

For immediate release — Tuesday, October 22, 2019

Three locals return from volunteer effort in disaster-stricken Bahamas

Media are invited to speak with two University of Lethbridge employees and one City of Lethbridge employee who used their vacation time to help with recovery efforts in The Bahamas.

Who — Eric Foster, team lead with U of L Campus Safety, Nolan Meyer, the U of L's emergency preparedness coordinator, and Leah Parker, radio systems coordinator with the City of Lethbridge, are available to talk about their experiences.

What — Foster, Meyer and Parker recently returned from a two-week deployment with Team Rubicon (a disaster-response organization) to help with recovery efforts in The Bahamas following Hurricane Dorian. They were part of wave two for Team Rubicon, which consisted of 10 Canadians and 58 Americans. Team members were stationed in and around Marsh Harbour on Abaco Island, where the tropical cyclone snapped trees, tossed sea cans from the harbour, overturned vehicles and boats, tore off roofs and flattened buildings. With temperatures above 30 C, they cleared roadways, mucked out homes and other buildings and assessed damage while wearing Tyvek suits and masks for protection. With limited water supplies and only generators to produce electricity, people in The Bahamas are looking at a lengthy recovery.

Where — Security Services, L911 (Library, across from Starbucks)

When — 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 23

-30- **Contact** Caroline Zentner, public affairs adviser 403-394-3975 or 403-795-5403 caroline.zentner@uleth.ca