

Unifor moves quickly to help Fort McMurray evacuees

It didn't take long for Unifor to spring into action to help members displaced by the Fort McMurray wildfires.

As soon as early evacuation orders were announced, the Alberta regional office began gathering information volunteered by Edmonton-area Unifor members to coordinate emergency housing for evacuated members.

As conditions worsened and all of Fort McMurray was evacuated, Unifor contacted the Canadian Red Cross to make an initial donation of \$500,000 for relief efforts and partnered to create a web portal at redcross.ca/unifor for Unifor members across Canada to donate.

"Our members in Fort McMurray fled the fire zone with their families and little else. Many have lost their houses to the flames and thousands of them remain without access to their homes," said Jerry Dias, Unifor National President.

Tens of thousands of dollars were donated by the B.C., Prairie, Ontario, Quebec and Atlantic councils.

Dias emphasized that relief efforts will take months, maybe years, and that Unifor will be unwavering in its commitment to members and the re-building project.