



Bridges of Love

"CARRY EACH OTHER'S BURDENS, AND IN THIS WAY YOU WILL FULFILL THE LAW OF CHRIST." Galatians 6:2



FROM THE WINDOW

As we look out the window of our Bridges of Love office, we see the haze of wildfire smoke filling the sky. It is a reminder that, across Canada, communities are facing uncertainty. Families have been displaced. First responders are carrying enormous responsibilities. Entire communities are watching, waiting, and wondering what comes next.

Smoke has a way of changing our perspective. It reminds us that something happening far away can still affect us. We may not see the flames, but we experience their impact. We may not know the people whose lives have been interrupted, but they are our neighbours. In moments like these, we often ask, "How can we help?"

Love does not wait until a crisis arrives before it responds. Love prepares. Love builds relationships before they are needed. Love learns, trains, connects, and serves—not only because disaster is inevitable, but because people matter.

Jesus taught us that loving our neighbour is not limited to those who live closest to us or those we already know. Love crosses boundaries. Love notices. Love moves toward those in need.

Why Every Household Should Prepare a Go Bag

When an emergency happens, the first few minutes and hours can be overwhelming. A wildfire evacuation, severe storm, power outage, flood, or other unexpected event can require people to leave quickly or manage without normal services for a period of time.

A Go Bag is a simple way to prepare for those moments. It is a collection of essential items gathered in advance so that individuals and families can respond quickly, safely, and confidently when circumstances change. Preparing a Go Bag is not about living in fear. It is about caring for ourselves and those around us.



WHY SHOULD WE HAVE A "GO" BAG READY!

1. Emergencies often do not happen at a convenient time.
2. A "Go Bag" reduces stress.
3. A "Go Bag" helps protect the most vulnerable.
4. A "Go Bag" allows us to help others.
5. Preparedness strengthens community resilience.

**When love prepares,
communities become stronger!**

Building a Stronger Community Through CERT

What would you do if a wildfire forced your neighbourhood to evacuate, a winter storm left your community without power for days, or flooding affected local roads and homes? These are situations Albertans have faced in recent years and are even facing now, reminding us that emergency preparedness isn't just the responsibility of first responders—it's something we all share.

When emergencies happen, every minute counts. Whether it's a wildfire, severe storm, flood, or extended power outage, emergency services work tirelessly to respond—but they can't always be everywhere at once. That's where Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers can make a difference.



"Preparedness isn't about expecting the worst—it's about having the knowledge and confidence to help ourselves and others when the unexpected happens."

Please drop by Bridges of Love's office to learn more on how you can become involved.