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July 13, 2021

**To All Parishes in the Diocese of Edmonton**

Dear Friends,

As you all know, on June 30, 2021, an absolutely cataclysmic fire destroyed the village of Lytton, B.C. This devastating fire not only obliterated buildings and homes, but also caused a loss of life and a scarring of the souls and lives of all who survived but ultimately lost everything. The scenes of devastation and utter chaos bring to mind vividly what our own province had to endure during the Fort McMurray fires of 2016-2017.

Our brothers and sisters in Christ who comprise the Territory of the People Anglican Church, as well as the unchurched who are equally suffering, need our help in terms of ongoing prayer as well as financial support.

At the direction of Bishop-elect Stephen London, Anglicans from around our diocese are encouraged to get involved. Please include prayers for all that comprise the Territory of the People in both your personal prayers as well as in Sunday liturgies. A prayer entitled "Pray with the Community of Lytton" is included for your use.

Financial contributions can be made through either of the following organisations: the PWRDF has set up a link at <https://pwrdf.org/anglicans-invited-to-support-territory-of-the-people-in-aftermath-of-fire/> or through St. Paul's Anglican Cathedral, Kamloops, at <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/53639>.

Now is the time for all of us to come together to help in whatever manner we can. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and response.

In Christ's Name,  
The Venerable Lee Bezanson  
Acting Diocesan Administrator

***Pray with the community of Lytton***

*O God, you are our refuge and our strength, our help in times of trouble:*

*Have mercy on the lands and communities devastated by fires,*

*And especially the people of the village of Lytton and Lytton First Nations.*

*Have mercy on those who have lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods.*

*Protect those who have had to evacuate.*

*Bless and keep safe all firefighters.*

*And strengthen those who seek to rebuild hope, that all may face the future without fear.*

*We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen*