

LAC-MÉGANTIC TWO YEARS LATER



The public market, which was located on Thibodeau Street prior to July 6, 2013, has moved to Promenade Papineau.

Two years after the night that changed everything, the residents of Lac-Mégantic are more united than ever and using their creativity and solidarity to serve their community. It's a city reborn, and the Red Cross is able to participate thanks to the immense generosity of our donors.

THANK YOU!

A WORD FROM THE MAYOR OF LAC-MÉGANTIC



Thank you to everyone who supported the community of Lac-Mégantic so generously by giving to the Red Cross. I would also like to thank the volunteers, from here and across Quebec, who have donated their time over the last two years.

We were deeply moved by your donations, which continue to bring us hope. We are still witnessing concrete evidence of your support. Each new project helps our community along the path to recovery. We take great pride in our community and look to the future with confidence, patience, and hope.

Colette Roy Laroche, C.S.M.

Colette Roy Laroche

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE RED CROSS IN QUEBEC



Since the tragedy of July 6, 2013, the Red Cross has been helping the community of Lac-Mégantic cope with this hardship and get back on its feet. Our presence is made possible by donors who have chosen to support the local community, and we are infinitely grateful to them.

That generosity enabled our team to implement a multifaceted assistance program which provided direct assistance to one in every two residents of Lac-Mégantic. The community as a whole will also benefit from the program through various projects that have been completed and are still to come, in health care, education or support for various recovery and reconstruction initiatives.

The Red Cross also provides similar support around the world. Our organization is active before, during, and after disasters to help communities prepare for, overcome, and recover from such challenges. Our experience has shown us that it is crucial to continue supporting communities over the long term to meet needs that emerge over time. Our next step here will be rebuilding the downtown sector with the help of our partners.

Day after day, project after project, we are incredibly moved to see the new Lac-Mégantic take shape. Congratulations to this courageous and resilient community: you have our full admiration and support.

Michel Léveillé

Michel Léveillé

SUMMARY OF OUR RESPONSE



3,236 people have been or are being assisted, including:



256 workers and students who lost their jobs



254 self-employed workers and business owners who were evacuated or otherwise affected by the tragedy



113 grieving families, including **32 children** who lost one or both parents



62,408 cash cards and vouchers have been distributed



150 local volunteers

Assistance planned:
\$2.8M

Assistance provided (money spent, committed, or contracted for):
\$12M

Lac-Mégantic Support Fund
\$14.8 million

Support for:

232 businesses

17 not-for-profit organizations affected by the disaster

47 assistance projects submitted by not-for-profit organizations

4 healthcare projects in collaboration with the Le Granit Centre de santé et des services sociaux

11 education projects in collaboration with the Hauts-Cantons school board, its business services division, and the Cégep Beauce-Appalaches

88 economic recovery projects

7 community recovery and reconstruction projects

	Assistance provided	Assistance planned	Total
 Assistance to evacuees and others affected, workers who have lost their livelihoods, and grieving families (including emergency assistance)	\$4,245,000	\$7,500	\$4,252,500
 Economic recovery	\$2,048,000	\$552,000	\$2,600,000
 Community recovery and reconstruction	\$477,000	\$1,423,000	\$1,900,000
 Healthcare projects	\$1,420,000	\$480,000	\$1,900,000
 Support for business owners	\$1,525,000	\$7,000	\$1,532,000
 Support for non-profit organizations	\$1,030,000	\$90,000	\$1,120,000
 Education projects	\$460,000	\$40,000	\$500,000
 Disaster prevention and preparedness	\$10,000	\$190,000	\$200,000
 Community support	\$120,000	-	\$120,000
 Fundraising costs (5%)	\$735,500	-	\$735,500
Total	\$12,070,500	\$2,789,500	\$14,860,000*

*Interest generated is reinvested in the Lac-Mégantic Support Fund.

STORIES FROM LAC-MÉGANTIC

A family with a big heart

Already a mother of two children, Kim did not think twice about taking in her two nieces when her sister and her husband died tragically on July 6, 2013. Kim immediately opened up her home to her nieces and made room for them in her family.

The Red Cross helped Kim and her family by providing assistance to expand and reorganize their home. **Kim is incredibly grateful for the support.** Today, renovations are nearly completed and a new routine has begun. The last two years were gruelling and difficult for the whole family, but now they are finding a balance.

Because of Kim and her family's courage and perseverance, the girls now have a safe place to call home.

To read the full story of Kim and her family, visit:
www.redcross.ca/megantic



Going home with the Home Project

A group of students from the École d'entrepreneuriat de Beauce saw to the completion of the Home Project, a 12-unit cooperative. Red Cross funds helped make the building accessible for people with reduced mobility, level the site, and pave the parking area.

"The Red Cross support arrived at a critical time. Given its scale, the project took a long time to get going and it gave our team a second wind," said Marie-Claire Filion, a team member.

"We would like to extend a huge thank you to donors and the Red Cross. We appreciated the transparency with which our case was handled. We were always kept informed and it was a great team effort."

To read the full story on the Home Project, visit:
www.redcross.ca/megantic

Home Project tenants in front of the newly completed building. On the left is Yves Gilbert, Director of the Lac-Mégantic Red Cross office.



A new location for La Boîte Verte

La Boîte Verte, a solidarity cooperative and health food store, stood in the heart of downtown Lac-Mégantic. Since it was located within the zone affected by the events of July 6, the store was no longer accessible. La Boîte Verte was gone and it was back to square one. Madeleine Chalifour, president of the cooperative, had neither the energy nor the strength to start all over again.

The search for a new location for La Boîte Verte was not without its difficulties. After several months, the managers had the opportunity to purchase a building. That is when La Boîte Verte turned to the Red Cross for help.

"Without the Red Cross and the development agencies, relocating La Boîte Verte would not have been possible," said Madeleine Chalifour.

To read the full story on La Boîte Verte, visit:
www.redcross.ca/megantic



A model of perseverance

Geneviève Boulanger and her husband had barely finished unpacking the last few boxes when their house was destroyed on the night of July 6, 2013. They had bought an ancestral home near the lake the previous summer. After a year of renovations, they had finally achieved their dream of owning a house a stone's throw away from the downtown area, a dream that was quickly shattered. Geneviève is a translator and worked from home, as did her husband. As a result, they not only lost their home but also their livelihoods. In a matter of hours, they had nothing left. All of their documents, appliances, furniture, clothing, and memories had gone up in flames.

The Red Cross first responded with emergency aid, meeting the family's basic needs until they were able to get back on their feet. Geneviève would like to thank the volunteer team, which was present and welcoming each time they visited.

"The Red Cross is a responsible, meticulous organization and we are very happy with their involvement and support," said Geneviève. The greatest impact the Red Cross will have had on this family is undoubtedly the support provided for rebuilding their home, scheduled for this fall.



To read the full story of Geneviève and her family, visit:
www.redcross.ca/megantic

Le Granit CSSS: deeply rooted in the Lac-Mégantic community

Red Cross assistance enabled the CSSS to improve and adapt its services.



"During the emergency phase, needs are urgent. During the other phases, you need to listen more closely to identify needs, because people express them differently. Also, some problems arise over time and get bigger, more complex," explained Vicky Orichefsky, director of the Le Granit CSSS. "By lending an ear, we were able to meet the needs we identified in our outreach work."

Guide for caregivers

People often open up during visits to the hairdresser, the esthetician, or a massage therapist. "There was a need to equip those people, who lend an ear to the community and who may get clients who are in distress. We put together a guide for caregivers, which helps them direct people to the right resources, whether it's within the CSSS network or other community partners." Along with distributing the guide, we give information sessions explaining how to best use the guide.

To read other examples of innovation at the Le Granit CSSS, visit: www.redcross.ca/megantic

A unifying project

It all began in 2013, when the Le Granit Community Development Corporation (CDC), in partnership with the Le Granit CSSS and the Women's Centre, carried out a study on social housing and living in the Le Granit RCM. Based on the problems revealed by this study, the Le Granit CDC and its partners prioritized the construction of a dual-use building in

Lac-Mégantic, with 12–15 affordable units and spaces reserved for social economy services or enterprises. Residents will have access to the services of various organizations under one roof, including the Red Cross. It will be an interesting project to follow!

Pilot project committee members at the Parc de l'OTJ in Lac-Mégantic. Representants from: La Maison de la Famille, La Constellation 0-5 ans, Le Granit CSSS, Le Granit CDC, the Knights of Columbus.



OUR PARTNERS

Major Partners

These partners support the Red Cross through substantial regular donations or by organizing major annual fundraising campaigns among their client base or their employees. Thanks to them, the Red Cross is ready to assist those who need it most, when they need it the most: in an emergency.

Bell
Campagne Entraide among Quebec employees and retirees
City of Laval
City of Montreal
City of Quebec
Desjardins
J. Armand Bombardier Foundation
Hydro-Québec
La Capitale Financial Group
Power Corporation Canada
Quebecor
RBC Royal Bank
Rio Tinto Alcan
STM
Walmart

Ready When the Time Comes

Ready When the Time Comes Red Cross partners are ready to provide backup when needed. In Lac-Mégantic, over 100 employees and retirees from the following businesses and associations joined response and relief efforts.

Acklands Grainger
Association provinciale des retraités d'Hydro-Québec
Bombardier Aerospace Inc.
J. Armand Bombardier Foundation

Media Partners

The following media offered free coverage for the Red Cross fundraising campaign supporting Lac-Mégantic.

Main partner: Quebecor

Les Affaires
Canal V
CBS Affichage
Le Devoir
Hebdos Québec
Pattison Affichage
Transcontinental
106.7 CJIT

Major Corporate Donations

\$200,000 or more

Costco and its clients
CP Rail
Desjardins and its members
IGA and its clients
Metro and its clients
Quebecor and its employees
Walmart and its clients

\$100,000 or more

Association des concessionnaires Ford du Québec
Caisse de dépôt et de placement du Québec
Canadian Tire and its clients
Céline Dion Foundation
Couche-Tard and its clients
Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec and
Chambre de commerce région de Mégantic
Intact Insurance
J. Armand Bombardier Foundation
Power Corporation Canada
Syndicat des Métallos
Tim Hortons and its clients
Transforce

\$50,000 or more

Agropur
BMO and its clients
BRP Corporation and its employees
CANAC and its clients
CIBC and its clients
City of Quebec
Festival international d'été de Québec and its participants
Industrial Alliance
IPEX Management Inc.
Jean Coutu Group and its clients
La Capitale Financial Group
Loblaws and its clients
National Bank and its clients
Promutuel Insurance
Qualinet
Royal Bank and its clients
Scotiabank and its clients
The Sisters of Charity Ottawa
Staples and its clients
STM and its employees
Sun Life Financial
Teamsters Union
TD Bank and its clients
Ultramar Foundation



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