

For Immediate Release

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Regional District of Central Kootenay Emergency Operations Centre

PRAISE FOR VOLUNTEER EFFORT IN PASSMORE, B.C.

NELSON - Residents in the community of Passmore and the Regional District of Central Kootenay are continuing to support the emergency effort during the current flood situation in the Slocan Valley.

"A number of local residents have given up a lot of their time over the long weekend to come to the Passmore Fire Hall to help fill sandbags and build dykes in flooded areas," said Gary Wright, Chair of the Regional District of Central Kootenay. "Everybody is doing a great job and I am proud of the work being done for the community and region in our Emergency Operations Centre in Nelson."

Over the past three days, about 200 volunteers have gathered at the Passmore Fire Hall and filled approximately 5,000 bags with sand.

"The volunteer effort is being coordinated by search and rescue teams with assistance from the Passmore Fire Department," said Terry Warren, Emergency Coordinator for the Slocan Valley and Nakusp. "We are grateful to everybody who has come out to support the community at this time of need."

There has also been regional assistance from a number of search and rescue teams from communities including Castlegar, New Denver, Rossland, Beaver Valley, Nelson and Nakusp.

At this time, 53 homes in the Passmore and Slocan Park area remain under an Evacuation Order, while 98 homes remain on Evacuation Alert.

Community support plays an important part in any operation. Emergency officials are grateful for the generosity and support of businesses and individuals in the area.

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