



# HELPING HANDS

It is easier now than ever before to find out about a disaster soon after it happens. And it's also easier to get help to those who need it. We are very lucky in Canada to have so many people ready to pitch in when fires, floods, storms or other disasters make life hard for those who have been affected.

When something huge goes wrong, like the 1996 Saguenay flood, the 1998 ice storm or

the 2013 Calgary flood, Canadians often look to the military. Trained men and women in uniform are there to help people get out of danger on foot, in trucks or even by helicopter. They can also organize shelter and food for those who have had to leave their homes. And they often help with the hard, tiring work of cleaning up after a disaster.



Canadian Press

# WHEN DISASTERS HIT, CARING CANADIANS ARE SOON THERE TO HELP

Firefighters not only do the exhausting work of battling fires in forests and towns, they also react quickly to rescue people in trouble. Medical workers such as emergency services staff, doctors and nurses care for those who have been hurt or are scared and stressed out by a disaster.

There are also organized groups of volunteers who know what to do in an emergency, such as the Quebec Search and Rescue Volunteer Association, the Canadian Avalanche Dog Rescue Association, St. John Ambulance, the Canadian Red Cross and many others.

Time and time again, when disaster strikes and help is needed, ordinary Canadians also do amazing things. Whether it's making food for emergency workers, opening their homes to people who have lost theirs, filling sandbags to keep flood waters back or a thousand other kindnesses, neighbours and strangers are often the first to help out.



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