



ONE YEAR UPDATE

# 2018 British Columbia Floods



When water from the Kettle and Granby Rivers flooded into communities like Grand Forks and Christina Lake in the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary last May, it changed the lives of thousands of people. Almost 2,000 households were evacuated, and the Canadian Red Cross responded immediately alongside local authorities to get emergency help to people in need.

The Canadian Red Cross, together with the B.C. Government, developed the Household Emergency Assistance Program, a first-of-its-kind disaster recovery initiative in British Columbia. This pilot program was designed to assist those in need following the initial emergency. Funding was made available by the province, with the Red Cross administering the support to people in need. The program provided monthly financial assistance to help people find safe housing, and meet their personal recovery needs. It's also helping people with extensive flood damage to their primary residence to repair or rebuild their homes.

Small businesses and not-for-profits are essential to recovery for individuals and the broader community. They bring people back to the region to work and help the community reconnect at cafés, restaurants and shops. The B.C. Government provided \$2.9 million to expand the Support to Small Business Program, providing financial assistance to those with uninsured losses.

Recovery can be a long process, and every individual or family will have different experiences. It is through the generosity of Canadian Red Cross donors that our team has been able to help people in the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary. Thank you for your support.

**Jean-Philippe Tizi**  
Chief of Canadian Operations  
Canadian Red Cross



It's been a year since Grand Forks and the surrounding regions faced a destructive flood emergency, one of the most urgent challenges the community and the province has ever known. Visiting Grand Forks during the response was something I'll never forget. The community was devastated, but never divided. The people of Grand Forks came together and to this day, remain united as they work through the recovery stage.

The province has provided significant financial support to help Grand Forks and the surrounding region on the road to recovery. That includes funding for response operations, housing, Disaster Financial Assistance, economic recovery, health and environmental supports. It includes supports for small businesses, the lifeblood of any community. We've been able to secure funding for the Support for Small Businesses program, delivered through the Red Cross, and conducted economic impact assessments to better plan for business recovery.

These are just a few examples of what has been done so far, and there is a lot more to do. I can assure you that we will continue to be in Grand Forks to help. The cross-ministry recovery team is focused on finding solutions for recovery needs, making sure we're ready for future events and working with the community, actively and collaboratively to ensure we are as resilient as possible.

Sincerely,

**Jennifer Rice**  
Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness  
Government of British Columbia

# How your support helped feed a community during disaster



**Lynda Hynes is the Inventory Coordinator of the Boundary Community Food Bank**, a critical resource for the most vulnerable residents in the community of Grand Forks. So when the Food Bank was in danger from the flooding in 2018, she sprang into action.

Luckily, Lynda's home was not greatly affected by the floods, and she could focus her efforts on the Food Bank and its inventory. Lynda sandbagged around the building and moved food to higher shelves to avoid damage. However, her efforts were impeded by a flooding crawl space that damaged stored food.

Thankfully, your support enabled the Red Cross to help the Boundary Community Food Bank continue its operations in the Grand Forks community immediately after the floods.

During the recovery effort, the Red Cross also provided a project grant to the Boundary Community Food Bank through its Community Partnerships Program. This grant has, in turn, contributed the resources required for the Food Bank to expand the aid it provides by serving hot soup to its visitors and distributing an extra hamper of food to those who need it.

"I think the beauty of the Red Cross is that in a disaster they are there right away," Lynda said. "I can't say enough about what the Red Cross has done for our community."

Helping communities in need has a big impact. Thank you for your support of community, Lynda, and the Boundary Community Food Bank.

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# When Disaster Hits Twice: How Your Support Helped One Couple Start Again



**Grand Forks has been Tamara and Ernie's home for over ten years.** They wanted to build their lives where they could later retire, enjoying time with each other and with their family.

Tamara and Ernie own a building downtown that is home to a few small businesses, and their house is on the land behind the building. Both properties suffered from extensive damage after the floods, but in the moment, it felt manageable.

"We thought, 'we're okay. We'll be okay. There are people way worse off than us'. But then it settles in," says Tamara.

After eight feet of water in their basements receded, they soon realized that water damage would mean months and months of cleaning and rebuilding, ridding their home and business of mold left behind by the flood.

Your support was critical for Tamara and Ernie as their recovery went on. Thanks to your generosity, the couple received assistance through the Household Emergency Assistance Program and the Support to Small Business Program.

A year later, Tamara and Ernie continue to put their lives back together. The Red Cross knows that recovery doesn't happen overnight – and Tamara and Ernie know, too. They are grateful to those who gave generously to help the residents of Grand Forks.

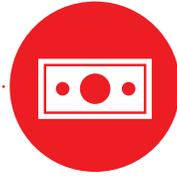
"I couldn't thank them enough," says Ernie. "Without the Red Cross, we would have been in a lot of trouble," adds Tamara.

Thank you – your support means that people like Tamara and Ernie get the help they need when recovering from disaster, no matter how long it takes.

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# One year later:

## What Your Support Has Accomplished



### 420 households

were supported with funding for additional needs such as medical supplies and prescriptions, mental health and well-being supports, and fuel to heat their homes through the generosity of Red Cross donors.

### 448 households

affected by the flooding in the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary received financial assistance. Support was allocated on a case-by-case basis, based on needs. Some households accessed support in more than one way.

### 219 households

received financial assistance for their ongoing recovery, including support for temporary accommodations, food and utilities, through the Household Emergency Assistance Program.



### 1,599 one-on-one meetings

were held with individuals and families to help support them as they move forward with their personal recovery.



### 108 businesses

helped through the support to small business program.



### 318 referrals

were made to external mental health and well-being supports.



### 844 clean-up kits

(brooms, gloves, cleaning products, etc.) were distributed to those returning home.

# Your generosity at work:

## Financial summary

To date, \$5.2 million has already been spent or committed to assist those impacted by the floods in the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

Thanks to generous individuals, governments, community groups and corporate partners who donated funds in support of people impacted by the 2018 British Columbia Floods. Together, we continue to have a lasting impact on individuals, families and the entire community as they recover.

**TOTAL FUNDS  
DONATED TO DATE:**  
**\$1.4 Million**

**GOVERNMENT FUNDS:**  
**\$5.8 Million** thanks to the  
Government of British Columbia

**GRAND TOTAL TO DATE:**  
**\$7.2 Million**

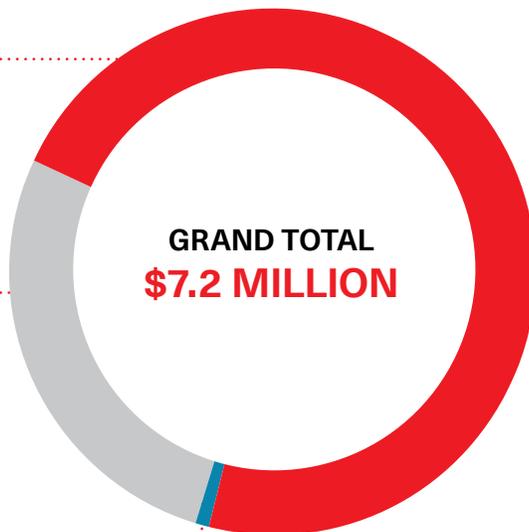
**\$5.2 MILLION**

SPENT AND COMMITTED AS OF APRIL 30, 2019

**Total spent  
and committed**  
**71%**

**Remaining  
allocated funds**  
**28%**

**Fundraising costs**  
**1%**



**Funds spent or committed to date used to support individuals and families, community groups, small businesses and not-for-profit organizations.**

**Remaining funds already allocated to recovery efforts supporting people and communities.**

**Fundraising costs**

### UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Allocation of funds to date:** This is the projected budget across each area of spending for the grand total. The allocations reflect the needs of the people and the community that have been identified to date. Many needs emerge over time and the allocation amounts may be adjusted accordingly.

**Spent and committed to date:** These are the funds that have been already spent to assist those impacted by the floods, as well as funds that have been committed with signed contracts or agreements for recovery projects or initiatives, where applicable.

**Fundraising costs:** In the graph to the left, 1% represents the fundraising costs in relation to the grand total of all funds received. Fundraising costs are not applied to funds received from the government. Fundraising costs are only applicable to funds that are donated (\$1.43M) and will not exceed five per cent of the total donated funds for this appeal. These costs may include donation processing fees; credit card and bank fees; service fees for call centres and digital platforms; and, ongoing communications and reporting to donors.

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# Your generosity at work:

## Financial details

**TOTAL ALLOCATED TO DATE:**  
**\$7.2 Million**

**TOTAL SPENT AND COMMITTED TO DATE:**  
**\$5.2 Million**



### TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

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**Allocated  
to Date**  
  
**\$3.4  
MILLION**

**Spent and Committed  
to Date**  
  
**\$3.2  
MILLION**

Providing help such as: food, water, items for babies and children, personal services such as hygiene products, and items to help people return to work. Other assistance may be provided for: mental health and well-being supports, temporary accommodations, utilities, and replacement of prescription medications or dentures.



### TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY GROUPS

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Ensuring needs of the community are reflected in relief and recovery activities. This has included a variety of projects and initiatives such as support for emotional and psychological well-being, and community food projects.

**Allocated  
to Date**  
  
**\$0.5  
MILLION**

**Spent and Committed  
to Date**  
  
**\$0.3  
MILLION**



### TO SUPPORT ELIGIBLE SMALL BUSINESSES, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

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**Allocated  
to Date**  
  
**\$3.2  
MILLION**

**Spent and Committed  
to Date**  
  
**\$1.6  
MILLION**

Experience has shown us that support for small businesses and not-for-profit organizations are essential to the full recovery of the people and communities affected by a disaster. Funding will help small businesses with fixed and new expenses they incurred when they lost business due to the floods. These funds could help business owners with things like: uninsured losses, deductibles, equipment, minor repairs to property, and clean-up of property. Support to small business applications for eligible businesses are currently being processed. For additional information visit [www.redcross.ca/bcfloods/smallbusiness](http://www.redcross.ca/bcfloods/smallbusiness).

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**Fundraising Costs:** \$70,000 allocated to date. \$70,000 spent or committed to date.

# **Thank you for your kindness and generosity.**

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**Because of your support, the Red Cross has been  
able to work alongside individuals, families and  
communities as they recover.**