

CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY

Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

This document is available in accessible formats upon request.

Revised December 1, 2022

INTRODUCTION

Since September 11, 2001, the Government of Ontario has increased its capabilities and responsibilities in Emergency Management for the Province. The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act changed how municipalities create and maintain their emergency plans. It has also changed the municipal focus on “Emergency Measures” (being preparedness and response) to “Emergency Management” (mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery).

PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to identify the hazards, which have caused, or possess the potential to cause, disastrous situations by overwhelming response capabilities within the City of Greater Sudbury. This information will aid our Emergency Management Section and Community Safety Department to prepare for more effective emergency responses and operations. The planning phase will seek to mitigate the effects of a hazard, prepare for response measures and ensure the safety of our citizens, preserve life, and minimize damage.

OUR GOAL

The City of Greater Sudbury, Emergency Management Section’s goal is to ensure that our municipality is prepared to respond to and recover from all natural, technological and man-made emergencies by providing leadership and support through a risk-based program of mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

Through emergency planning, our long-term vision is to co-ordinate and support effective management, training and education to reduce the risks to citizen health, safety, security and property. The key reason for an Emergency Management Program is to support the creation of a disaster-resilient community. A realistic risk-based program properly resourced and exercised will save lives and money.

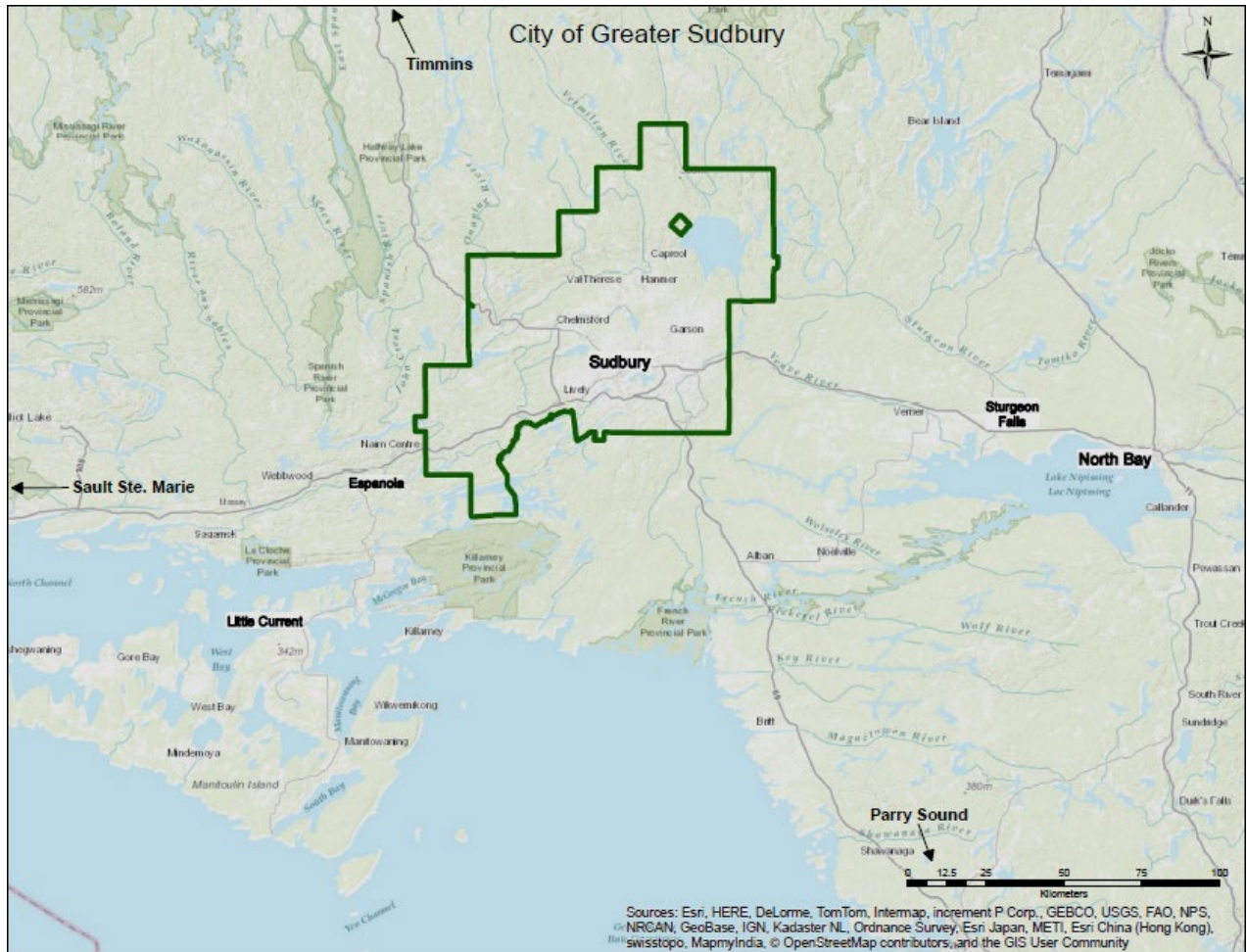
SITUATION

The City of Greater Sudbury is located on the southern edge of the Sudbury Basin in Northern Ontario (see Figure One). The city sits on the Trans-Canada Highway, connecting Western Canada to Toronto, Ottawa, and other points east of Ontario. Greater Sudbury can be reached by ground via Highways 17, 69 and 144, as well as by train and airplane. It is also important to note, is that Sudbury is considered a train hub, connecting rail lines across Ontario as well as Canada.

Sudbury is surrounded by several urban centres, both small and large including:

- Timmins, located 275 km North of Sudbury
- Ottawa, located 450 km East of Sudbury
- Toronto, located 400 km South of Sudbury
- Sault Ste. Marie, located 300 km West of Sudbury.

Figure One: City of Greater Sudbury Location Map



POPULATION

The 2021 Census estimated that 166,004 people live within the 3,627 km² area that makes up the City of Greater Sudbury. A breakdown of the City’s population by community can be found in Figure Two. The majority of the population resides in the City proper located generally in the area formerly known as the City of Sudbury. The remainder of the City’s population resides in small urban communities separated by rural development and undeveloped land.

Figure Two: Population by Community

Area	Population
Azilda	4,641
Capreol	2,934
Chelmsford	7,035
Coniston	2,027
Copper Cliff	2,374
Dill, Cleland and Dryden	1,098
Dowling	1,939
Falconbridge, Skead, Wahnapiatae	4,396
Garson	5,568
Hanmer	6,134
Levack and Onaping	1,082
Lively	4,731
Naughton	899
Northeast Townships	516
Southeast Townships	1,098
Val Caron, Blezard Valley, McCrea Heights, Guilletville	6,516
Val Therese	7,562

Source: [City of Greater Sudbury Demographic Data Dashboard](#)

ECONOMY

The City of Greater Sudbury is perceived to be predominantly a mining-based community. The 2021 census lists health care and social assistance as the largest portion of the labour force in Greater Sudbury at 15.5% followed by retail trade at 11.9% and mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction at 9%. Educational services and construction come in fourth and fifth at 8% and 7.6%. The median household income in Greater Sudbury is \$91,000.

HIRA WORKING COMMITTEE

The process undertaken to produce this report involved significant time and effort on the part of the City's Working Committee. This Committee, representing City services (Emergency Management, Public Health, Paramedic Services, Fire and Police Services), the hospital, industry and various community partners, provided the necessary information required, to determine the hazards most likely to affect the City as a whole. Currently the report is reviewed by Greater Sudbury's Community Emergency Management Coordinator and circulated to City departments and partner agencies for comment before publication. A sample form used by the City is included as Appendix 2.

HOW DEGREE OF RISK IS MEASURED

Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) provides a template for communities to use for measuring risk based on likelihood and consequence. The Emergency Management Section expanded these to include response capability (City's ability to respond to each hazard). The City of Greater Sudbury is one of the larger urban centres in Ontario that does not have an urban neighbour within one hour of travel time. Recognizing that external resources are not immediately available, response capability becomes a variable that must be considered when prioritizing risk in the community.

The Emergency Management Section used several factors when evaluating each risk. Though several methods were considered, the final product evaluated risks based on likelihood, consequence and response capabilities. Each of these factors was assigned a ranking and upon completion, all three factors were combined to provide an overall score out of a possible one mark. These risks were then placed in priority order based on their score. A high score indicated a hazard that was of high risk to the community, whereas a low score indicated a hazard that was a low risk to the community. Further details with regards to evaluating HIRA are offered below.

1. Likelihood: Ranking from 1 (rare) to 6 (certain)

When evaluating each risk's occurrence in Greater Sudbury, a great deal of statistical data was used to determine if an event had occurred in the past. Once this data was collected, each risk was ranked based on time factors, such as less than 5 years, 5-19 years, etc. High marks were assigned to those events that had taken place in the past five years, while low marks were assigned to those events that had never taken place in the Sudbury area.

2. Consequences: Ranking from 1 (low) to 30 (high)

Consequence is the result of the interaction between exposure, vulnerability and capacity in a community. Understanding many different types of consequence helps inform effective future program development and risk treatment. To determine the potential consequences

of each risk, an assessment is performed to identify the effect of a hazard on structures, people, the environment and reputation.

Once the assessment is completed, consequence is determined based on the risk having no impact or having high impact on structures, people, the environment and reputation.

3. Response Capabilities: Ranking from 1 (excellent) to 4 (poor)

The final component to the HIRA involved analyzing the City's ability to respond to each type of risk. There are many factors that influence the City's response capability including equipment, personnel, communications, technical support, training, experience and contingency plans. The ability of outside agencies to respond to events was also examined. Rankings for this category were placed in reverse order with high marks being assigned to emergencies where the City would have difficulty responding, making these events a higher risk to the community.

THE RANKING SCALE

Each hazard has been scored based on the following scale:

Likelihood

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1 – Rare | Occurs every 100 years or more. Less than a 1%, chance of occurrence in any year. |
| 2 – Very Unlikely | Occurs every 50-99 years. Between 1-2% chance of occurrence in any year. |
| 3 – Unlikely | Occurs every 20-49 years. Between 2-5% chance of occurrence in any year. |
| 4 – Probable | Occurs every 5-19 years. Between 5-20% chance of occurrence in any year. |
| 5 – Likely | Occur < 5 years. Over 20% chance of occurrence in any year. |
| 6 – Certain | The hazard will occur annually. 100% chance of occurrence in any year. |

Consequences

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 0 – None | Not likely to result in an impact on structures, people, environment or reputation |
| 1 – Low | Could cause minor impact on structures, people, environment or reputation |
| 2 – Medium | Could cause major impact on structures, people, environment or reputation |
| 3 – High | Could cause widespread or severe impact on structures, people, environment or reputation |

Response Capabilities

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1 – Excellent | Ability to respond using only internal resources |
| 2 – Good | Ability to respond using mainly internal resources and a small number of external resources |
| 3 – Fair | Ability to respond using mainly external resources and a small number of internal resources |
| 4 – Poor | Ability to respond using only external resources |

The highest score that can be attained from evaluating these factors is 180.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The following summary shows a ranked listing of the top hazards for the City of Greater Sudbury emphasizing those hazards that require specific attention in the Emergency Management Program (i.e.: response plans, training/exercises public awareness, etc.).

Event	Ranking
Human Health Emergencies and Epidemics	132
Hazardous Materials Incident – Fixed Site	60
Hazardous Materials Incident – Transportation	60
Tornadoes	44
Explosion or Fires	42
Lightning and Thunderstorms	40

Note: A ranked listing of all City of Greater Sudbury hazards is located in Appendix 1.

CATEGORIES OF HAZARDS

The Emergency Management Program divides hazards into three main categories: Natural, Technological and Human-Caused.

1. Natural Hazards

Natural hazards are emergencies that result from the forces of nature. The following natural hazards have been identified and assessed for the City of Greater Sudbury:

• human health emergencies	• extreme heat
• floods	• blizzard
• fires (forest, wildland, urban interface)	• fog
• extreme cold	• agriculture and food emergencies
• ice/sleet storms	• hailstorms
• tornadoes	• hurricanes
• windstorms	• earthquakes
• lightning and thunder storms	• drought

Human Health Emergency, Epidemic and Pandemic

Over the past few years, there have been a number of health related events that have taken place, though they are not officially classified as epidemics. From October 2003 to March 2004, the Public Health Sudbury & Districts declared an outbreak of Influenza A. During this same period of time, a cluster of meningitis cases were identified in the Valley East area. It was later determined that these cases were unrelated. Additionally, Hepatitis A reports were responded to in 2015, 2016 and 2019.

Novel coronavirus, COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic is caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, China. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a pandemic in March 2020.

The first COVID-19 case in Ontario was reported on January 25, 2020, involving a traveler who had recently returned to Toronto from travel in China, including Wuhan. Public Health Sudbury & Districts confirmed the first case of COVID-19 in its service area on March 10, 2020.

With increasing transmission province-wide, the Ontario government declared a State of Emergency on March 17, 2020, including the gradual implementation of restrictions on gatherings and commerce.

In an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19 and ensure every resource was available to protect the health and safety of staff and residents, the City of Greater Sudbury declared a State of Emergency on April 6, 2020.

As of December 2022, recovery efforts continue and include ongoing education surrounding the importance of vaccination with regular updates on available vaccine and booster shot clinics. Public Health Sudbury & Districts reports regularly on local case numbers with the most recent local data noted below.

	Report Date: November 30, 2022
Total confirmed cases	20,946
Total resolved cases	20,803
Total deaths	196
Doses of vaccine administered	508,120

Regional population fully vaccinated (6 months +)	82.8%
Regional population with booster dose (12 years +)	58.2%

Source: [Public Health Sudbury & Districts](#)

West Nile Virus

Public Health Sudbury & Districts began documenting cases of West Nile Virus in 2006. West Nile virus is an illness that spreads from mosquitoes to humans. The mosquito is capable of spreading the virus to people and animals while biting for a blood meal. The virus is not spread from person to person, and cannot be spread directly from infected animals, such as birds, horses or pets to people.

Positive Cases of West Nile Virus Recorded by the Sudbury and District Health Unit			
Year	Birds	Mosquito Groups	Human
2022	N/A	0	0
2021	N/A	0	0
2020	N/A	0	0
2019	N/A	0	0
2018	N/A	0	0
2017	0	0	2
2016	0	0	0
2015	0	0	1
2014	0	0	0
2013	0	1	0
2012	0	2	0
2011	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0

Source: [Public Health Ontario](#)

Blue-Green Algal Blooms

In 2022 saw one case of Blue-Green Algal in area lakes that resulted in the closure of one public beach. This is the lowest number of instances since 2006 with nutrients and weather likely to be key factors contributing to the reduction in local instances. (Source: [Public Health Sudbury & Districts](#))

Blue Green Algal Blooms can have an adverse effect on the City's source of drinking water. They are unsightly and may be toxic if ingested by wildlife, livestock or humans. Photosynthetic bacterium or cyanobacterium (generally known as blue-green algae) is commonly found in small numbers in lakes, ponds and wetlands. While it is normally invisible to the casual observer, it increases dramatically when conditions are favourable

(most often during hot, calm weather) and the algae are often seen as blue- green in colour, resembling thick pea soup. Although blooms occur naturally, water bodies which have been enriched with plant nutrients from municipal, industrial and agricultural sources are particularly susceptible.

Municipal Water Treatment Plants can remove BGA toxin.

Year	# Waterbodies affected (*Municipal water source affected)
2022	2*
2021	3
2020	1*
2019	6*
2018	5*
2017	6*
2016	8*
2015	11*
2014	3*
2013	4*
2012	3*

Source: [Public Health Sudbury & Districts](#)

H1N1 Pandemic

On June 11, 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared a “Level 6 pandemic”. A “Level 6 pandemic” is declared when there is increased and sustained transmission of a virus in the general population. H1N1 (swine flu) first appeared in Mexico in mid-March and spread to more than 208 countries including Canada. The vast majority of confirmed H1N1 cases had mild Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) and recovered in three to five days. Public Health Sudbury & Districts confirmed the first case of H1N1 in Greater Sudbury on May 4th, 2009.

Number of Confirmed H1N1 Cases in Greater Sudbury Recorded by the Sudbury and District Health Unit	
Wave 2 – Fall 2009	72
Wave 1 – Spring summer 2009	23

These numbers confirmed that H1N1 influenza (flu) was spreading in our community. Laboratory samples are generally only collected from patients who are at high risk of complications due to influenza infection. Laboratory samples are not collected from every person with influenza-like illness who seeks medical care. Therefore, the numbers in the table only confirm that H1N1 influenza was present in our community. They do not paint the full picture of the level of activity (how many people were infected with influenza overall).

For the reporting period of October 1, 2019 to May 13, 2020, there were 92 confirmed

influenza cases reported to Public Health Sudbury & Districts. Of the 92 confirmed cases, 51 were influenza A and 41 were influenza B.

The potential consequences of any of these human health emergencies are high and may include fatalities, given the potential quick spread of disease in urban areas, and the strain on health care resources. The City's ability to respond to these threats would be poor as we would have to rely on external resources.

Flood

Flooding is defined as the filling or covering with water or other fluid, overflow, inundation, or the filling of anything to excess. Over the years, a number of overland floods have occurred in the Sudbury area with the most recent flooding occurring in 2014. The consequences have been limited to minor injuries and localized damage. The City's response capabilities for flood response remain fair, having to rely mainly on external resources and a small number of internal resources.

On July 26, 2009, a massive rainstorm that was concentrated on a small area of Greater Sudbury (downtown area) dumped between 75 to 100 millimeters of rain in a two hour period. The rainstorm resulted in urban flooding that overwhelmed the drainage systems and caused significant property damage in localized areas. Flooded basements and sewer backups were the most common reported damage. There was no significant damage to municipal critical infrastructure.

On September 22 and 23, 2010 Greater Sudbury received 75 mm of rain in a 30-hour period. As a result, we experienced some minor localized flooding across Greater Sudbury.

On July 7, 2020, a storm struck the Capreol area of Greater Sudbury causing localized flooding. Following the event, 17 homes reported water and sewage back up damage. Residents along Lakeshore Street, Dennie Street and Ormsby Avenue in Capreol were significantly affected by this event.

Fire (Forest and Wildland/Urban Interface)

In early 2022, Fire Services responded to 62 wildland fires between January 1 and May 10, almost double the number of these types of fires from the same reporting period from the previous year (34). The causes ranged from human caused and nature due to the drier than normal spring experienced. The dry conditions and increase in wildland fires prompted the declaration of an open-air fire ban in Greater Sudbury from May 11 to May 24. The ban was lifted after fire hazard conditions improved following a period of cooler temperatures and rainfall.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry reported a total of nine forest fires within the municipal boundary with eight reported in the northern part of the region surrounding

Wanapitei Lake. The largest forest fire started on May 13, SUD013, and was 6.9 hectares in size. In September, MNR reported 226 confirmed forest fires in 2022 that burned 2,517 hectares of land in Ontario compared to 1,176 fires in the same time frame for the previous year that burned a record 784,000 hectares.

The occurrence of forest or wildland fire is increasing due to larger amounts of forest fire fuels, human behaviour and climate change issues. The damage associated with such an event is expected to be limited to minor injuries and localized damage given the City's response capability.

Forest/Wildland Fires in Greater Sudbury Recorded by Greater Sudbury Fire Service	
Year	Number of Fires (bush, brush, forest)
2022 (as of November 1)	168
2021	120
2020	113
2019 (as of Oct 17)	28
2018 (as of Oct 17)	63
2017	19
2016	93
2015	201
2014	56
2013	65
2012	226
2011	301
2010	364

Source: Greater Sudbury Fire Services

Tornado

A tornado is defined as a rotating column of air ranging in width from a few yards to more than a mile and whirling at destructively high speeds, usually accompanied by a funnel-shaped downward extension of a cumulonimbus cloud.

On October 15, 2015, a tornado touched down in the Coniston area. Environment Canada later confirmed this tornado was rated F0 (no damage). Though it had been more than seven years since the last tornado in the Sudbury area, there remains a probability of its re-occurrence. A tornado has a number of consequences including fatalities, severe damage and the loss of essential services. The City's ability to respond to such an event is fair, having to rely mainly on external resources. A number of critical infrastructures are at risk during a tornado including buildings, roads, utilities and rail lines.

Windstorm

A windstorm is a storm that is characterized by high winds or violent gusts, with little to no rain. Over the years, multiple windstorms have occurred in the Sudbury area however, physical injuries were minimal and damage to the City was localized.

On July 9, 2018, the City of Greater Sudbury was hit by/experienced a severe weather event with high winds. A thunderstorm warning was issued by Environment Canada however the intensity of the storm was not anticipated. The storm brought high winds, hail, and heavy rain which caused the uprooting of large trees, snapped power lines, pole fires and damage to property in the Flour Mill, Minnow Lake and New Sudbury areas. These areas are highly populated with a mix of commercial and residential occupants. Some residents and businesses were without power for up to seven (7) days. There were no reported fatalities or significant injuries as a result of this event.

On June 20, 2016, severe weather and high winds caused power outages on Hydro One's distribution system. This event resulted in power outages to 1,907 Hydro One customers.

Windstorms are likely to occur again in the future and although the City has been fortunate in the past, these storms do have the potential for creating significant damage. The City's response capabilities for this type of emergency remain good, as we are able to respond using mainly internal resources, and a small number of external resources. Our main critical infrastructures at risk during such an event include utilities and roads and rail lines, which can easily become obstructed by fallen debris and substantial wind gusts.

Lightning and Thunderstorm

On July 17, 2006, a line of severe thunderstorms with very strong winds passed through the city. The weather event, called a derecho, produced wide spread damage to infrastructure and private property and resulted in power outages to hundreds of residents for up to six days. Prior to this date, the City had only experienced minor, localized damage due to thunderstorms. If a large-scale storm were to occur, the City's ability to respond with internal resources would be quite good, requiring limited external resources and support.

Extreme Heat

Extreme heat is defined as a maximum temperature reaching or exceeding 29°C and the Humidex reaching or exceeding 40°C. The City’s ability to respond to extreme heat conditions with internal resources is good.

Days with 29°C Temperature and 40°C Humidex Recorded by Environment Canada	
Year	Number of Days
2022	8
2021	8
2020	17
2019	4
2018	19
2017	2
2016	12
2015	5
2014	0
2013	5
2012	8
2011	6
2010	13

Source: [Environment Canada](#) Historic Data

Extreme Cold

Extreme cold is characterized by temperatures falling to -30°C or less. Extreme cold can have significant impact to human health, commercial/agricultural businesses as well as effects on infrastructure. Most water services in the City of Greater Sudbury are deeply buried for protection against frost. Some water service lines, however, are historically installed at a shallow depth by today’s standards. Extremely cold temperatures, or fluctuations between warm and cold temperatures, can sometimes push frost to a depth that will freeze water services. In February 2015 we saw conditions that cause water service lines to freeze. Extreme cold temperatures can also cause household pipes to freeze. Given our northern location, the City’s ability to respond to these events is high.

Days with -30°C Temperatures Recorded by Environment Canada	
Year	Number of Days (-30°C or less)
2022 (as of December 1)	6
2021 (as of Dec 13)	0
2020 (as of Dec 2)	1
2019 (as of Dec 20)	7
2018 (as of Dec 19)	0
2017	0

2016	3
2015	5
2014	0
2013	3
2012	0

Source: [Environment Canada Historic Data](#)

Blizzards

Violent snowstorms are typically called blizzards. Blizzards are generally defined by a period of six or more hours with winds above 40 km/h with visibility reduced to below one kilometre by blowing and drifting snow. Over a 49-year period (1954-2002) the Sudbury Airport has recorded an annual average of 1.9 days with daily snowfall exceeding 115cm. The consequences as a result of these types of storms are limited and the City’s ability to respond to such events is good.

Agriculture and Food Emergency

Farmers and residents within Greater Sudbury currently produce less than 10% of the amount of food that Greater Sudbury residents consume in a given year. The majority of the food that is currently produced is exported outside of the region for sale, notwithstanding home gardening activity. Greater Sudbury imports a vast majority of its food (mainly from distributors based in Southern Ontario) and is highly dependent on external resources to feed its residents. If food transportation was disrupted for an extended period (more than a week) via all major thoroughfares due to another type of emergency, there could be a significant food-related emergency impact on City residents. It could also have significant impact on local agricultural production and food processing. For example, road closures could delay the transportation of livestock already in transit and perishable goods like raw milk enroute to milk processors. During an emergency, livestock need to be cared for and fed, and may need to be relocated. The destruction of many or all farms within the City, if occurring in isolation, would not likely have a significant impact on city residents in the short term. However, loss of electricity for 2-4 days would limit the types of food available for consumption, as refrigerated storage would be lost.

Hailstorm

Hail is a precipitation consisting of ice pellets with a diameter of five millimetres or more. The probability of a hailstorm occurring in the Sudbury area is quite low, however if such an event should occur, the consequences could include injuries and minor or localized damage.

Hurricane

Greater Sudbury has never experienced a hurricane and the probability of one occurring is low. However, if a hurricane does occur, the consequences could include injuries and minor or localized damage and the City’s response capability would depend mainly on external resources.

Earthquake

In the past three years, there has been seven earthquakes recorded in Greater Sudbury by the Geological Survey Commission of Canada. Though there was no damage from this event, we must recognize the consequences involved, which could include injuries and minor or localized damage. The City’s ability to respond to such an event is fair, having to rely mainly on external resources and a small number of internal resources. Several critical infrastructures would be at risk during an earthquake including buildings, roads, utilities and rail lines.

Earthquakes in Greater Sudbury Recorded by Geological Survey Commission of Canada	
Year	Number of Events
2022	0
2021	0
2020 (*as of Nov 20)	3
2019	4
2018	0
2017	1
2016	3
2015	2
2014	0
2013	0
2012	0
2011	0
2010	0

Note: While there were no earthquakes recorded within the border of the municipality in 2022, there were three mining events, all of which were felt by residents.

On January 9, 2022, a 3.1 magnitude seismic event occurred at Creighton Mine at a depth of 2.4 kilometres. The strongest seismic event of the year occurred at Coleman/McCreedy East Mine on March 15 when a 3.5 magnitude event was recorded at a depth of 1.5 kilometres. The last seismic event occurred on June 2 at Garson Mine, registering 2.5 magnitude, at a depth of 1.4 kilometres.

While all the events in 2022 were felt by residents, no damage was reported.

Source: [Earthquakes Canada](#)

Drought

Drought can be defined as a prolonged period of abnormally dry weather producing a moisture shortage that affects crops and forests, and reduces water resources to a degree, that creates serious environmental, economic or social problems. It has been more than twenty years since the last severe drought in the Sudbury area and as such, the possibility of its occurrence is unlikely. The anticipated damage associated with a drought in Greater Sudbury would be small. However, if a large-scale drought were to occur, the City's ability to respond is rated as fair.

2. Technological Hazards

Technological hazards are emergencies that result from the manufacture, transportation, and use of technology or certain substances. The following technological hazards have been identified and assessed for the City of Greater Sudbury:

• hazardous materials: chemical release	• other mass casualty incidents
• hazardous materials: transport incident	• critical infrastructure failure: water
• air accident: passenger, offsite, rural	• critical infrastructure failure: bridge
• air accident: passenger, offsite, residential	• critical infrastructure failure: hospital
• air accident: passenger, onsite	• transportation accident: passenger (road and rail)
• energy emergency: hydro	• nuclear facility emergency
• explosion / fire	• dam failure
• mine emergency	• petroleum / gas pipeline

A **hazardous materials incident** is defined as the unintentional release of a material that is considered to be hazardous to humans, animals, plants or the environment due to its explosive, flammable, corrosive, oxidizing, toxic, infectious or radioactive properties (EMO, 2012).

Hazardous Materials: Chemical Release (breaches confines of facility)

Hazardous material from a fixed site is one which the release occurs at a location in which the hazardous material is stored, produced or utilized (EMO, 2012). Greater Sudbury has experienced hazardous material releases into the atmosphere on several occasions in the last decade (see below table). Though these were minor events, it is likely to re-occur due to the types of industries present in this community. These types of events are difficult to control and impossible to contain since the chemicals tend to follow the direction of the wind. The consequences from such an emergency could be substantial and may include widespread injuries/damage and the loss of essential services. There is also a great risk for negative environmental impact as well as damage to critical infrastructure. The City's

ability to respond to such an event remains at an awareness level and would require outside sources such as the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change or Chemical Transportation Emergency Centre (CHEMTREC) to respond.

In the early morning of November 18, 2021, an explosion was reported at the Coniston smelter complex (Lopes Mechanical). An approximately 15' by 15' outdoor storage container containing chlorine exploded causing a large amount of wet powdered chlorine to spill. Coniston residents reported a strong smell of chlorine in the area as the explosion created a significant amount of chlorine fumes. The Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal, Provincial Emergency Response Team, Emergency Spill Response Centre and the Ministry of the Environment were all contacted with all agencies agreeing that the area needed to be isolated and monitored for any hazards. Workers from the surrounding buildings within the complex were evacuated and Highway 17 was closed in both directions until it could be determined that there was no threat to public safety.

Greater Sudbury Fire Services is now Operational Level Hazmat Response. ESC reports has Hazmat updates

Hazardous Materials: Fixed Site	
2022 (as of November 1)	No incidents
2021	1 explosion of container containing powdered chlorine
2020 – (as of Oct 17)	1 Sulphuric acid leak from a transport truck
2019 – (as of Oct 17)	1 significant gas leak, 134 L of gasoline spilled due to improper fueling at a gasoline station.
2018	1 significant gas leak, 1 ethyl mercaptan incident
2017	9 significant gas leaks
2016	4 significant gas leaks
2015	nitrogen dioxide
2014	no incidents
2013	no incidents
2012	no incidents
2011	no incidents
2010 – (as of July 1)	sulphuric acid
2010 – (as of January 22)	Sulphur

Hazardous Materials: Transport Incident

A transportation incident is one in which the release occurs during the transport (by means of road, rail, air or marine) of a hazardous material.

On June 5, 2020, a sulphuric acid leak from a tanker truck resulted in the closure of several roadways along the route travelled by the vehicle, from Falconbridge to Lively. The commercial truck had entered an industrial facility and completed unloading however acid residue in the tanker, spilled on the roadway as the tanker left the facility. The acid leak from a tanker truck forced the closure of roads from Falconbridge to Lively. Highway 11 bypass was closed from Garson/Coniston Road to Falconbridge. There was no threat to public safety.

On August 29, 2018, a fuel truck caught fire at the corner of Highway 69 and Potvin Drive. The truck was carrying 20,000 litres of fuels. This resulted in the closure of the highway in both directions. Greater Sudbury Fire Services contained the fire and the incident did not result in a threat to public safety.

On July 7th, 2011, a truck carrying chlorine caught fire on the southwest bypass. Fortunately, Greater Sudbury Fire Services were able to contain the fire quickly and it did not result in a threat to public safety. In 2004, an accident involving a transport truck carry hazardous material caused minor injuries and localized damage. However, this type of event could happen again in the Sudbury area due to the number of major highways running through the city. Our ability to respond to such an event remains poor as we would need to call outside sources such as the Ministry of the Environment and Chemical Transportation Emergency Centre (CHEMTREC).

Air Accident: Passenger, Offsite, Rural

The City of Greater Sudbury has one airport that is serviced by Air Canada, Bearskin Airlines, Porter Airlines, Propair and Sunwing Airlines.

Though a commercial passenger aircraft has never crashed in a rural area of Sudbury, private aircrafts have. Given the large number of flights that pass through the area daily, there remains the possibility of this type of event occurring at both the commercial and private level. If this type of event did occur, the consequences would be limited to some injuries and localized damage and our ability to respond is fair. The major concern with a rural, offsite crash is the ability of the rescue team to locate and access the fallen aircraft.

Air Accident: Passenger, Offsite, Residential

Though there has never been a passenger aircraft that has crashed in a residential area of the City of Greater Sudbury, this type of event cannot be ignored due to its substantial consequences. These consequences could include widespread injuries and damage, as well as the loss of basic services. The City's ability to respond to such an incident is fair having to rely mainly on external resources.

Air Accident: Passenger, Onsite

Though a passenger aircraft has never crashed at the Sudbury airport, we cannot ignore the possibility. The consequences associated with such an event are limited to some injuries and localized damage. The City's ability to respond to such an event is good as we are able to respond with mainly internal resources and limited external support.

Energy Emergency

An energy supply emergency is defined as the "disruption of the supply, production and transportation of electricity, natural gas, and/or oil severe enough to threaten public safety, business and the economy. If energy supply emergency progresses to the point that there is a complete lack of electricity, natural gas, or oil then it may become a critical infrastructure failure emergency (EMO, 2012).

Energy Emergency: Natural Gas

In the City of Greater Sudbury natural gas is supplied via pipelines. There have been incidents in the past 15 years due to third party damages. The City's ability to respond to such incidents is good using mainly internal resources and a small number of external resources.

Energy Emergency: Hydro

Though there is no power generating station in Greater Sudbury, the possibility of a power related event occurring remains a concern. On July 17, 2006, hydro infrastructure was severely damaged due to a severe windstorm leaving hundreds of residents without power for up to six days. In August 2003, the Greater Sudbury was among those who experienced the province-wide substantial power failure, resulting in a 19-hour blackout.

On January 17, 2011, a power outage affected over 7,600 customers, which lasted over six hours. The temperature on that date was -12 degrees Celsius. An energy emergency occurring during the winter months is more severe and could result in a number of consequences including fatalities, severe damage and the loss of essential services.

On November 28, 2019, hydro infrastructure was severely impacted by a winter storm which left more than 5,000 hydro customers with power. Loss of power affected several critical infrastructures within the city including Health Sciences North and Greater Sudbury Airport.

Even though the City has experienced this type of emergency, the ability to generate power locally does not exist. Our ability to respond with internal resources to such an event remains good.

Explosion/Fire

Explosion: The sudden conversion of potential energy into kinetic energy resulting in a sudden, violent release of gas(es) under pressure.

Fire: Uncontrolled and/or potentially destructive burning caused by the ignition of a fuel or material, combined with oxygen, which gives off heat and light with or without an open flame.

An emergency involving an explosion or fire has not occurred in the Sudbury area in the past 5 to 15 years. On August 5, 1998, a transport truck crashed on Hwy 17 near Walden, Ontario making it Canada's last big transport explosion. The transport was carrying over 18,000 kilograms of ANFO (Ammonium Nitrate/Fuel Oil), a commonly used mining explosive. However, the consequences involved with this type of situation are high, resulting in the possibility of fatalities, severe damage and the loss of essential services.

The City's ability to respond to this situation is fair having to rely mainly on external resources. It is important to note that severe environmental impacts could occur as a result of an explosion, as well as damage to critical infrastructure within the City.

Mine Emergencies

A mine emergency is defined as "an unplanned event that jeopardizes the structural integrity and/or normal conditions of a mine site that presents a risk to the safety of mine workers, people near the mine, the property of the mine, the environment and/or the economy (EMO, 2012)."

As one of the world's leaders in mining, the consequences of a mining emergency are limited, resulting in the possibility of injuries and minor localized damage. However, this type of event is likely to happen in the City of Greater Sudbury as it has in the past. Our ability to respond to such an incident is fair having to rely mainly on external resources and a small number of internal resources.

On September 26, 2021 thirty-nine miners were trapped underground in Vale's Totten Mine when an equipment damaged an elevator shaft that serves as the primary exit. The rescue operation took 3 days, and all miners were brought to the surface after climbing about a kilometre using a ladder system.

Greater Sudbury Fire and Paramedic Services were on site for support while the operation was led by Ontario Mine Rescue. No injuries were reported.

Other Mass Casualty Incidents

A Mass Casualty Incident is defined as any single occurrence that overwhelms local resources. Mutual Aid agreements with surrounding authorities would ensure that first response agencies such as Police, Fire, and Paramedic Services receive adequate assistance within a reasonable time period. The local hospital would be overwhelmed with

the number of injured, particularly if the incident involved biological, chemical, or radiological agents. The City's ability to respond to this type of emergency would be fair, having to rely mainly on external resources.

Critical Infrastructure Failure

Critical Infrastructure failure is defined as the disruption of any of the interdependent, interactive, interconnected networks of institutions, services, systems and processes that meet vital human needs, sustain the economy, protect public safety and security and maintain continuity of and confidence in government (EMO, 2012). Critical infrastructure includes electricity, water treatment and distribution, sewage treatment and disposal, communication systems, food production and distribution, transportation services, emergency services and healthcare. Many essential goods and services are reliant on critical infrastructure and even a short down time can be disruptive.

Critical Infrastructure Failure: Water

A water emergency is any event that disrupts the normal supply of clean water to your home. In Ontario, the Safe Drinking Water Act and the Clean Water Act provide standards for water quality testing and the regulations for drinking water systems and source water protection. Compliance with these acts is mandatory. Drinking water is regularly tested to ensure water quality and the operators of drinking water systems are required to be certified and trained.

The consequences that would result from a water emergency are high and include fatalities, severe damage, and the loss of essential services. Furthermore, the City's ability to respond to such an event remains fair having to rely mainly on external resources to manage the situation. A large environmental impact to ground, air and water could be expected if the water emergency involved contamination.

Critical Infrastructure Failure: Bridge

On May 7, 2004, a bridge under construction collapsed, blocking a major arterial road in the city. The consequences that could result from a bridge collapse are limited to a localized area. The City's ability to respond with internal resources to such an event is good.

Critical Infrastructure Failure: Hospital

On June 6, 2007, Sudbury Regional Hospital, St Joseph's site, sustained minimal fire damage as a result of an electrical fire in the lower level of the building. The hospital was taken off the hydro grid and ran on auxiliary generator power for several hours. The Emergency Room was relocated to the Memorial site and a number of patients were transferred to other facilities. Eight hours later the generator failed and the full scale evacuation of patients began. When power was restored hours later, the evacuation of patients ceased. Though this incident resulted in minor damage to the building and only a partial evacuation of patients this type of event cannot be ignored. The consequences of a

loss of hospital beds to the community are significant. The City's ability to respond with internal resources to the fire is good; however, our ability to replace hospital beds in the community is poor and would require assistance from external resources.

Transportation Accident: Passenger (Road and Rail)

Transportation accidents may be defined as "a crash, collision or incident of large scale, involving land (road) or rail mode of transportation that excludes hazardous materials incidents (EMO, 2012)."

Though it has been more than fifteen years since the last transportation accident that involved passengers traveling by road or rail that has exceeded local Emergency Services response capabilities; we cannot deny the possibility that it could occur in the future. The consequences from this type of event are multiple casualties/injuries and property damage. Our ability to respond to such an event remains good having to rely mainly on internal resources and only a small number of external resources.

Many factors have contributed to the overall decrease in Canadian main track derailments including, improvements in technology and operating methods, and rigorous safety regulatory enforcement and inspection programs (EMO, 2005).

Nuclear Facility Emergency

A nuclear facility emergency is defined as an actual or potential hazard to public health and property or the environment from ionizing radiation whose source is a major nuclear installation within or immediately adjacent to Ontario (EMO, 2009). There is currently no nuclear facility found within the Greater Sudbury area, making the possibility of an emergency occurring very unlikely. However, we must note the consequences involved should a nuclear facility emergency occur. These consequences could include injuries and minor, localized damage. As well, the City's ability to respond to such an event would be low, and as such we would rely heavily on external support and resources.

Dam Failure

Dam failure is defined as "the uncontrolled release of stored water due to the breaching or destruction of a dam or barrier intended to hold back water (EMO, 2012)."

When a hydro/water/tailings dam fails or is subject to massive overtopping, huge quantities of water rushes downstream with great destructive force. A dam failure has never occurred in the Sudbury area, and as such it remains unlikely. Even so, we must acknowledge the substantial consequences that could result from a dam failure including widespread injuries and/or damage and the loss of basic services. The City's ability to respond to this type of event remains good, as we are able to rely mainly on internal resources with minimal external support.

In 2022, Glencore Sudbury INO and Vale added notification protocols to Sudbury Alerts, the City's mass notification service. Glencore added a tailings dam emergency notification that

would alert residents in Levack, Onaping, Falconbridge and Coniston, should a tailings dam emergency occur at their facilities. Vale added a power dam notification to the Sudbury Alerts system for residents on the western border of the municipality including Beaver Lake, Worthington and Fairbanks, should a water/power dam emergency occur at their generating stations.

Petroleum/Gas Pipeline Emergency

Currently, there are no petroleum /gas pipelines operating in the City of Greater Sudbury. However, should such activities become evident in the future, we must recognize the consequences. There is a possibility of injuries and minor or localized damage resulting from a petroleum or gas pipeline emergency; the City's ability to respond to such an event is good.

3. Human Hazards

Human hazards are emergencies that result directly from human actions. The following human hazards have been identified and assessed for the City of Greater Sudbury:

- sabotage
- terrorism
- civil disorder

Sabotage

Sabotage is defined as “the act of damaging, destroying, interfering, impairing or obstructive public or private property, machinery, business or the environment with the intention to cause harm (EMO, 2012)”.

In early 2022, in conjunction with the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, Greater Sudbury Police investigated suspicious fires at two separate business locations, both with the same owner. In both fires, adjoining residents and businesses were affected. The combined losses from the fire were approximately \$750,000. Police determined the arsons to be targeted and connected.

In 2008, there was a significant rise in the number of arsons in Greater Sudbury. There were no fatalities however, property damage was significant. Property damage/loss due to arson included a warehouse, an apartment building, a restaurant and a police storefront. The United Steelworkers Hall, a Sudbury landmark, was destroyed on September 19. The Steelworkers Hall fire posed a significant threat to the community as the building sits over a culvert that flows into the lake from which the City draws much of its drinking water. Runoff from the water used to put out the fire and the materials in the building could have contaminated the lake. Though the occurrence of sabotage events remains low, it is important to note that the consequences of such events are substantial and include widespread injuries/damage and the loss of basic services. The City's ability to respond to sabotage is fair, using mainly external resources and a small amount of internal support.

Terrorism

Terrorism is defined as “chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNE) materials that are intentionally released with the intent to harm humans, property, business or the environment. These materials can be weaponized or non- weaponized (EMO, 2012)”. The Canadian government emphasizes that terrorism is a leading threat to Canada’s national security (GOC, 2017). City of Greater Sudbury has not experienced a terrorist attack; however, given the events that are happening around the world we cannot ignore the possibility. The consequences that come as a result of a terrorist attack are high and can include fatalities, severe damage and the loss of essential services. The City of Greater Sudbury’s ability to respond to a terrorist attack including chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear agents is poor due to a lack of equipment and training as well as a lack of qualified CBRNE staff.

Civil Disorder

Civil disorder is defined as a group or groups of people intentionally not observing a law, regulation or rule in order to disrupt a business, organization or community to bring attention to their cause, concern or agenda (EMO, 2012). Though it has been over 15 years since the last occurrence of civil disorder within the Sudbury area, we cannot deny the possibility of such occurrences in the future. The consequences involved in a civil disorder could include injuries and minor and localized damage. The City’s ability to respond to such a situation is good using mainly internal resources and few external resources.

REPORT MAINTENANCE

This report is reviewed and updated annually by the staff of Emergency Management as required by the Province of Ontario, *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

Appendix 1

RANKED LISTING

Hazard	Ranking	Likelihood	Consequences	Response Capabilities	Incident Specific Plan
<u>Natural</u>					
Human Health Emergencies	132	6	22	2	Y
Lightning and Thunderstorms	40	5	8	2	
Tornadoes	44	4	11	3	
Floods	35	5	7		Y
Windstorms	35	5	7	3	
Extreme Cold	30	6	5	2	
Fires (Forest and Wildland)	30	6	5	3	
Earthquakes	30	6	5	3	
Extreme Heat	18	6	3	2	Y
Blizzard	16	4	4	2	
Hurricane	13	1	13	3	
Drought	6	1	6	2	
Agriculture and Food Emergencies	4	1	4	2	
Hailstorms	3	1	3	2	
<u>Technological</u>					
Hazardous Materials – Fixed Site	60	6	10	4	Y
Hazardous Materials – Transportation	60	6	10	4	Y
Explosions or Fire	42	6	7	2	

CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY
HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Hazard	Ranking	Likelihood	Consequences	Response Capabilities	Incident Specific Plan
Air Crash Offsite– Rural	36	4	9	2	
Energy Emergency - Hydro	30	6	5	2	
Critical Infrastructure – Sewer	30	5	6	2	
Mine Emergencies	30	5	6	2	
Transport Accident – Passenger	28	4	7	2	
Critical Infrastructure – Hospital Fire	24	4	6	3	
Critical Infrastructure – Bridge Collapse	20	4	5	2	
Critical Infrastructure - Telecomms	20	4	5	3	
Dam Failure	17	1	17	3	Y
Critical Infrastructure – Computers (Internet)	16	4	4	2	
Energy Emergency – Natural Gas	10	5	4	2	
Air Crash Onsite – Airport	9	1	9	2	
Air Crash Onsite – Residential	9	1	9	2	

Hazard	Ranking	Likelihood	Consequences	Response Capabilities	Incident Specific Plan
Building Structural Collapse	9	1	9	2	
<u>Technological</u>					
Building Structural Collapse	7	1	7	3	
Critical Infrastructure – Water	10	1	5	3	
Other Mass Casualty Incidents	6	1	6	3	
<u>Man-made</u>					
Civil Disorder	28	4	7	2	
Sabotage	24	4	6	2	
Terrorism	9	1	9	2	

HIRA SHEET

SCORE

Event:

Type:

Frequency	4	High	Event(s) in the last 5 years.
	3	Medium	It has been 5-15 years since the last event.
	2	Low	It has been more than 15 years since the last event.
	1	Nil	It has never occurred in the Sudbury area.

Probability	3	Likely	Has occurred in the past and will occur again in the future.
	2	Possible	Could occur in the future.
	1	Unlikely	Has not occurred and will not in the future.

Consequence	4	High	Fatalities, severe damage, essential services out.
	3	Substantial	Widespread injuries/damage, basic services out.
	2	Limited	Some injuries, minor/localized damage.
	1	Negligible	Too small or unimportant to be worth considering.

Response Capabilities	4	Poor	Ability to respond using only external resources.
	3	Fair	Ability to respond using mainly external resources and a small number of internal resources.
	2	Good	Ability to respond using mainly internal resources and a small number of external resources.
	1	Excellent	Ability to respond using only internal resources.

Environmental Impact:

Environment	Concerns	Controlling these Concerns
<i>Ground</i>		
<i>Air</i>		
<i>Water</i>		

Other Concerns:

Critical Infrastructure at Risk:

Organizations That Can Offer Assistance:

Population Affected:

Existing Plans:

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