

Saskatchewan Report Back to Community 2016–2017



Saskatchewan Roughrider and Red Cross bullying prevention presenter DAN CLARK speaks at a student rally for Red Cross Pink Day in February 2017, in Prince Albert.

Message from the Committee Chair



I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of the Canadian Red Cross. Through your generosity, we have touched the lives of thousands of people in Saskatchewan, Canada and around the world.

The Red Cross could not succeed without so many dedicated staff, volunteers and supporters. Every year your donation of time, talent and resources support the many Red Cross programs and services that make a difference in the lives of many across Saskatchewan.

That includes being part of a very important cultural change sweeping our province through the Respect Education programs that are helping students prevent, recognize and respond to bullying.

As the Red Cross prepares for the coming year, volunteers are being trained to assist in a variety of roles. Our focus will continue to be on prevention and your financial donations help make it possible for the Red Cross to help others when it is most needed.

I would also like to thank Cindy Fuchs and her staff, for providing the Provincial Advisory Committee great support over the past year.

Cindy and her team are tireless workers who really care about others. It is an honour and privilege to work alongside of them. To each of them I want to express my personal appreciation for all you do.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you again for the dedication and support you have given to the Red Cross.

In our minds, you continue to be everyday heroes. On behalf of the members of the Provincial Advisory Committee, I thank you.

TONY PLAYTER
Chair, Provincial Advisory Committee

Message from the Vice-President



The first time the Red Cross flag flew in Canada was during the 1885 Battle of Batoche – right here in Saskatchewan. That event sparked the beginning of the Canadian Red Cross mission of improving the lives of the most vulnerable.

At no time has that mission been more evident than during the Alberta Fires last May, the largest disaster response in Canadian Red Cross history. Staff and volunteers from Saskatchewan spent thousands of hours helping those affected. Of no less importance was the Red Cross response to severe flooding in several Saskatchewan communities last summer too.

In October, the Red Cross played a less visible but just as crucial role when the Lac La Ronge Indian Band (LLRIB) invited us to support them during a devastating crisis. Five youth under the age of 14 and one from a neighbouring community died from suicide.

That response began by sending staff and key volunteers who had the training, skills and experience to provide consultation and recommendations to LLRIB leadership. Hundreds of hours were spent meeting with youth, elders and community leaders - providing assistance and support by offering training at the request of the community.

These are just a few of the examples of why I am extremely proud of all that has been accomplished in Saskatchewan during the past year.

Every time I walk through our office, I am reminded of everyone who continues to help make a difference in peoples' lives: our volunteers, our individual and corporate donors, governments, and our staff.

Of course, it does not hurt that the Battle of Batoche flag is hanging right outside our boardroom.

Thank you everyone.

CINDY FUCHS
Vice-President, Saskatchewan
Canadian Red Cross

COVER PHOTO: JOSEF JACOBSEN – PRINCE ALBERT HERALD

Saskatchewan Responds to Flooding



RED CROSS FLOOD RELIEF KITS BEING HANDED OUT IN ESTEVAN IN JULY 2016.

With the Fort McMurray disaster still fresh on everyone's minds, the province watched with concern when the rain started to fall on July 9. By the next day, the Government of Saskatchewan had activated the Canadian Red Cross to provide Emergency Social Services to support residents affected in Estevan, Shoal Lake First Nation, Arborfield and Red Earth First Nation.

"Our volunteers once again sprang into action by providing food, lodging and personal services to over 620 people," said Kim MacLean, Director of Disaster Management for Saskatchewan. "Over 30 volunteers worked for close to 600 hours across the province, including a shelter set up in Saskatoon."

Over the next few weeks, volunteers also distributed a total of 319 flood clean up kits to Estevan, Lloydminster, Carrot River, Watrous and Arborfield.

"We supported some families in Arborfield and Estevan as a number of homes received significant damage due to overland flooding," explained MacLean.

MacLean credits the smooth response to the staff and volunteers who worked so hard to prepare for a response everyone knew would be needed this summer.

"The new processes we implemented and the work we did to strengthen our agreements meant that we were ready for anything, and we are once again ready for the next response," she said.

OUR STRENGTH IS OUR VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS



20,000
VOLUNTEERS FROM
COAST TO COAST

410
VOLUNTEERS IN
SASKATCHEWAN
CONTRIBUTED OVER
10,600 HOURS

READY TO RESPOND WHEN DISASTER STRIKES

1,165
SASKATCHEWAN PEOPLE
ASSISTED AFTER A DISASTER
(37,991 NATIONAL)



TRULY SASKATCHEWAN



UNIQUE INITIATIVES IN
OUR PROVINCE

ART THERAPY HELPED
71 VETERANS ENHANCE
THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE

READY TO PREVENT INJURIES AND ABUSE



68,668
VIOLENCE, BULLYING
AND ABUSE PREVENTION
TRAINING PARTICIPANTS IN
SASKATCHEWAN
(742,322 NATIONAL)

54,544
SASKATCHEWAN
INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED
IN RED CROSS SWIMMING
LESSONS
(1,085,330 NATIONAL)

28,000
PEOPLE COMPLETED RED CROSS FIRST
AID COURSES IN SASKATCHEWAN
(621,475 NATIONAL)

75,000+
PEOPLE IN SASKATCHEWAN
STOOD UP TO BULLYING ON
RED CROSS PINK DAY

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

EMERGENCY AND RECOVERY ACTIVITIES:

179
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

Reaching the North with Bullying Prevention Education

In October 2016, a suicide crisis started in northern Saskatchewan, specifically within the Lac La Ronge Indian Band, when five youth under the age of 14 and one from a neighbouring community died from suicide. It gained national attention after reports that one of the youth was a 10-year-old girl.

At the invitation of the community, the Red Cross responded to the crisis situation by sending staff and key volunteers who had the training, skills and experience to provide consultation and recommendations to community leaders.

As part of the response, the Saskatchewan Roughriders sponsored Imagine No Bullying school presentations for nearly 2,500 students at 12 schools on bullying prevention and healthy youth relationships.

The presentations helped opened the door to the most vulnerable schools and communities for deeper education and conversations. The players were able to connect with – and get input from – youth on how they want their communities to be in the future.



SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDER PLAYERS IN NORTHERN SASKATCHEWAN SCHOOLS

Saskatchewan Roughriders help youth find their voice

During a trip to Stanley Mission in December, Levi Steinhauer and former Saskatchewan Roughrider and current Red Cross employee Scott McHenry were invited to speak to a group of high-school students about issues facing their community.

Since this was the first time the group had been spoken to by someone outside of their community, Steinhauer and McHenry decided to forego their usual presentation and approach the group in a different way.

"We broke up the students into two smaller groups, so that we could engage in a more personal manner," said McHenry. "And, we found by asking a few simple questions, the students began to open up about the challenges the community is facing."

A teacher reported that it was the first time students have spoke openly about the crisis in Stanley Mission, which demonstrates that kids not only listen when Roughriders speak, they feel safe and secure.

Saskatchewan family grateful for community support in long recovery



PAM DECHIEF, A CANADIAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEER SINCE 2006, AND BRENDA LYONS OUTSIDE HER RENOVATED HOME: "PAM AND I HAD BEEN FRIENDS BEFORE BUT WHEN I SAW HER RUNNING UP TO MY HOUSE IN HER RED VEST, IT WAS ANOTHER EMOTIONAL MOMENT FOR ME."

Even when fire ravaged her recently renovated home, Saskatchewan resident Brenda Lyons didn't think she needed support, initially declining Red Cross assistance; however, she discovered support was just what she needed to get her and her family through the long journey of recovery.

Last March, Brenda's husband called her at work to say their century home, in the final stage of its renovation, had caught fire and firefighters were hosing down the flames to save their home. She recalls the emotion she felt as she reached her flame-engulfed home.

"To see your house on fire, to see smoke coming out of your home of 15 years, where you raised your kids, is an emotional experience," recalled Brenda. "I have

friends and family to support me so I didn't feel like I needed assistance. But as soon as Red Cross came, I felt so blessed that there was someone to walk me through the steps."

With a fire that started in the upstairs bathroom before reaching the attic, the ensuing water damage meant the Lyons family would likely not be able to move back home for a year.

"I have done a lot of things in my life where I feel like I can handle things on my own but, in this case, I didn't have to," added Brenda.

Red Cross Executive Cabinet in Saskatchewan



VICTOR THOMAS (LEFT) RECEIVES THE ORDER OF THE RED CROSS – THE HIGHEST HONOUR POSSIBLE – FROM CANADIAN RED CROSS PRESIDENT AND CEO, CONRAD SAUVÉ

The Executive Cabinet of the Canadian Red Cross in Saskatchewan is a unique group of exceptional business leaders and humanitarians who are dedicated to helping the society continue its mission. The amount of time, talent and passion each member provides is invaluable to the Red Cross and the people we help.

The Red Cross would like to thank Victor Thomas, Past Chair and co-creator of the Executive Cabinet, for his many years of service and dedication to the Canadian Red Cross.

2016-2017 Red Cross – Saskatchewan Executive Cabinet

Craig Reynolds
Dorothy Slawinski
Lance Donison
Richard Ahenakew

Tami Wall
Tom Newton
Victor Thomas

Our Supporters

Thank you to the following organizations for making a financial investment in the Canadian Red Cross, along with all the other companies, institutions, schools and thousands of individual donors that gave their support last year. Thank you for making it possible for the Red Cross to provide life-saving and life-changing services to those in need in Saskatchewan.

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- Affinity Credit Union-Community Spirit Fund
- Agrium
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- AREVA Resources Canada Inc
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- Bench Farming Co Ltd
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- Lac La Ronge Indian Band
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- Lloyd and Duna Barber Family Fund
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- Mega Group Inc.
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- Old Berghthal Mennonite Church
- Our Lady of the Prairies Foundation
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- Prince Albert Grand Council
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- RBC Foundation
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- Saskatchewan Egg Producers
- Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation
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- Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund for Sport, Culture and Recreation
- Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association
- Saskatchewan Roughriders Football Club Inc.
- Saskatchewan Union of Nurses
- Saskatoon Community Foundation
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- Ten Tree International Inc.
- The Tree of Life Foundation
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- United Way of Estevan
- Veterans Affairs Canada
- Viterra
- Westcap Management Ltd.
- West Wind Aviation
- Willow Park Wines & Spirits
- Wyant Group AutoSport
- Weyburn Credit Union Limited
- Weyburn United Way

THANK YOU!



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