



FROM: The BC Muslim Association (BCMA)

DATE: December 20, 2021

**BCMA EMERGENCY FLOOD RELIEF FOR FIRST NATIONS
IN MERRITT AND CHILLIWACK, B.C.**

On Wednesday, December 22, 2022— In response to the historic flooding our province faced, the BC Muslim Association, in collaboration with faith based charities, including Human Concern International (HCI), IDRF, Penny Appeal, Islamic Relief Canada, Islam Unravelled, and Foundation for a Path Forward will provide \$35,000 for the the First Nations Emergency Services Society (FNESS) to provide culturally sensitive emergency support to First Nations people of B.C.

Mr. Dean Colthorpe will be attending the ceremony as the FNESS representative.

FNESS works closely with First Nation communities, Emergency Management BC (EMBC), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and various other stakeholders to support the successful implementation of emergency management for First Nation communities in BC. The FNESS Emergency Management (EM) department provides community-based emergency management guidance, support, and assistance to BC First Nation communities.

The entire city of Merritt, population 7,000, was ordered to evacuate after flooding caused the failure of the municipality's wastewater treatment plant. Many people found safety in Chilliwack.

The support of the City of Chilliwack, and Mayor Ken Popove, is highly appreciated in both hosting the displaced communities and showing commitment to strengthening ties between all communities in Chilliwack, including the Muslims and Indigenous Peoples. We will be presenting the funds raised at a ceremony in Chilliwack to recognize the contribution of our fundraisers and elected allies.

The BC Muslim Association Emergency Response Team is coordinating a continuing Muslim community response to the historic flooding and damage that our province is facing.

We are asking community members to donate generously, to support those families who have lost everything and those who are still in danger. 100% of all funds raised will go directly to Flood Relief programs and are tax deductible. Local branch representatives can advise on additional ways to support.

The BC Muslim Association

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Please donate here:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=FHJDYCGVE3E96

About [BC Muslim Association \(BCMA\)](#)

The BCMA is the largest Muslim organization in British Columbia. They are a 55-year-old organization with 17 branches across the province, supporting not only the Muslim community with cultural and religious support, but also the general public with humanitarian and cultural outreach.

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