



## YOUR GENEROSITY AT WORK

# 2021 BRITISH COLUMBIA FIRES UPDATE

MARCH 31, 2026

In the summer of 2021, wildfires tore through communities in British Columbia, destroying property and forcing people from their homes. Record breaking temperatures and dry weather created the conditions for devastating wildfires. Many communities across B.C. were forced to evacuate as fires loomed. While some were able to return with their homes still intact, others were not.

The funds received by the Canadian Red Cross provided emergency relief to individuals, families and communities impacted by these wildfires, and support them along their recovery.

The Red Cross continues to offer personalized recovery support to people impacted by this disaster. Red Cross case management teams are working directly with people to discuss their unique needs and help them navigate their recovery journey and access available supports.

The Canadian Red Cross also continues to support the long-term recovery of people and communities through funding for community-led initiatives aimed at increasing resilience for future events.

### CANADIAN RED CROSS RESPONSE

- Registered more than **4,900** households impacted by the 2021 wildfires in British Columbia.
- Distributed emergency financial assistance to more than **4,100** eligible households to support impacted individuals and families during their evacuation.
- Provided support at **28 sites**, including reception and resiliency centres.
- Provided financial support to more than **1,800** households to assist with unmet needs while people navigated their recovery.
- Distributed more than **4,100** emergency items to impacted individuals, including hygiene kits, after-the-fire kits, clean-up kits, and blankets.
- Supported more than **250** households in their recovery through personalized recovery support. This includes helping those impacted with planning their return home, understanding insurance, and community resources, providing information and referrals, as well as providing financial assistance to access mental health services and interim housing support for those who have experienced major damage to, or destruction of, their primary home.
- Connected with people through more than **1,900** conversations to provide emotional and well-being support.
- Provided **15** grants to community organizations, municipalities and Indigenous governments, including supporting **10** Indigenous communities' recovery and resilience.

# 2021 BRITISH COLUMBIA FIRES APPEAL UPDATE

The Canadian Red Cross thanks the generous individuals, businesses, the Government of British Columbia and the Government of Canada who provided funds in support of people and communities impacted by the 2021 wildfires in British Columbia.

## UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

**Grand total of funds:** This includes the total funds donated, any accrued interest, and any matching funds committed.

**Allocation of funds:** This is the projected budget across each area of spending for the grand total. The allocations reflect the needs of the people and the communities that were identified to date.

**Spent or committed:** These are the funds that have been already spent to assist those impacted by the 2021 wildfires in British Columbia as well as funds that have been committed with authorized contracts or agreements for recovery projects or initiatives, where applicable.

**Cost of fundraising:** Fundraising costs were only applicable to funds that were donated and did not exceed five per cent of the total donated funds for this appeal. These costs may have included donation processing fees; credit card and bank fees; service fees for call centres and digital platforms; and ongoing communications and reporting to donors.

## BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS AS OF MARCH 31, 2026

**FUNDS DONATED: \$10.42M**

**GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MATCHING FUNDS COMMITTED: \$9.7M**

**GOVERNMENT OF CANADA MATCHING FUNDS COMMITTED: \$4.63M**

**TOTAL FUNDS COMMITTED AS OF MARCH 31, 2026: \$24.75M**

TO SUPPORT:		ALLOCATED AS OF MARCH 31, 2026	TOTAL SPENT OR COMMITTED AS OF MARCH 31, 2026
<b>Emergency relief for individuals and families</b>	Following the fires, eligible households received support from the Canadian Red Cross in multiple ways, such as registration, clothing, food, clean-up kits, cots, blankets, hygiene kits, information and referrals, as well as psychosocial and well-being support. Red Cross also provided financial assistance to help support basic needs of eligible households during their evacuation.	\$8.06M	\$8.06M
<b>Recovery assistance for individuals and families</b>	The Canadian Red Cross continues to offer personalized recovery support to the people most impacted by the 2021 wildfires in British Columbia. This includes homeowners, tenants and those who live in a community-owned home whose primary residence was destroyed or incurred major damage.  This support also includes long-term recovery assistance to help individuals experiencing continued impacts, such as recovery planning, mental health support, and financial assistance for temporary accommodation, clean-up, repair, reconstruction, and relocation.	\$15.16M	\$15.16M
<b>Support to communities and organizations</b>	Helping to ensure the needs of impacted communities are supported through community grants. This includes a variety of projects and initiatives that focus on support for community recovery, disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and resilience-building programs.  These funds help communities to reduce vulnerabilities, adapt to evolving risks, build resilience against future disasters, and mitigate risks.	\$1.27M	\$1.27M
<b>COST OF FUNDRAISING</b>		\$0.26M	\$0.26M
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$24.75M</b>	<b>\$24.75M</b>

100% of the total funds have been spent or committed as of March 31, 2026.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**