



Kit - BC Ambulance Paramedic | By Photographer/Author - Jennifer Dowd

Kit is a Paramedic with 17 years of experience. He's smart, skilled, kind, compassionate, and has a passion for helping people.

In his own words, Kit provides some insights into his life as a Paramedic.

Question 1: What interested you in this profession?

"This was never a profession that was ever on my radar. It was just by chance that I ended up here. Growing up on Denman Island and being a local I was asked if I would be interested in joining the ambulance services to help the community. I jumped at the chance to help and 17 years later, I'm still here."

Question 2: Why do you think this profession is important?

"Other than the obvious answer of getting people to the hospital I think it's an important profession because we are the first step for people in their time of need and the link for them receiving definitive care. We can provide life-saving procedures en route to the hospital. If nothing else, we are a sign that help is here."

Question 3: What do you want people to know about this profession?

"Don't ever feel guilty or ashamed to call for help. Even if it's just a simple thing like wanting a person to talk to. We will do our best to come up with a treatment plan that makes you feel comfortable, even if that means something other than being transported to the hospital."

Question 4: How does your family feel about you doing this profession?

"I think it's mixed reviews. I know they are proud of the work we do. Helping others is an honourable profession and they know we do good out there. They know it's not a profession for everyone and it does take a certain person to stick with the job. However, there are parts of it I know they do not like, the long hours, night shifts and the horrible things we inevitably see. They know this profession takes a mental toll on us."

Question 5: What's the greatest thing about your profession?

"It's hard to pick just one thing but I would say the people we get to meet. Just talking to people from all walks of life is amazing. I love hearing stories from people's past. I enjoy striking up a conversation about an old photograph or painting on a wall. We meet people that have lived some incredible lives. A lot of history has happened for someone that is over 100 years old. I've talked to people who have fought in and survived both world wars, others who survived concentration camps, an elderly lady that traded her car for a house on the beach that is now a multi-million dollar property and people who have overcome hardships to come to Canada. I've heard some unbelievable stories and I think there's a lot we can learn from the past."