

From Those Who Remember

Community members who faced a raging prairie fire in 1997 reach out to people in the rural area of Slave Lake.

An invitation was extended this Christmas to residents in southwest Alberta to “help the rural people of the Slave Lake area who were in the path of last summer’s wildfires”. This from people who still remember the lingering smells, the charring of the landscape, and the sight of fence-lines and farmsteads burned when the horrific winds of southern Alberta set their country-side ablaze in December 1997. This action is but a token of their gratitude.

“We feel the attention has been mostly on the town of Slave Lake and not so much on the rural families.” We want to contribute now because “14 years ago we remember the help that came from near and far” to help with our rebuilding.

Even as one community reaches out to the other, the gift of sharing carries its own message of hope.

(Letter to the Editor, Pincher Creek Echo, December 2011)

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