



British Columbia
**REPORT BACK
TO THE COMMUNITY**

2015-16



**CANADIAN
RED CROSS
CROIX-ROUGE
CANADIENNE**

DISASTERS & EMERGENCIES



“The addition of the generator will enable the Rock Creek Fair Facility to be used as an evacuation centre capable of housing a large number of evacuees, livestock and emergency personnel in an effort to help strengthen community resiliency and preparedness for future disasters.”

- Rock Creek and Boundary Fair Association.

When wildfires tore through Rock Creek and neighbouring communities in B.C.'s southern interior last summer, it forced hundreds of residents

and campers to drop everything and flee. Red Cross volunteers got to the fire region within hours and helped make sure individuals and families had basic necessities like food, clothing, shelter, and personal items. At the same time, volunteers in the TELUS Red Cross call centre reunited anxious callers from all over Canada with family and friends who had been evacuated. The fires destroyed 30 homes and damaged dozens of other structures.

Coming back from a fire takes a lot of community support, and in the months that followed, the Red Cross worked alongside local government and other agencies on the Westbridge Fire Unmet Needs Committee, helping residents with things like removing hazardous fallen trees, replacing necessities like firewood that people use for heat, hay for their farm animals, and winter tires to help people return to work. After individuals and families were looked after, the Committee helped the community build stronger, and be better prepared for future disasters.



40 Red Cross volunteers dedicated more than **1,450** hours helping **577** people with food, clothing, shelter, personal items, etc.



The Red Cross continued to grow its role as an Emergency Social Services provider in partnership with local authorities. This year, the Village of Pemberton, the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District, and the Powell River Regional District signed agreements where Red Cross will build local teams of trained volunteers that will be ready to help those impacted by fires, landslides, floods or other small-scale disasters affecting up to 25 people.



Preparing for emergencies starts with knowing the hazards and risks in your area. The Red Cross is very pleased to have worked in partnership with the St'at'imc Government Services to develop a report on St'at'imc disaster hazard, risk and capacity. Future phases of the project will support St'at'imc communities to further enhance their existing capacity and enable communities to better respond to small or catastrophic disasters.



The Government of Canada resettled 25,000 Syrian refugees in 2015-16, and here in British Columbia, Red Cross volunteers and staff partnered with several service providers to welcome 340 families and individuals at community integration hotels in Surrey and Victoria. We were part of a much larger team of skilled and experienced refugee-serving agencies that ensured all the newcomers to our province had a safe place to live, and had access to a range of services as they searched for permanent housing and transitioned to life in their new country.



Thanks to generous donors, the Red Cross has been able to fund several other projects such as language training, youth programs, family health and wellness, and disaster preparedness – all projects that will continue through the next fiscal year.



RED CROSS BY THE NUMBERS



Canada-wide stats

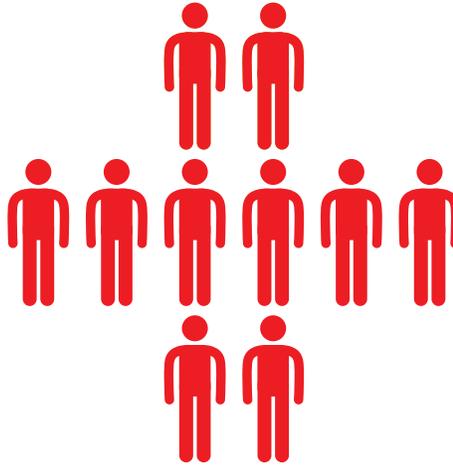


British Columbia
stats

OUR STRENGTH

is in our volunteers and donors

 around
20,000 VOLUNTEERS
from coast-to-coast



 in B.C.
**1,725
VOLUNTEERS**
contributed more than 6,700 hours

READY TO RESPOND

when disaster strikes


39,121
Canadians directly
assisted following
a disaster




1,268 PEOPLE
assisted following a disaster
in B.C.

READY TO SUPPORT

those in our communities



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Restoring Family Links program
reconnected more than
150 PEOPLE
in Canada with family members
separated by conflict, disaster
or migration.

READY TO PREVENT

injuries and abuse

 **742,322** Canadians took violence, bullying, and abuse prevention training.

 **29,000+** took the same training in British Columbia



1,170,014 Canadians took Red Cross Swimming and Water Safety lessons



262,583 people took the same training in British Columbia



 **625,585** Canadians took Red Cross First Aid courses

 **82,126** people took the same training in British Columbia



HEALTH EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM (HELP)



103,500 CLIENTS served
178,400 pieces of equipment loaned



FIRST CONTACT

24/7 refugee assistance phone line



465 refugee claimant calls



INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Red Cross took part in **77 missions** in **62 countries**

Emergency and Recovery Activities

176 Canadian Red Cross delegates were deployed

1 Emergency Response Unit field hospital deployment supported in Nepal

Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Disaster Preparedness, and Violence Prevention

5,289 volunteers provided support in **24** countries

4,313,663 clients supported

959 communities supported



COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELLNESS



An aging population means a fast-growing need for health care supports. The Red Cross Health Equipment Loan Program (HELP) continues to support health authorities and health care providers by lending equipment to seniors and others so they can live at home longer and avoid lengthy hospital stays. In 2015-16, the Red Cross HELP client list grew by more than 10 per cent, surpassing 100,000 clients for the first time.

“I have been able to live much more independently, which has greatly improved my quality of life and sense of independence. I can’t imagine how challenging my life would have been if not for the Red Cross Health Equipment Loan Program!”

– HELP client



“I feel more secure knowing I can help care for my family and friends when injuries happen.”

– Samantha Bisailon,
Soowahlie Band

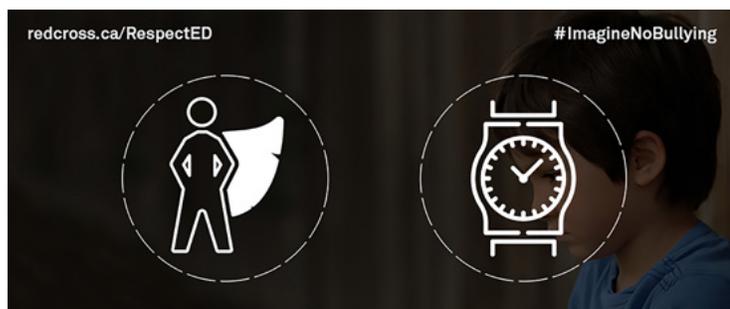
After a successful pilot program in 2014, the Red Cross and First Nations Health Authority trained people from more than 44 communities across the province. Once again, 100 per cent of the participants - 117 this year - passed the course and can now provide life-saving first aid to their community members before an ambulance arrives.

PREVENTION & SAFETY



The Red Cross partnered again with The Community Against Preventable Injuries and asked parents to have a word with themselves and supervise their children around water. Training partners laid towels emblazoned with the words “Before you think children don’t need supervision, in, on or around water, have a word with yourself” around beaches, parks and pools to raise awareness and dialogue about water safety.

The Red Cross Respect Education team launched its new Healthy Youth Relationships program to give young people the tools they need to build respectful relationships and put a stop to dating violence. Schools in northern B.C, the Okanagan and Metro Vancouver helped pilot the new program. The Red Cross trained youth facilitators to bring these important messages directly to their peers. Young people are also able to connect with the Healthy Youth Relationships initiative online and through social media.



When a friend steps in, bullying stops 57% of the time in 10 seconds or less.



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OUR SUPPORTERS

We'd like to thank all our donors for investing in the work of the Canadian Red Cross. Thank you for making it possible for the Red Cross to provide life-saving and life-changing services to those in need across British Columbia.

We would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations who donated at the major gift level and above.

Anonymous (35)	Jack and Doris Brown Foundation	Ruth Carrier
Akali Singh Sikh Society	Jarome Iginla	Sarah MacDonald
BGC Engineering Inc.	Joseph Lorincz	Satguru Ram Singh Satsang Charitable Foundation
Canada Post Foundation	Karl and Celia Meade	The Cullen Family
Celtic Cross Charitable Foundation	Kysa Investments Ltd	The Jim Pattison Foundation
Chevron Canada Limited	Labatt Brewing Company Ltd	The Robert & Anna Koerner Foundation for International Assistance (held at Vancouver Foundation)
City of Burnaby	London Drugs Limited	The Somerset Foundation
City of Prince George	Lululemon Athletica Canada Inc	Thompson Nicola Cariboo United Way
City of Victoria	Margaret Duncan	TK Industries Ltd
CKNW Orphans' Fund	MacDonald, Dettwiler, and Associates Ltd	Tom and Jenni Lynnea Gibson
Coast Capital Savings Credit Union	Marin Investments Ltd	UNIFOR 468 W
Columbia Basin Trust	Maurice Ingram	United Way of Greater Victoria
Connor, Clark & Lunn Foundation	MEC	United Way of the Lower Mainland
Dayhu Investments Ltd	Mr. and Mrs. Cleon Wagner	Vancouver Foundation
District of West Kelowna	NWM Private Giving Foundation	Vedic Cultural Social Society Of BC
Djavad Mowafaghian Foundation	Paul Richards	Victoria Foundation
Federated Co-Operatives ltd	Ponte Bros Contracting Ltd	
First Nations Health Authority	Province of British Columbia	
GCT Canada	Provincial Employees Community Services Fund	
Gordon and Raquel McFetridge	Raymond James Canada Foundation	
Government of British Columbia	RBC Foundation	
Government of Yukon	Regional District of East Kootenay	
Interior Savings Credit Union	Rose of Sharon Foundation	

Thank You!



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