CONFÉRENCE DES ÉVÊQUES CATHOLIQUES DU CANADA
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

July 8, 2013

Dear Brother Bishop,

In recent weeks, two of our dioceses have been afflicted by terrible tragedies. The recent floods in southern Alberta have caused wide-ranging devastation. Over the weekend, the train derailment in Lac-Mégantic has resulted in an enormous catastrophe. I invite the dioceses of Canada to respond to these major human and economic disasters with prayers for the people of both these dioceses.

Furthermore, we have expressed to both bishops your deepest sympathy and the assurance of your prayers on their behalf. In addition, I would encourage you and the faithful of your dioceses to show our solidarity with them by sending financial contributions to the Archbishop of Sherbrooke and the Bishop of Calgary. Each has established a fund which will allow them to respond to the pastoral and human needs of those who have been so seriously affected.

Bishop Henry and Archbishop Cyr have asked me to thank each of you in advance for your manifestation of compassion and unity.

Fraternally yours in Christ,

+ Richard W. Smith
Archbishop of Edmonton and
President of the Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops

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