



## Attention USW Locals:

### Fort McMurray Emergency Fire Appeal

The United Steelworkers is appealing to all local unions in all three districts to contribute funds to assist the community of Fort McMurray affected by unprecedented wildfires.

The historic wildfire blaze has led to the displacement of 90,000 people and destroyed 1,600 buildings. After emergency needs of the evacuees are addressed, Fort McMurray will be faced with the daunting task of rebuilding.

To support immediate needs and rebuilding the community, please send your local union contribution to the **Steelworkers Humanity Support Fund** at Steelworkers Humanity Support Fund, Suite 800, 234 Eglinton Ave. E., Toronto, ON M4P 1K7.

Individual Steelworker members are urged to support the Red Cross ([www.redcross.ca](http://www.redcross.ca)). The Canadian Government will match individual charitable contributions made before May 31 (but it is not matching the contributions of organizations).

The Steelworkers Humanity Fund will direct funds to the United Way of Fort McMurray, the Edmonton Food Bank and/or other local organizations depending on the need and gaps in funding after federal and provincial disaster assistance, insurance payouts and Red Cross funding have been determined. The United Way supported 70 community programs prior to the fire. The United Way has pledged "Our promise is to work with all levels of government and other emergency responders and put funds where they are needed most and will have the greatest impact."

The Steelworkers Humanity Fund will contribute an additional \$40,000 to Fort McMurray fire relief. This is in addition to the initial contribution of \$10,000 to the Red Cross announced earlier and over and above local union contributions received as part of this appeal.

Each year natural or human-made disasters somewhere in the world bring destruction, death and injury, and force the displacement of thousands, if not millions of families. Often these disasters occur in countries not nearly as wealthy or resilient as Canada, and have greater difficulty attracting ongoing media coverage and individual charitable donations. The Steelworkers Humanity Fund's emergency relief makes a difference. As we make special contributions for Fort McMurray, it is important to also continue to support the Steelworkers Humanity Fund through negotiation of the SHF clause in our collective agreements and to increase the contribution amount.

In solidarity,

**Ken Neumann**  
*National Director*

**Stephen Hunt**  
*Director, District 3*

**Alain Croteau**  
*Director, District 5*

**Marty Warren**  
*Director, District 6*

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union  
Syndicat international des travailleurs unis de la métallurgie, du papier et de la foresterie, du caoutchouc,  
de la fabrication, de l'énergie, des services et industries connexes

800-234 av. Eglinton Ave. E., Toronto ON Canada M4P 1K7 - 416-487-1571 - 416-482-5548 (Fax/Télec.) - [www.usw.ca](http://www.usw.ca)