

# Chamber raises \$2,000 for Fort Mac businesses

BY DOUG COLLIE  
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The Olds and District Chamber of Commerce (ODCC) raised just over \$2,000 for Fort McMurray businesses affected by the wildfires during a luncheon last week.

Food for the luncheon, provided Tuesday in the Pomeroy Inn & Suites was free, but the 51 people attending were asked to make a donation to the Alberta Chamber of Commerce's Chamber Relief Trust Fund.

Officials say money collected from that fund will go to businesses in Fort McMurray and area affected by the fires there.

ODCC president and Pomeroy Inn & Suites general manager Stephen Dodwell was thrilled and amazed by the amount of money raised.

"It's an incredible thing. That's 50-odd people at lunchtime coming out and there were some huge donations. It was just wonderful," he said.

"It actually was around \$2,000 and one lady said, 'no, here's a dollar – we've got to make it just over two thousand.'"

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Olds and District Chamber of Commerce president Stephen Dodwell holds a container of money donated by people attending a special chamber lunch at the Pomeroy Inn & Suites on May 17. A total of \$2,001 was collected. It will go into an Alberta Chamber fund with the money designated for Fort McMurray businesses affected by wildfires there.