Tanner, he is very proud to be its recipient.

## Adam Fillier – Recipient of COPR’s ACP Award of Excellence for 2022



Adam Fillier is this year’s recipient of the COPR ACP Award of Excellence, achieving a score of 765 out of 800. Adam split his time growing up between two communities in Newfoundland, Bell Island and St. John’s, in a medical family and so came to paramedicine naturally. His mother, Jeannie, and stepfather, Doug, were both nurses as is his sister Melissa. He has a step brother, Brenden, living in Ontario who is a physician.

Adam began his training as a paramedic in 2011 at The College of the North Atlantic. Adam graduated from that program as the top student in his class and was awarded The Presidents Medal for Academic Excellence. Adam worked in a variety of locations; from small rural communities to isolated industrial sites, Adam was able to work across nearly all of Newfoundland and Labrador. Eventually

Adam began working for Eastern Health which provides service to St. John's and the surrounding areas.

In 2019, Adam began his training to become an ACP at Holland College where he graduated with distinction. The pandemic, a serious injury and the loss of his stepfather created many obstacles and difficulties in completing the program. With the love and support of his family, however, in 2021 Adam was able to complete the ACP program.

In his spare time, Adam loves spending time with his wife Melissa and his 5 year old daughter Hazel, both of whom are his inspiration and motivation. His hobbies include modeling, watching movies and reading. He can often be found at his local hobby shop gaming with friends.

Adam would like to thank his family for their unending support. He would also like to thank The College of the North Atlantic and Holland College for providing him with exceptional educational opportunities. In particular, Adam would like to thank Rob C, Matt H, Matt R, Dave P and Brent N, all of whom are amazing educators and were very generous in their tutelage and guidance.

## Wyatt McLaughlin – Recipient of COPR’s EMR Award of Excellence for 2022



Wyatt McLaughlin is the recipient of COPR’s EMR Award of Excellence. After graduating high school in his hometown, Canmore, Alberta, Wyatt went to work at a local ski resort where he was exposed to the ski patrol profession. Wyatt was immediately interested in the unique line of work and proceeded to spend the next three years learning the trade. As a ski patroller, Wyatt developed a foundation of paramedicine, avalanche, and mountain rescue, all while working with an 80-hour advanced first aid ticket. This was a great opportunity to become immersed in the world of paramedicine due to the high trauma-related call volume that most ski resorts experience.

After working alongside fellow paramedics, nurses and physicians within ski patrol, Wyatt became inspired to pursue a higher level of training. In 2022, He completed the part-time EMR program with the Alberta Health and Safety Training Institute (AHASTI) located in Calgary. He is excited to engage in the new skills and knowledge he acquired during his time at school.

Wyatt has since moved on from ski patrol and has re-focused his career path towards firefighting. Today, he currently practices as an EMR with the Canmore Fire Rescue Service. He joined the department as a paid-on-call responder and truly believes it's the best job he's ever had. In between paid on-call firefighting, he fills his time with other work including industrial rope access, and industrial standby rescue. Wyatt enjoys the varied work but his goal is set to attain a full-time career in the fire service.

During Wyatt's free time, he can usually be found in the mountains partaking in activities such as skiing, camping, mountain biking, or occasionally volunteering for mountain bike races. He realizes this line of work can be exhausting so there is always time set away to enjoy the many other things life has to offer.

Wyatt would like to thank all his mentors in the ski patrol, fire service and EMS disciplines for their past and ongoing support. Lastly, he thanks his classmates and instructors for playing a tremendous role in the success of the EMR program.