Prayer for the Kootenay Region

O God, hear us as we pray for the Kootenay Boundary district of British Columbia – along the Granby, Kettle and West Kettle Rivers, the Carmi region, Okanagan-Similkameen region, Thompson-Nicola region – where flooding is happening.

We pray for those who have been evacuated, who fear what the water will do, who fear for animals left behind.

We pray for those under evacuation warnings, who live in anxiety will they have to move or not.

We pray for those who have lost property and have businesses damaged, we pray for calm in the midst of worry, and that they will find listening ears who will take time to hear their stories.

We pray for those who are trying to hold back the water with sandbags, emergency dikes, water pumps – give them strength in their exhaustion. Give safety, we pray.

We pray for government officials faced with difficult decisions.

May community leaders be wise in situations where there are no good decisions.

We thank you for those communities and individuals who are working to show welcome to evacuees.

We pray for cooler weather to slow the melting, we pray for the removal of ice jams, we pray that water levels go down.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Peter Bush, Moderator 143rd (2017) General Assembly The Presbyterian Church in Canada