



August 18, 2023

To: Yellowknife United Church  
Re: Wildfires in Northwest Territories

Via:

Peter Workman is the Chair of the Board, [REDACTED]

Karen Wilford is the Vice Chair, [REDACTED]

Dear Peter and Karen,

I wanted to reach out to you, knowing that your congregation, as well as Yellowknife and the surrounding areas, are experiencing wildfires that are frightening, causing significant emotional and physical distress, property damage, and natural habitat and wildlife loss.

Knowing that the entire city is now evacuating, I cannot imagine the deep anxiety and fear that you and those in your care must be feeling. I have been offering prayers for families who are displaced by fire or the threat of fire.

Although fires may burn away things that are important to us, I pray they cannot burn away the hope for a future free from the worries of environmental disaster. I pray for peace of mind to return in its time.

It could be a long road to recovery, healing and rebuilding. May you and the congregation in your care have the strength in numbers and spirit to face the journey together. You have our support, and also our prayers.

May we continue to hold firm to hope and God's promise of new and renewed life.

In Christ's resurrection hope,

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne  
Moderator / Modératrice  
The United Church of Canada / L'Église Unie du Canada

CC: Shannon McCarthy - [SMcCarthy@united-church.ca](mailto:SMcCarthy@united-church.ca)

