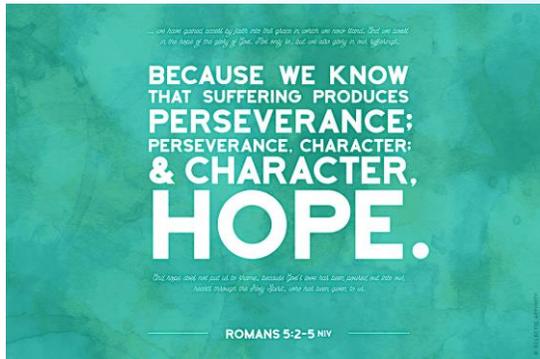




# BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – November, 2018

**SUFFERING PRODUCES PERSEVERANCE... Romans 4:5**



As the rule rather than the exception, first-century Christians experienced extreme suffering. The Apostle Paul tells us in Romans 5:2-5 that we must overcome and grow through our trials. Rejoicing in our suffering is not an easy response but we know God uses life's challenges to build character. Problems we encounter will develop perseverance—which in turn will strengthen our character, deepen our trust in God, and develop greater hope for future sufferings we may face.

Perseverance is the Bible's description for resilience. People who are resilient are able to withstand and survive from difficult circumstances. They are strong, flexible, and buoyant; able to rebound with relative ease. These are the people who are still standing after experiencing a devastating blow. How do they achieve that skill, to not only survive through stormy weather, but to thrive?

Studies teach that resilience is a set of acquired skills. It involves behaviors, thoughts, and actions that can be learned and developed in anyone. Life is harder than we expect and pain comes to us all. We have to be prepared to stand firm against the disappointments and hardships of life.

We are not alone in this world as God is our strength and our comfort. He gives us the Bible as a roadmap to manoeuvre the bumpy roads we encounter. He gives us the Holy Spirit to teach and transform us into His likeness.

We have a choice for how to respond to the trials and disappointments we experience. The more we can leverage challenges as opportunities to grow, the more resilient we are likely to become.

**Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.**  
James 1:4

## CANADA'S PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Canada's Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) was established in 2009 as a multi-stakeholder national mechanism that coordinates and advises on areas of propriety requiring concerted action. It has national oversight and leadership and is comprised of more than 700 members representing local to national levels of governance, multiple sectors and organizations to provide a whole-of-society perspective to reducing risk.

In 2015, along with 186 other countries from all over the world, Canada endorsed a post-2015 Hyogo Framework, known as the United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030). DRR is defined as a systematic, whole-of-society approach to identifying, assessing and analyzing the causal effects of disasters and disaster based on risk assessment.

**Public Safety Canada** hosts an Annual National Roundtable for Disaster Risk Reduction, which provides a valuable opportunity for discussion on implementing the Sendai Framework.

### VISION

- A safer and more resilient Canada through the reduction of risks and leveraging of capacities and opportunities across all levels of government, the private sector, academia, non-governmental organizations, professional associations, Indigenous groups, and the general public.

### OBJECTIVES

- To work in an integrated manner to reduce risk, vulnerability and impacts of natural and non-natural disasters to Canadians;
- Provide a coordinating mechanism for DRR across sectors and using our existing networks; and
- To support stakeholders with relevant knowledge and information.

[ps.drr-rrc.sp@canada.ca](mailto:ps.drr-rrc.sp@canada.ca)



## EMERGENCY RESPONSE HELPER TRAINING AVAILABLE

Posted on: October 23, 2018  
By Lawrence Gleason, Local Press Writer  
Photo by Lawrence Gleason

Marg Pollon is the founder of Bridges of Love Ministry that helps in community disasters. The ministry created a disaster readiness course now available.

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## South Centre Mall Emergency Fair - October 21

