

Urgent Response UWBC Central and North Vancouver Island

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United Way
British Columbia

Working with communities in BC's
Interior, Lower Mainland, Central
& Northern Vancouver Island

Urgent Response - UWBC

- United Way British Columbia strengthens vital connections to support people in need in local communities.
- UWBC Urgent Response focuses on helping people during times of crisis by filling in gaps where needed at the grassroots level.
- When communities are impacted by an issue, such as fire or flooding, we monitor the situation to determine when and how we can best support them.
- Once situation is determined, we connect with partners, non-profit organizations, and local individuals to see what they need most and how we can assist.

Urgent Response - UWBC

- We work with local and provincial organizations to meet needs where appropriate. This can mean immediate assistance, like providing fuel to power backup generators, to longer-term help that focuses on building resiliency.
- The support we provide is determined through discussions and relationships with those in the community who have firsthand knowledge of the needs, issues, and gaps they are facing.
- When we ask the public to support us through donations or volunteering, they know they're helping grassroots programs and services in real-time that are coming to the aid of people impacted by crisis.

Goals of UWBC urgent Response:

- Support residents and community members to access supports needed during crisis and recovery
- Develop community champions and build resilience
- Support and build on community-based responses
- Build relationships for effective response



In the past two years, UWBC has engaged in Urgent Response across the province.

Some areas served:

- Fraser Valley Flood 2021 (Sumas Prairie, Abbotsford, Yarrow, Chilliwack)
- Cowichan Valley Flood 2021
- Lytton Fire 2021
- Nahomin Creek Wildfire 2021
- Hope Flood and Wildfire 2021
- Princeton Flood 2021
- Merritt Flood and Wildfire 2021
- Lytton, Skwah, Sema:th First Nations
- Keremeos Creek Wildfire 2021
- United for Ukraine – province-wide

Examples of UWBC Urgent Response during and after wildfires and floods in 2021 and 2022:

Pallets of water

Gas vouchers

Food for evacuees (via ESS centres)

Diapers and Formula

Non-perishables

First aid supplies

Fruits and vegetables

Swim passes

Food resiliency initiatives

Hydration to firefighters

Celebrations, thank you events, gatherings

Program grants to local partner agencies

UNITED FOR BC WILDFIRE RECOVERY FUND

Summer 2021

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Food and Basic Needs, Child Care and After-School Programs, Mental Health Supports and Counselling, Wildfire Education, Advocacy.



Data captured on September 17, 2021

UNITED FOR BC FLOOD RESPONSE

IMPACT

February 2022

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS

IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Food and basic needs, child care, mental health supports and counselling, advocacy, farming and migrant worker supports.

FUND SUPPORT TO DATE



\$3,227,000

AMOUNT RAISED



11,143

DONORS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THE FUND

EMERGENCY STAGE



13,526

INDIVIDUALS SUPPORTED



\$19,000

INITIAL URGENT SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED BY UNITED WAY STAFF



36

GRANTS AWARDED TO PARTNER AGENCIES



42

COMMUNITIES SUPPORTED



20

LOCAL LOVE FUNDS DISPERSED



100+

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Data captured on February 7, 2022

iVolunteer – volunteer recruitment and management

Are you a non-profit looking for volunteers?

We are here to support you. United Way British Columbia can provide access to highly motivated and skilled volunteers eager to support your community. Our dedicated team and online platform make recruiting and managing volunteers easy allowing you and your organization to deliver on your mission through your programs and services. [Visit ivolunteer.ca](https://ivolunteer.ca) to learn more.

Please contact Mary Catherine Williams for more information
marycatherinew@uwbc.ca

Funding Options: **Emergency Preparedness and Response for Seniors**

- [United Way British Columbia](#) (UWBC) provides up to \$25,000 one-time funding for emergency preparedness and response for community-based senior serving organizations across the province.
- Projects must provide innovative community-driven responses/initiatives supporting vulnerable older people disproportionately impacted by extreme weather events.
- Funding is to develop practical, innovative and/or low-barrier solutions that support the health and safety of isolated and/or vulnerable seniors during extreme weather events. Examples of eligible expenses include program supplies, partnership development, salary for positions geared towards the intent of this call, equipment, transportation, etc.
- Emergency Preparedness and Response grants are awarded on a one-year term to be expended by **August 31, 2023**.
- For more information, please head over to the [Emergency Preparedness and Response group on CORE BC](#). If you do not have an account, you will be required to create one.
- More information contact Mary Catherine Williams at marycatherinew@uwbc.ca

Community Foundations: Neighbourhood Small Grants

Do you have an idea that connects people socially or helps them share skills or talents with each other?

Comox Valley and Campbell River Community Foundations will have Neighbourhood Small Grants (\$500) available this spring.

These grants are meant for groups of people who live in the same community and the projects are meant to take place in the area where they live. Projects can be carried out by individuals and/or family members from the same household or in collaboration with a neighbour virtually.

You may apply for **up to \$500** for any Neighbourhood Small Grant program. You can use the grant to **offset any expenses** that were needed for the project. This includes products, transportation, or services. **You may ask for up to \$350 to provide honourariums** to anyone who contributes skills or knowledge to your project—including yourself. You may not fundraise for other projects and/or organizations.

www.neighbourhoodsmallgrants.ca

Other funding ideas . . .

Local service clubs (Lions, Elks, Rotary, Altrusa) may be able to fund small projects like Emergency Preparedness.

Local businesses may be able to support purchase of equipment for a local emergency planning project.

Prepare a clear and specific project request *then* write a letter or make a phone inquiry, or present in person or at a meeting.

Create a fundraiser to support a need (i.e. Emergency Kits for seniors).

Questions?

Reach out to me for more information:

marycatherinew@uwbc.ca

Thank you!