



Hurricane Fiona: 2-Year Report

OCTOBER 2024

Dear supporter,

On September 24, 2022, Hurricane Fiona made landfall in Eastern Canada as a powerful post-tropical storm, leaving behind a trail of devastation in five provinces. The storm caused extensive flooding and significant damage to properties, buildings, and vital infrastructure across the region. In the wake of this disaster, more people registered with the Canadian Red Cross after Fiona than any other event in Canada's history.

In the first three months alone, our dedicated team of over 1,000 Red Cross volunteers and staff provided essential assistance to more than 96,000 people. This help was made possible because of the generosity and compassion of donors like you. Thanks to your support, we continue to stand by the people and communities affected by Hurricane Fiona, offering ongoing help and resources as they work to rebuild their lives.

We know that recovery takes time and can look different for everyone. In the months, and now years, that followed Fiona, the Canadian Red Cross has provided personalized recovery support for households still struggling to get back on their feet. In addition, through innovative programs like the Coastal Communities Project, we are helping communities in high-risk coastal areas prepare for the next storm by training and equipping them to set up emergency shelters.

Thank you for being there for those impacted by Hurricane Fiona. Together, we have supported relief and recovery in impacted communities, and continue to support them in strengthening their resilience against future disasters.



Sincerely,

Conrad Sauvé
President & CEO, Canadian Red Cross

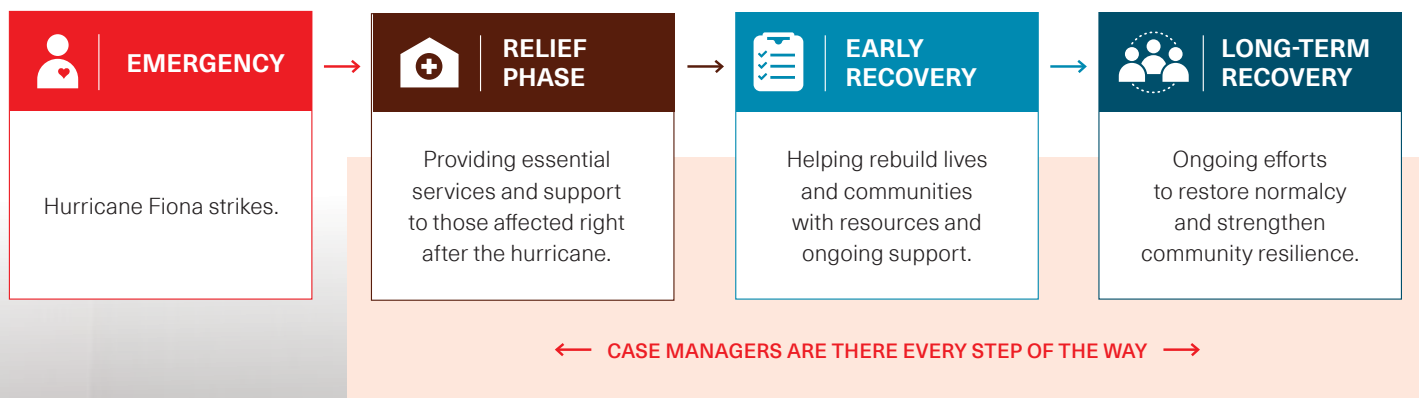
A helping hand through recovery

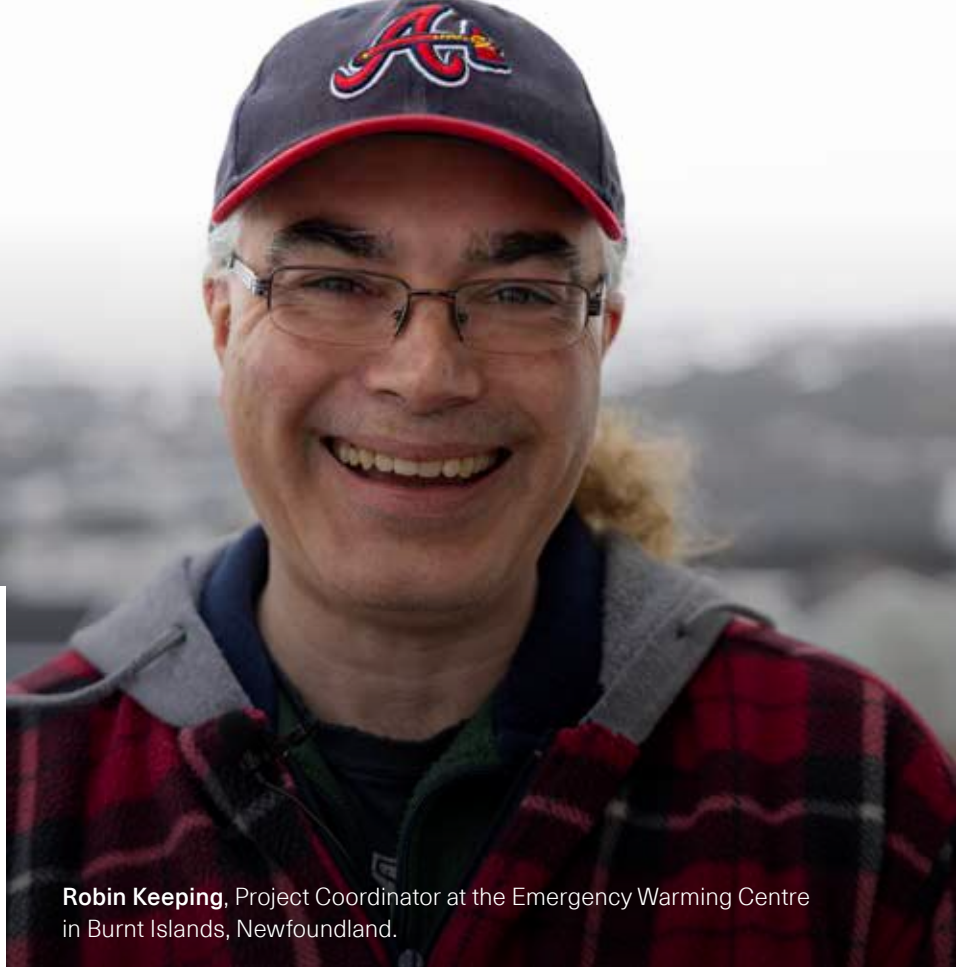
Red Cross personalized recovery support is vital in helping people most impacted by a disaster start to rebuild their lives. Finding a place to live, and dealing with insurance and financial issues can cause great stress and uncertainty throughout the recovery process. Case Managers are there every step of the way, providing tailored support, such as essential information regarding insurance, financial aid from the Red Cross and government programs, and referrals to other agencies that may be able to help them. From the initial relief phase through to long-term recovery, they ensure that each person or family receives the personalized care they need to rebuild their lives.

 **Over 140 households** have received personalized recovery support.

Personalized recovery support does not begin at the same time for everyone. It can begin in the relief phase when some people may be identified as needing further support. For most people, it starts in the early recovery phase and continues through to the long-term recovery phase—such was the case during the response to Hurricane Fiona.

Red Cross Personalized Recovery Support





Robin Keeping, Project Coordinator at the Emergency Warming Centre in Burnt Islands, Newfoundland.

How you help communities prepare for the next disaster

"I know when Fiona hit, a lot of people lost their homes. A lot of damage was done around the town. It's been a year and a half now and people are still recovering from that," says Robin Keeping, Project Coordinator at the Emergency Warming Centre in the Town of Burnt Islands.

The Coastal Communities Project aims to better prepare these towns for future emergencies. But it's not a one-size-fits-all approach.

As part of the project, funded by donors like you, the Canadian Red Cross delivered **Community Action Kits**. These kits include emergency stocks and supplies—such as cots, hygiene kits, and blankets—and training that will enable the community to set up a reception centre or emergency shelter should they be faced with another disruptive event. Now they are confident they can quickly support their community members with temporary shelter and basic needs if forced to evacuate their home.

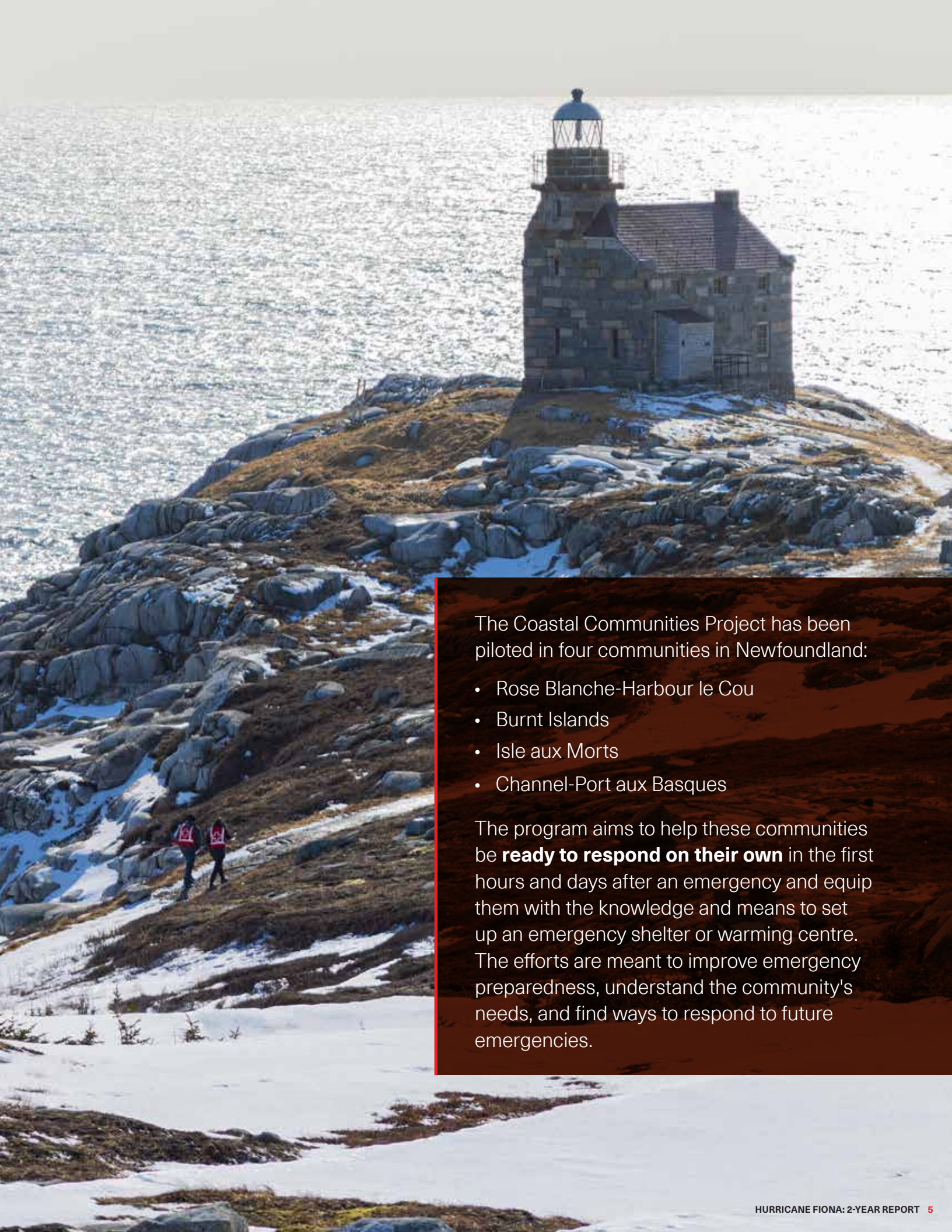
"We took from something general and large, and we took it to community specific. We can find out what works, what doesn't work, what we need and what other communities need, just to have something in place and people know that it's in place instead of having to scramble at the last minute," explains Robin.

"I think it's going to be a huge help," says Robin.

One town official, Tammy Farrell from Rose-Blanche, Newfoundland, put it this way: "It's better to have it and not use it, than to not have it and need it."

Because you cared about the people impacted by Hurricane Fiona and responded generously nearly two years ago, the Canadian Red Cross can continue to be there today for these affected communities. This means not only meeting short-term emergency needs when disaster first strikes, but also helping them through the painstakingly lengthy process of recovery and rebuilding efforts. Working side-by-side through the Coastal Communities Project, the Canadian Red Cross and impacted communities can learn from the past, listen to unique needs, and better prepare for the next big emergency.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity as we continue to support communities impacted by Hurricane Fiona and help them prepare for the future. **Thank you for playing a vital role in this important work!**



The Coastal Communities Project has been piloted in four communities in Newfoundland:

- Rose Blanche-Harbour le Cou
- Burnt Islands
- Isle aux Morts
- Channel-Port aux Basques

The program aims to help these communities be **ready to respond on their own** in the first hours and days after an emergency and equip them with the knowledge and means to set up an emergency shelter or warming centre. The efforts are meant to improve emergency preparedness, understand the community's needs, and find ways to respond to future emergencies.

More ways you are helping communities recover



Warming centre enhancement in 3 communities

In early 2024, grants were provided to **strengthen the readiness** of community warming and reception centres for future emergencies.



Land erosion mitigation grants for 6 communities

Provided financial support to mitigate further land erosion to shoreline areas impacted by Fiona. The focus of the mitigation efforts is on public spaces with high community impact.



Grants to 6 organizations to support mental health needs

Grants were provided to **organizations providing mental health and psychosocial** support to individuals. These organizations create opportunities to help people avoid social isolation through promoting activities to come together, building new skills, or participating in physical activity.



Funding for 2 affordable housing buildings

Channel-Port aux Basques, hard-hit by Fiona, received funding to purchase **two buildings that will be retrofitted for 12 units for seniors**. The town is working with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) who will cover the costs of retrofitting the two buildings.

"There are a lot of needs in town but one of the biggest needs is trying to find accommodations. This is welcome news to people who lost their homes, many of them seniors who don't want to rebuild, however, want to stay in our community."


BRIAN BUTTON

MAYOR OF CHANNEL-PORT AUX BASQUES, NEWFOUNDLAND

THANK YOU!

Your support has made a lasting impact on communities still recovering from Hurricane Fiona. Thanks to our generous donors, community organizations, businesses, and government partners, the Hurricane Fiona in Canada Appeal raised over **\$33 million**, not including matching funds from the Government of Canada. All appeal funds have been fully spent or committed.

Because of your generosity, we can continue to assist those rebuilding and preparing for future challenges. **We are truly grateful for your support.**



“It was a big impact on the community... however, for the clean up, everybody came together.”

TAMMY FARRELL

Tammy Farrell, Town Clerk for Rose Blanche-Harbour le Cou, is grateful knowing the community has the means to set up their own Emergency Warming Shelter.



THANK YOU for being there for the people
impacted by Hurricane Fiona.