

Samaritan's Purse finishing flood recovery work in Calgary and Siksika Nation

Christian organization's clean-up efforts will continue in High River

CALGARY, AB, July 25, 2013 — Samaritan's Purse Canada will conclude its flood response operations in Calgary and the Siksika Nation on July 31, but continue with its clean-up efforts in High River. The Christian relief organization has invested more than a month in helping families whose homes were damaged or destroyed by the June 21 flooding of the Elbow and Bow rivers.

Samaritan's Purse has trained and deployed more than 1,000 local volunteers so far to work on over 150 homes in various Calgary neighborhoods and 100 more homes on the Siksika reserve east of Calgary. Using Samaritan's Purse equipment, the volunteers have cleared out mud and damaged possessions, removed waterlogged drywall and insulation, then sprayed disinfectant to prevent the growth of dangerous mould.

The average cost to rehabilitate each home is \$2,000.

"We are very thankful we had the resources to help so many people in Calgary and Siksika," said Samaritan's Purse disaster response manager Brent Davis. "Our church partners came through with financial support and hard-working volunteers who made a huge difference in the lives of families hurt by the flood."

"People have been talking about this flood being act of God," said flooded Calgary homeowner Luise Kinsman. "Well, I did see an act of God but it was *after* the flood. I saw His act in those who came to help and those who shared their love and their money. *That* was an act of God! I have a newfound understanding and appreciation for Samaritans Purse."

Working alongside Samaritan's Purse volunteers have been specially trained volunteer Rapid Response Team chaplains from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association of Canada. They have provided spiritual and emotional comfort to devastated homeowners and to clean-up volunteers.

Until July 31, any Calgary or Siksika homeowner needing flood clean-up help should call Samaritan's Purse at **1-866-628-6565**. Samaritan's Purse relief work will continue in High River, and homeowners there who need help can contact us at **1-866-628-6565** or through SamaritansPurse.ca.

Other disasters in Canada to which Samaritan's Purse Canada has responded include fires in Slave Lake, AB, in 2011; Hurricane Igor in Newfoundland in 2010; a tornado in Leamington, ON, in 2010; and floods in Ontario in 2013, in New Brunswick in 2012, 2010, and 2008, in Quebec in 2011, in Alberta in 2010, and in British Columbia in 2009. Samaritan's Purse Canada has also responded to many international disasters including the earthquake and tsunami in Japan in 2011, earthquake in Haiti in 2010, Hurricane Katrina in the U.S. Gulf Coast in 2005, and the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004.

Donations Needed

Anyone wishing to make a financial donation to Samaritan's Purse's disaster relief efforts in Canada and around the world can call **1-866-628-6565** or visit SamaritansPurse.ca.

About Samaritan's Purse Canada

Samaritan's Purse Canada is an international Christian relief and development organization working in about 40 countries to help victims of war, disease, disaster, poverty, famine, and persecution. The Christian charity also operates the well-known Operation Christmas Child program that sends gift-filled shoe boxes to needy children around the world each year. In addition, we build and install thousands of life-saving BioSand Water Filters in the developing world. For more information, please visit

SamaritansPurse.ca.

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