



# B.C. Floods

**In early May, families in British Columbia's southern interior faced the worst flooding to hit some communities in over 70 years. Hot weather triggered rapid snow melt in the mountains that pushed water from lakes and streams into people's homes.**

As their properties were submerged by the floods, thousands of families faced the distress of leaving their homes and belongings behind.

For those like the Byers, the situation was devastating. And although the waters have now receded, the real work has just begun.

"It was 'oh my, where do we start?'" said Anne Byers, as she worked alongside her family to clean out her parents' house. Originally there was four feet of water inside the home – now it is bare, all of the furniture thrown out due to the contaminated water.

With your generous support, the Red Cross has been able to provide urgently needed financial assistance to those in affected communities across the region, and be there to work with people through this difficult time, like the Byer family.

The road ahead will be challenging, but together we will remain by the side of B.C. families as they overcome this disaster.

**"It's muddy and it stinks. There is a film of mud over everything."**

**- LLOYD BAILEY**

Joanne and Lloyd Bailey (pictured above) were trying to make sure their home at Christina Lake stayed dry with sandbags. But when the water overflowed its barriers, they had to leave everything behind. Now that the water levels are lower, they've used a metal rowboat to carry away as much as they could, but they won't be able to consider living in their home until the water is completely gone.

# The difficult return home:

## How your support is making a difference



**While fires tend to pass through quickly, floods can linger. Water seeps into carpets, furniture, and walls. Damp and mold take hold of the house – meanwhile, all your cleaning supplies under the kitchen sink have been washed away, along with the contents of your pantry.**

To assist with the difficult return home, your support is also providing flood clean-up kits to affected families, giving them brooms, gloves, garbage bags, buckets and other cleaning supplies to help make their homes safe and liveable again.

Additionally, financial support will give families the ability to support their urgent needs and replace lost items, like food and toiletries. The recovery process after a flood can be long and complicated. But thanks to your generosity, the Red Cross will be there to help every step along the way.

### YOUR DONATION IN ACTION

The Canadian Red Cross would like to thank individuals, businesses and governments for donating over \$964,000 towards our response to the B.C. flooding.\*

**Here is how your support has helped so far:**



**2 Shelters**

managed and staffed by the Red Cross



**2 Reception Centres**

supported by the Red Cross



**135 Volunteers**

deployed for disaster response



**450+ Clean-up kits**

distributed



**1150+ People**

registered with the Red Cross

**\* Thanks to the generosity of the B.C. government, donations made by British Columbia residents from May 16 to July 31, 2018 will be matched dollar-for-dollar.**