



2020 Fort McMurray & Area Floods

DONOR UPDATE: DECEMBER 2020

After enduring the largest evacuation in Canadian history due to wildfire in 2016, the people of Fort McMurray once again showed significant resiliency in the face of natural disaster – this time amid a global pandemic.

In late April, high water levels and river ice jams caused extensive flooding in northeastern Alberta. Entire communities in Fort McMurray, MacKenzie County, and the surrounding area were forced to evacuate.

The Canadian Red Cross was already on the ground and able to provide practical and emotional support to those forced to flee their home. Working in close partnership with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and other organizations, the Red Cross helped families meet basic needs such as emergency lodging, groceries and baby supplies.

Of course, with the threat of COVID-19 complicating matters, the Red Cross implemented protocols such as physical distancing and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to protect people in need and our responders.

Thanks to you, families in Fort McMurray, MacKenzie County, and the surrounding region did not have to face this flood alone. Your support also means that we can ensure that everyone affected has the support they need to recover from this disaster.

“It’s been a hectic time in Fort McMurray because we’re dealing with the pandemic, then we had the flood, and because of the flood many areas were under a boil water advisory too.”

– Penny Simms, Canadian Red Cross, Fort McMurray



FLOODING IMPACT AT A GLANCE



25 communities affected



2,070 structures impacted by water and/or sewage back-up



13,000 residents evacuated

How your support helps communities recover



THANK YOU!

The Canadian Red Cross wishes to thank our generous donors for contributing more than \$553,000 towards our Fort McMurray & Area Floods Appeal, as of October 31, 2020.

The Canadian Red Cross knows that recovery doesn't just happen overnight. It takes time, care, and a deep understanding of how to get individuals and communities back on their feet.

Your support has helped those impacted meet their immediate needs and will help individuals, families and communities in the months ahead.

For additional information on the impact of your donation, the financial update for the Fort McMurray and Area Floods Appeal will be available online at redcross.ca/alberta.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS



25,000 calls received to assist evacuees



5,300+ households received financial support to help meet their re-entry needs



2,300+ families received emergency lodging



3,600+ clean-up kits distributed to residents



260+ Canadian Red Cross volunteers mobilized to respond

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT



340+ people assisted with applications for the Alberta government's Disaster Recovery Program.



580+ individuals supported through the Red Cross mental health and psychosocial support program and by referrals.

COMMUNITY RECOVERY



Partnerships offered to community organizations to help provide psychosocial and mental health support



Financial assistance for eligible small businesses and not-for-profit groups affected by the floods