



Gatineau Tornadoes

SIX MONTHS ON – MARCH 2019

On September 21, people in the Gatineau region faced the unimaginable. In the span of just a few minutes, a series of tornadoes tore through the region, ripping roofs off homes, knocking down walls, overturning vehicles, and unrooting trees, leaving thousands of residents in a state of shock and despair.

But help was quick to arrive. Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, tornado victims were able to turn to the Red Cross as they faced a daunting situation. A reception and information centre was immediately set up, in collaboration with local authorities, and only hours later, displaced families were taken under the care of Red Cross volunteers at two emergency shelters. Beds, blankets, warm meals, and comfort helped ease the worry of those whose lives were suddenly uprooted.

Over the weeks and months that followed, your generosity continued making a huge difference. For families facing significant recovery challenges, you were there with financial support. For those who lost everything, including their home, you provided a temporary roof, clothing and other essential items to help them get back on their feet.

Over the past six months, your support has remained by the side of individuals and families on their road to recovery. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

YOUR GENEROSITY IN NUMBERS :



1050 residents

helped in the three days following the disaster



95 families

received help for temporary accommodation



527 people

received financial support to help recover



1 recovery office

still in operation

How your support is helping to meet community needs



Rachel Larocque, MCDJ coordinator, meets with Alexandre Normandin from the Red Cross. Your generosity has provided much-needed funding to help meet the needs of families in the Mont-Bleu neighbourhood.

La Maison communautaire Daniel-Johnson (MCDJ) plays a vital role for disadvantaged families in Gatineau's Mont-Bleu neighbourhood, which was hit hard by the tornadoes last September.

But the organization faced a new reality in the aftermath of the disaster.

"The tornadoes completely changed the face of our neighbourhood, but also that of the families we help," says Rachel Larocque, MCDJ coordinator.

In the days and weeks that followed, the organization saw a significant increase in requests for food and accommodation assistance.

"Normally, we work alongside families to help them become independent over time. But in this instance, the situation was really different. We needed immediate solutions because the need was so great."

Knowing that community organizations play a critical role in disaster recovery, the Red Cross was quick to provide support to the MCDJ and Rachel.

With funding provided by the Red Cross, the MCDJ was able to bring on additional resources to deal with emerging needs and provide additional assistance.

"This is the first time I've worked with the Red Cross," says Rachel. "Their team is always there to help us, always looking out for the needs of the community."

Thanks to your generous support, Rachel has been able to meet the challenges and continue the organization's important work to help families in the neighbourhood.

Your generosity at work

Financial update for Quebec

GATINEAU – TOTAL FUNDS RAISED AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019: \$5,796,000

(includes \$3M from the Government of Québec)

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS	ALLOCATED TO DATE	SPENT AND COMMITTED TO DATE
INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES The Red Cross provides temporary accommodation, food, clothing, and financial support for unplanned expenses. Assistance is also offered on an individual basis to meet specific needs.	\$4,648,000	\$2,890,000
COMMUNITY GROUPS Financial assistance is provided to help local organizations meet increased demand for their services in the aftermath of disaster.	\$200,000	\$30,000
EMERGING NEEDS	\$863,000	
FUNDRAISING COSTS	\$85,000	\$81,000
TOTAL AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019	\$5,796,000	\$3,001,000

UNDERSTANDING THE NUMBERS

Allocation of funds to date: This is the projected budget across each area of spending for the grand total. The allocations reflect the needs of the people and the community that have been identified to date. Many needs emerge over time and the allocation amounts may be adjusted accordingly.

Spent and committed to date: These are the funds that have been already spent to assist those impacted by the tornadoes, as well as funds that have been committed with signed contracts or agreements for recovery projects or initiatives, where applicable.

Fundraising costs: The fundraising cost related to this emergency appeal will not exceed five per cent. Fundraising costs are associated to the total funds donated to date, not the grand total including funds received from the government. These costs can include donation processing fees; credit card and bank fees; service fees for call centres and digital platforms; and, ongoing communications and reporting to donors.