

Press Release

FOX CREEK AWARDED CANADIAN RED CROSS GRANT TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FROM 2023 WILDFIRES

Fox Creek, Alberta – The Town of Fox Creek is proud to be a successful recipient of the Canadian Red Cross Society’s grant focused on Community Recovery and Resilience from the impacts of the 2023 Alberta Wildfires. Fox Creek has been awarded \$92,160.00 as a medium-impact community. This grant will fund a variety of public events and town staff training.

Our primary focuses with the Fox Creek Red Cross Recovery and Resiliency Grant are:

- Engaging community stakeholders and town staff by offering mental health training and skill development opportunities, including *Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)* and *Psychological First Aid*.
- Improving emergency communication infrastructure through the introduction of *Voyent Emergency Software* and updates to the town’s website.
- Providing free opportunities for community members to learn about resilience and emergency preparedness while connecting and rebuilding social networks through recreational activities. These events will include something for everyone, such as lunch-and-learn sessions, presentations, and men’s and women’s breakfasts. Additionally, mental health-promoting activities, including free fitness classes and training, will be offered.

We will host two major events for the community, including an *Emergency Preparedness BBQ on May 1st* and a *Recovery and Resiliency Dinner* with special guest speakers *Theoren Fleury* and *Rory Gardiner* on *May 9th*. *Theoren Fleury* is a former NHL star, Stanley Cup Champion, and Olympic gold medalist who is

now a powerful motivational speaker. After overcoming adversity, he inspires audiences with his journey of resilience and mental health advocacy. *Rory Gardiner* delivers engaging presentations that blend comedy, music, and storytelling to convey powerful messages on resilience, perception, and embracing discomfort.

Further information about these events will be available on the Town of Fox Creek website and Facebook page.

We are grateful for the opportunities provided by the Canadian Red Cross grant, which will help Fox Creek enhance our resiliency and improve our ability to recover after disaster events. We look forward to seeing members of the community at these events.

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