



news release

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CANADA'S HUMANITARIAN GESTURE TO COMMEMORATE WORLD RED CROSS DAY

The Government of Canada announced today the "humanitarian gesture" it has made to commemorate World Red Cross Day. Countries throughout the world will be making similar gestures on this day as part of commemorative ceremonies to mark the 125th anniversary of the founding of the international Red Cross movement.

As part of its humanitarian gesture, the Government of Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency, is providing \$150,000 to the Canadian Red Cross to send a five person Canadian medical team to Pakistan. This team will provide critically needed medical and surgical assistance to the International Committee of the Red Cross' field hospitals for Afghans in Pakistan.

The Government of Canada, through the Department of Communications, has also granted permission to the Canadian Red Cross to install and operate a radio station in Canada to transmit and receive emergency messages. Once operational, this radio station will form part of the autonomous, international telecommunications system established by the International Red Cross to expedite global relief efforts.

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