



**The Office of the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical  
Province of British Columbia and Yukon**

**Anglican Church of Canada**  
201–380 Leathead Road, Kelowna  
British Columbia, V1X 2H8

**All Saints Day 2022**

To all members of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon.

Dear Anglicans,

Jesus entrusts us with God's mission of loving our neighbour. Local and immediate. In this stressful time of climate change, we hope this Emergency Preparedness Tool Kit will strengthen our ability as a Church to respond to our neighbours in the event of a catastrophe. We offer it as support to you, so the groundwork is done for you, as you serve your communities.

This tool kit is meant to be shared with every Anglican. There is a resource for each household to create an emergency plan if they have not already done so. Likewise, there are many resources gathered here to help parishes to plan for a disaster in their building or community. As well, as part of our mission of loving God's world, there are resources to assist your parish in preparing what you can *offer* to your local community in an emergency. This advance preparation is a ministry of hospitality and care, of neighborliness. Every church community, no matter how small, has some help to offer in a disaster (your parking lot, 3 volunteers to phone others...) Your local officials will be grateful to hear from you.

I attended a workshop at Lambeth on emergency preparedness for climate disaster hosted by the Anglican Communion Environmental Network. People were eager to hear what we learned in our own Province from the evacuation of Lytton in the fire, and the evacuation of Merritt and the Lower Mainland after the horrific floods last November. Christ Church in the town of Hope opened their doors to people stranded on the highway; Sorrento Centre fed thousands of people; St. Michael's Merritt continues to support people in the long rebuilding process in the town. I was also inspired by the stories of other Dioceses around the world, churches with fewer resources than we have; in the Solomon Islands people are moving homes away from the water, in the Philippines they are strengthening shelters as cyclones are more frequent, in Madagascar they are moving their herds inland and uphill.

The six dioceses of this Province have been asking "What can we do and share together as a Province". Preparing this tool kit was one way of pooling resources and gathering expertise that we hope will save you time and energy in your work of mission. Thank you to the Provincial committee chaired by the Venerable Clara Plamondon, assisted by Joanne Forsyth of St. Stephen's Summerland, and Kate Dalton, Provincial Administrator, for preparing this kit.

The afternoon of Saturday February 4, 2023 you are invited to an online emergency preparedness workshop for the whole province. Our speaker is LCdr Rev. John Hounsell-Drover, a military chaplain who oversees emergency preparedness, whose contagious enthusiasm and practical support will help us engage this work. We hope you will send a team to watch this together.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said in one of the plenary addresses to Lambeth conference this past



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summer that “Hospitality is Holiness”. This Emergency Preparedness Tool Kit we are providing for you is meant to increase our capacity as a Church to offer holy hospitality in times of crisis.

Blessings on your work of loving neighbours.

Yours in Christ,

**The Most Rev. Lynne McNaughton, Metropolitan**