

## *How can I help those in need who are devastated because of the fires in or near our communities?*

Story by Ed Kolybaba on Aug 24, 2023

Many of our neighbours, friends, community members, and Rotarians are experiencing yet another devastating fire season. They are dealing with horrific fires resulting in loss of their homes or being evacuated from their homes wondering if their home will be destroyed.

As wildfires devastate communities in B.C., many are wondering what they can do to help those who have been forced to flee their homes and to support communities reeling from the destruction.

You may wish to consider financially supporting one of the following not-for-profit organizations that are currently supporting those in need because of the current horrific fire:

United Way British Columbia has set up a [dedicated wildfire relief fund](#) and the first \$20,000 donated will be matched by Interior Savings and Gulf & Fraser.

Canadian Red Cross has launched a dedicated "British Columbia Wildfire Appeal"

The Salvation Army in B.C. has set up a dedicated site for wildfire-related donations.

CanadaHelps has compiled a list of organizations that have been verified, which includes the Central Okanagan Food Bank and the Shuswap Community Foundation's Emergency Fund.

The BC SPCA is looking for donations, volunteers and foster families to help care for pets that are out of their homes, including those who can offer their land to evacuated livestock.

You are also encouraged to consider financially supporting other not-for-profit organizations in the community that are not listed here which are focused on helping those in need because of the fires.