

# EMERGENCY DISASTER SERVICES NEWSLETTER

FALL, 2023

## UPDATES

Welcome to the 1st THQ EDS Newsletter! This quarterly newsletter will be sent out across the Canada and Bermuda Territory to keep our EDS staff, volunteers, and ministry units up to date and engaged in the world of Emergency Disaster Services here at The Salvation Army! Each quarter we will highlight a different division, talk about response & recovery, preparedness, training, and volunteering.

### TRAINING

EDS is excited to announce a new training course for Emotional and Spiritual Care launching soon! The new interactive course will again be eight hours in length. This course will include a bigger focus on the what separates The Salvation Army from other NGOs during a disaster. It will teach when to talk, when to listen, and to never preach.

### PREPAREDNESS

This fall, when turning back your clocks (Nov. 5) please take some time to check over your 72-hour emergency kits to ensure they are fully stocked, the food and batteries are not expired, and it is readily available. Check your smoke detector batteries too!  
For a comprehensive emergency kit list please click [HERE](#).

### RESPONSE & RECOVERY

The Alberta, NWT and Prairie Division have been deployed multiple times for most of the spring and summer. During the most recent deployment they were asked to charter a plane to move the vulnerable population from Yellowknife to Calgary's Centre of Hope to supply shelter, staff, and essentials items. Additionally, during this time, while feeding the Yellowknife Fire Dept, EDS was asked to feed additional contractors on site by using a supplied restaurant. The EDS team was deployed to Yellowknife three times this summer, and the division showed extreme flexibility and exceptional emotional care for the firefighters.

### VOLUNTEERING

Ian Pollard received the Emergency Management Exemplary Service Award for the coordination in 2021 of The Salvation Army and its volunteers, providing thousands of meals, snacks and drinks to those affected by the wildfires and the atmospheric river. Particularly, support was deployed to the remote Indigenous communities who were devastated by the Lytton wildfires.  
To read more, please visit [THIS LINK](#).



## DIVISIONAL HIGHLIGHT

In response to the wildfires raging in the Kelowna and Shuswap regions, the BC division has been at the forefront of relief efforts. They have served an impressive:

**27662 Meals, 43910 Drinks & 35268 Snacks!**

Additionally, they have taken proactive steps in the recovery phase. This includes offering vital support such as food vouchers, emergency hampers, crisis grants, and ESC to over 600 residential and apartment properties. Their commitment and timely aid have been instrumental in helping countless residents navigate these challenging circumstances.

