



BRIDGES OF LOVE

LOVE IS ACTION – March, 2024

"TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE" Ecclesiastes 4:9



MOUNTAIN VIEW COUNTY CERT SUMMIT UPDATE

After completing the Mountain View County CERT Summit, we are pleased to report that our graduates all expressed a desire to be part of a CERT team in their communities. The evaluation results were very positive with strong support for the training and capable instructors. The Friday evening keynote speaker (Wildfire Specialist) was exceptional, sharing information that was very applicable for the season and present conditions.

Our only struggle was finding adequate participants who were willing to give up two Saturdays and a Friday evening to attend. Varying marketing methods were undertaken with personal visitations, poster & brochure distribution, radio and newspaper ads, newsletters, our website, social media, and the local radio station in Olds interviewed to hear more about the event coming to their town. Three months of planning and preparing with three individuals registered! How do we stimulate more participation for an activity that can save lives and protect property?

Even though our numbers were small we had great participants! Two attendees were from Carstairs, and one came from Olds. Our training teaches that CERTs do not respond on their own, and as mentioned, preferably 5 - 7 cert grads are on a team. Greater participation is necessary to build sustainability for a community response but even though we have three new great CERT graduates, we hope to have a stronger show for our next CERT training event.

Now is the time to consider attending Bridges of Love's next CERT Canada Summit. We realize it is a commitment to take time for this activity, but remember that when disaster strikes, the time to prepare has passed!

CERT 'BEARING TOGETHER' TEAM MEMBERS



A friend in Ontario kindly shared the pattern and a bear her husband received after a recent stay in the hospital. Her Presbyterian Church group is knitting bears as a community outreach. Since April, they have made 400 bears that are shared with hospitals and people who need a touch of God's love.

What a great activity!

Four CERT Bearing Together bears named Buddy, Ami, Chip, and Scout recently joined our CERT Team! Buddy and Ami have already been deployed to duty, bringing joy to a CERT instructor's family, who recently lost their beloved golden retriever! **Love is ACTION!**

"BEARING TOGETHER"

