



FOR RELEASE
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Yukon supports Canadian Red Cross emergency efforts in the Philippines

WHITEHORSE —The Government of Yukon is contributing \$25,000 to emergency efforts in the Philippines after massive flooding caused by typhoon Washi.

The typhoon, which made landfall on December 17, resulted in a series of flash floods and is believed to have killed over 500 people and has left hundreds missing.

"This devastating natural disaster has left thousands of people without running water and power and has forced them into evacuation centres," Premier Darrell Pasloski said. "This is especially wrenching as many of us begin our holiday celebrations with our loved ones. Our hearts go out to those suffering in the Philippines and to the Yukon and Canadian Filipino communities."

The Red Cross reports that there is massive damage to infrastructure, houses and agriculture, which is affecting an estimated 135,000 people. The organization is working around the clock in affected communities to provide emergency assistance and has over 600 local volunteers performing search and rescue operations, and supporting evacuation centres.

"Yukon is responding to the call for assistance with a financial donation to the Canadian Red Cross which is working with its international partners to provide prompt relief to the affected communities," Pasloski added. "On behalf of all Yukoners, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Red Cross and the countless individuals who are helping those in need."

The Red Cross has sent emergency supplies for 5,000 families in the affected areas of the island, with more shipments expected in the days to come.

Yukoners wishing to make a personal donation may contact the Canadian Red Cross Donation Inquiries office online or toll-free at 1-800-418-1111 for more information.

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