

Staff Report to Council - for Information

Title: Emergency Management Program update

From: Steve Schaus, Director/Chief, Paramedic Services

Date: March 20, 2025

Report Number: PAR-2025-002

Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

Report Summary:

This report provides a summary of the Bruce County Emergency Management Program activities that occurred in 2024 and outlines the workplan for 2025.

Background/Analysis:

The Bruce County Emergency Management Program has completed all requirements to meet the annual compliance for 2024 as prescribed by Emergency Management Ontario under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. In 2024, the Emergency Management Program completed the following items:

Plans

1. Emergency Response Plans for Bruce County and Brockton were presented and adopted by their respective Councils.

Exercises and Training

- 1. Exercise Derecho with the County and the municipalities of Brockton, South Bruce, Huron Kinloss, and Kincardine
- 2. Scribe training for County and Municipal Staff
- 3. Crisis communications training for County and Municipal Staff
- 4. IMS 100 and IMS 200 training courses
- 5. Familiarization with Canadian Armed Forces role and processes in emergency management
- 6. Bruce Power EOC and their role in emergency management with the Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC).

Public Education

- 1. Monthly themed Emergency Preparedness messaging in partnership with corporate communications
- 2. Partnered with Red Cross, Libraries, and lower tier CEMCs to present Be Ready workshops during Emergency Preparedness week

Relationships

- Quarterly Emergency Management meetings with First Nations and Lower Tier Municipal CEMCs
- 2. CEMC electronic site developed with EM, IT, and Office of the CAO staff for all County CEMCs to access and share information.
- 3. 211, P.L.A.N. (Post-crisis Long-term Assistance Network), and Victim Services presentations to all CEMCs
- 4. Increased involvement with the Provincial EMO Field Officers in meetings and trainings

In 2025 the Emergency Management Program staff has brought forward goals to the EMPC with the follow overarching initiatives to be completed:

Plans

- 1. Building on the Emergency Response plans for Bruce County and Brockton to complete standard operating procedures and annexes to enhance readiness for an emergency.
- 2. Updating the County's and Brockton's Hazard and Risk Analysis Identification (HIRA) based on an anticipated release of a new Provincial template.
- 3. Crisis communication plan in conjunction with the Corporate Communications division.

Exercises and Training

- 1. County and Lower tier joint exercise in the fall
- 2. Bruce Power Huron Unity training late fall
- 3. Evacuation and Reception Center training for County and Municipal staff

Public Education

- 1. Continuance of monthly themed messaging
- 2. Targeted Emergency Preparedness week messaging aligning with the Provincial theme still to be released.

Partnerships

- 1. IPM planning with Brockton and IPM staff
- 2. Continuance of quarterly CEMC meetings

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

All departments are engaged in the development of the Emergency Management Program work planning, through the Emergency Management Program Committee, which includes Senior Management membership from each department.

Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:

Community and Partnerships - Enhance and grow partnerships

Environment and Climate Change - Build capacity to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change

Link to Departmental Plan Goals and Objectives, if any:

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