



# **Special Report to Council July 17, 2006 Storm**

**Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program**



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## July 17 Storm Stats



- Damage to the electricity was the most extensive since the 1998 Ice Storm.
- Replaced almost 1000 poles, 4,000 insulators and more than 200 transformers (across Ontario.)
- Hydro One had over 170,000 customers without power, 11,000 in the area served by the Sudbury Hydro1
- Hydro One mobilized a workforce of 190 staff during restoration in Sudbury area, including: 133 line maintainers, 36 foresters, 21 support staff
- Crews were drawn from Hydro One work centres in: Dundas, Guelph, Alliston, Parry Sound, Penetang, Barrie, Orillia, Beachville, Alymer, Perth, Ottawa, and Orangeville. Included in these numbers are crews from Guelph Hydro and 3 line maintainers from Sudbury Hydro

## Sudbury Operations Centre on Falconbridge Road



## ODRAP Council Resolution



Whereas the City of Greater Sudbury recently experienced a severe thunderstorm and damaging wind gusts on Monday, July 17th, 2006, the Council of the City of Greater Sudbury hereby requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to declare the City of Greater Sudbury a "disaster area" for the purposes of the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP);

And further, should the Minister declare a disaster, Council will immediately seek Provincial Financial Assistance - Public Costs;

And further, should the Minister declare a disaster, and Council determines that Provincial Financial Assistance - Private Costs is required, Council would immediately, as required by ODRAP, appoint members to a Disaster Relief Committee to administer the claims made under ODRAP.



## ODRAP



- ODRAP is an assistance program designed to help municipalities, individuals, farmers, small business, and non-profit organizations get back on their feet after a natural disaster.
- It is intended to cover the costs of returning essential items to pre-disaster condition for people who have suffered damage in designated disaster areas.
- ODRAP is not intended to be an alternative or a substitute for adequate insurance coverage.
- In the event of a natural disaster, individuals are expected to bear the initial responsibility for their losses. If the losses are so extensive that individuals cannot cope on their own, the municipality and the community at large are expected to provide support.



## ODRAP



- If municipalities experience extraordinary damage to public infrastructure due to a natural disaster, they are advised to contact their local Municipal Services Office of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to determine if the damages sustained are eligible for assistance.
- The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) offers primary support to municipalities through the Ontario Disaster Relief Assistance Program (ODRAP). This emergency financial assistance can be provided when the costs of response and recovery are beyond the financial capacity of the municipality. MMAH has developed a checklist to assist municipalities in determining if they require provincial aid.



## How ODRAP Works



- The Minister of MMAH is authorized to declare a "disaster area" for the purposes of the ODRAP program.
- The municipal Council asking for assistance under the ODRAP program must adopt a resolution outlining the following:
  - The municipality's request for a disaster area declaration;
  - Whether all, or a specified portion, of the municipality is to be declared a disaster area.
- The request for a disaster area declaration must be submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing within 14 working days of the disaster.
- The Council resolution should clearly define the area, which may be declared as the disaster area, as municipal boundaries may not coincide with areas damaged by the disaster.
- Municipalities should try to define all areas affected by the disaster to ensure fair treatment to all affected residents. It is important to note that only damages within the declared disaster area are eligible for ODRAP funding.

## How ODRAP Works

### Provincial Financial Assistance for Public Costs



- Municipalities that have sustained damages caused by a disaster, and which have been declared by the Minister of MMAH as a disaster area, may be eligible for ODRAP funding for specific types of damages.
- Eligible damage payments would be made directly to the municipality by the Ministry and are separate from local fund-raising efforts for private damages.
- Municipalities must submit a public damage report to their local Municipal Services Office, accompanied by appropriate receipts and an adopted resolution verifying costs, to determine which costs are eligible.
- Municipalities experiencing only public damages as a result of a natural disaster should still adopt a resolution requesting financial assistance and submit to the Ministry the request within 14 working days of the disaster.

## How ODRAP Works

### Provincial Financial Assistance for Private Costs



- Individuals have a responsibility to take reasonable precautions to ensure their own safety and protection, including their property.
- ODRAP is not an alternative or a substitute for adequate private insurance coverage and sound risk management.
- Damage claims should be directed first to insurance companies to determine coverage of individual policies.
- Should the Minister declare a disaster area, the local municipal Council will appoint a Disaster Relief Committee (DRC) as soon as possible.
- A DRC must be established quickly. The purpose of the committee is twofold:
  - to raise funds for the benefit of disaster victims, and
  - to settle the eligible claims of these victims as efficiently as possible.
- The province will contribute up to \$2 for every local dollar raised, to an amount necessary to settle all the eligible claims, up to 90 per cent of all eligible costs.

# ODRAP Application Process



## Step 1

- Resolution to be completed and submitted to the Minister's office within 14 working days of the disaster.
- Council Resolution clearly defining the area which may be declared as the disaster area. The following supporting information should be provided :
  - The number of private properties, farms, small businesses and non-profit organizations;
  - The number of residents, small businesses or farms affected;
  - The extent and the preliminary cost estimates of damages suffered;
  - Newspaper clippings, photographs and other documentary evidence where available; and,
  - Other information Council feels is relevant.
- Important:
  - Only properties that are **primary residence** are eligible. Camps, cottages & recreational vehicles are not eligible.
  - Damage claims should be directed first to insurance companies to determine coverage of individual policies.

# ODRAP Application Process



## Step 2

- Set up Disaster Relief Committee as soon as possible after a disaster area has been declared by the Minister, the local Council appoints a Disaster Relief Committee by resolution. Where a disaster affects more than one municipality, all Councils should participate in the appointment of representatives to a common Disaster Relief Committee.
- The DRC and its sub-committees act as an autonomous body operating within provincial guidelines to raise funds and settle claims. The Committee ensures that all claims are dealt with fairly and equitably. The scope and nature of damages will help determine how many committee members are required.
- The DRC's work could usually take anywhere from six months to about one year to complete. Council appoints the committee members from among its citizens, preferably from an unaffected area if possible, and should choose persons with varying backgrounds, as it is desirable to obtain a variety of expertise for the committee.

## Eligible Losses and Costs

- restoration, repairs, or replacement of a principal, year-round residence, farm buildings and principal business enterprise building
- essential furnishing of a private residence i.e. fridge, freezer, furnace, stove,
- tools or other items essential to the claimant's livelihood,
- for farms, replacement cost only of orchard trees
- for business enterprises, replacement of inventory at cost
- restoration, repair, or replacement to pre-disaster condition of churches, cemeteries, private schools, private clubs and other associations
- emergency expenses (e. g. evacuation costs, food and shelter, essential clothing)
- perishable food
- heat and light supplies (e. g. fuel for light and heat, heaters)

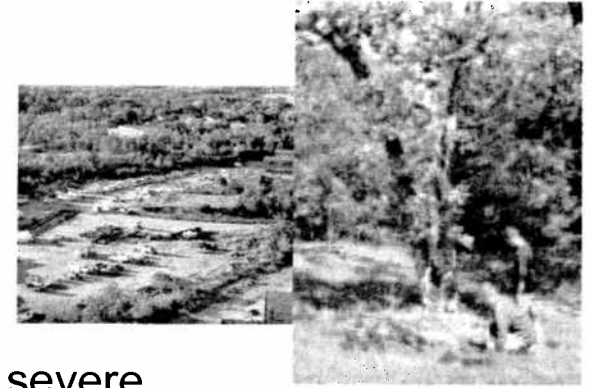


## Ineligible Losses and Costs

- losses covered by insurance
- insurance deductible
- secondary residences e. g. cottages
- non-essential furniture (e. g. stereos, recreation room furniture)
- landscaping, fencing, driveways and retaining walls
- recreational vehicles (e. g. boats, snowmobiles)
- antiques and collections
- loss of revenue or wages
- losses recoverable at law
- personal injury
- private roads/bridges and erosion
- sewage backup



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