



# GRAND FORKS, BC

## Flood – 2018

### Location

Grand Forks, with a population of 4,200, is located between the Okanagan Valley and the Kootenays in south-eastern British Columbia. Established in the late 19th century because of copper mining, industries today include logging, agriculture, rock wool manufacturing and tourism. In the early 1900s, a group of Doukhobors (pacifist Russian immigrants) settled in the area because of the fertile farm land, and many residents are their descendants. The climate in the summer is humid continental, with hot daytime temperatures and cool nighttime temperatures.

### Disaster

On May 10, 2018 a major flood, brought on by a quick snowmelt and intense rain, hit Grand Forks, BC, causing much of the town to be covered in water. The flood included the downtown and also areas that had not flooded before.



### MDS Response

MDS volunteers will be staying at River Valley Community Church in Grand Forks. Sleeping accommodations, washroom facilities and dining facilities will be in the church with a shower trailer and a bunk trailer set up in the parking lot. Volunteers will be repairing homes that were gutted after the flood, with the possibility of a few new builds.

## Transportation

It is the responsibility of weekly volunteers to plan, schedule, and pay for their transportation to and from the project in Grand Forks. If you choose to fly in or take a bus, you will need to arrange for transportation from the airport/station to the project, as MDS is not able to pick up weekly volunteers. If you have questions about this, please call the Coordinator for Weekly Volunteers at 800-241-8111.

- The West Kootenay Regional Airport near Castlegar, BC is a small airport, one hour east of Grand Forks. It is serviced by Air Canada Express with daily flights to both Vancouver and Calgary. Rental Cars are available through Budget Vehicle Rentals (250-365-5733).
- Two other airport options are Kelowna, BC and Spokane, WA. Both of these airports are about 2.5 hours from Grand Forks.
- Silver City Stagelines is a bus company that runs between Kelowna, BC and Grand Forks. It leaves Kelowna at 1 pm and arrives in Grand Forks at 3:50 pm. On the trip back to Kelowna it leaves Grand Forks at 9:15 am and arrives in Kelowna at 12:15 pm. The cost is approximately \$50 one way.

## Contact Information

### Physical & Mailing Address:

2826 75 Ave  
Grand Forks, BC V0M 1H2

### E-Mail:

grandforks@mds.mennonite.net

### Telephone:

(204) 590-5739 (Office Manager)  
(204) 431-5556 (Project Director)

## Directions

From Vancouver/Abbotsford: Take Hwy 1 E to Hope, then merge onto BC-3 E and continue to Grand Forks. Turn left on Northfork Franklin Rd and then right onto 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. The church will be on the right.

From Kelowna: Take Hwy 33 E till it becomes BC-3 E and continue to Grand Forks. Turn left on Northfork Franklin Rd and then right onto 75<sup>th</sup> Ave. The church will be on the right.

From Castlegar: Take Hwy 3 W to Grand Forks. Turn right onto 27<sup>th</sup> St and then left onto 75 Ave. The church will be on the left.

From Spokane, WA: Take Hwy 395 north into BC. Turn left onto BC-3 W and continue to Grand Forks. Turn right onto 27<sup>th</sup> St and then left onto 75 Ave. The church will be on the left.