

Clause 18 in Report No. 1 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on January 25, 2018.

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Emergency Management Program Annual Compliance Review
and Bylaw Revision – 2017

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated January 18, 2018 from the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. Council receive this report as confirmation York Region has completed all necessary program elements to achieve compliance with the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act and Ontario Regulation 380/04.
2. The Regional Solicitor update the current Emergency Management program bylaw to adopt changes to the Emergency Plan and Annexes.
3. The Regional Clerk forward the program bylaw and Emergency Plan to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM).

Report dated January 18, 2018 from the Chief Administrative Officer now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council receive this report as confirmation York Region has completed all necessary program elements to achieve compliance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04.
2. The Regional Solicitor update the current Emergency Management program bylaw to adopt changes to the Emergency Plan and Annexes.
3. The Regional Clerk forward the program bylaw and *Emergency Plan* to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management (OFMEM).

2. Purpose

This report provides an update to Council on the actions undertaken by York Region to comply with the annual requirements of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04 in 2017, and recommends that the Regional Solicitor update the program bylaw to reflect changes to the York Region Emergency Plan and Annexes as required under legislation.

3. Background

Legislation requires all municipalities and provincial ministries to develop and maintain an Emergency Management program

The *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* and Ontario Regulation 380/04 requires all Ontario municipalities and provincial ministries to maintain an Emergency Management program. Emergency Management programs require several key elements including:

- Hazard identification and risk assessment
- Identification of critical infrastructure
- An emergency plan
- Training and exercises
- Public education

Emergency management program elements must be reviewed, tested and updated annually in accordance with the Emergency Management & Civil Protection Act

The Province provides oversight to ensure municipalities fulfil their emergency management obligations and can respond to and recover from a major incident in the community. For 2017, OFMEM developed a new online tool that allows municipalities to submit their compliance reports electronically. This is a change from previous years.

The new process for compliance includes:

1. The completed OFMEM Compliance Report 2017 is reviewed and signed by the Regional Chairman and the Community Emergency Management Coordinator
2. The online compliance report with supporting documentation must be submitted electronically to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management for review by January 31, 2018

York Region has consistently met the annual regulatory compliance for its Emergency Management Program since the legislation came into effect on December 31, 2004.

4. Analysis and Implications

York Region has completed all of the mandatory emergency management program elements for 2017

York Region has completed all of the Emergency Management Program elements as highlighted in this report. The online Statement of Completion and Compliance Checklist will be submitted to the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management for review.

The updated Emergency Plan and bylaw will be sent to OFMEM as required under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

York Region partnered with the nine local municipalities to assess and rank hazards and threats

The foundation of an Emergency Management Program is the evaluation of hazards and risks existing within a municipality's jurisdiction. The Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment is a document that identifies and ranks the hazards and risks within York Region and must be reviewed annually. York Region conducted a workshop to review and update its hazard assessment and Critical Infrastructure on June 20, 2017 in partnership with local municipalities and York Regional Police. The top hazards and risks faced by York Region are:

- Energy emergency (supply) impacting critical infrastructure
- A human health emergency
- Cyber attacks
- Severe summer storms causing flooding, impacting critical infrastructure
Ice storms impacting critical infrastructure
- Tornado/Windstorms causing property damage, impacting critical infrastructure,
- Hazardous materials incidents (rail or road) requiring evacuations

York Region Critical Infrastructure has been reviewed and updated

Each municipality must review its Critical Infrastructure within its jurisdiction as required by the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04. Critical Infrastructure is defined as those Regional assets such as water, waste water facilities and Paramedic stations, which are essential to meet vital human needs, sustain the economy, protect public health, ensure safety and security, and maintain continuity and confidence in government.

On June 20, 2017, York Region partnered with all nine local municipalities to review and update the Critical Infrastructure database. York Region Data, Analytics and Visualization Services consolidated the updated database and provided maps identifying critical infrastructure to our municipal partners and contributing stakeholders.

The Emergency Plan and Annexes has been reviewed, tested and updated

Each municipality in Ontario must evaluate and update its emergency response plan annually. The Regional Municipality of York Emergency Plan (the Plan) outlines how the Region will respond to emergencies. The Plan identifies the members of the Regional Emergency Control Group and summarizes their roles and responsibilities. The Regional Emergency Control Group is comprised of senior management and selected regional staff. The legislation requires that the Plan be enacted through bylaw.

York Region consulted with its departments, York Regional Police and the Regional Fire Coordinator and incorporated changes to the Emergency Plan. One significant change to the York Region Emergency Plan is Emergency Social Services. The Community and Health Services Department continued its redevelopment of the Emergency Social Services program in 2017. In July, the Region entered into a formal agreement with the Canadian Red Cross, identifying them as a major partner in the provision of services during an incident.

The agreement is for a three-year term, during which the Red Cross will build its response capacity within the Region. The Department is also engaging in implementing a Memorandum of Understanding with all nine local municipalities that establishes the shared roles and responsibilities of both the Region and the local municipality during an incident requiring Emergency Social Services.

Emergency Management

The Region partnered with four municipalities during the emergency exercise 'Storm Support'

Each municipality must conduct an annual emergency exercise. This year's exercise, "Storm Support" simulated a severe spring weather event. The June 9, 2017 exercise involved the Regional Emergency Control Group and the Municipal Emergency Control Groups from the Township of King, the Towns of East Gwillimbury and Georgina, and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

All emergency response plans of participating municipalities were tested and evaluated. The exercise fulfilled the legislated requirements for York Region and each of the participating municipalities for annual testing and evaluation of emergency plans.

Emergency Management partnered with all nine local municipalities, York Regional Police and other community stakeholders to provide training

Each municipality in Ontario must provide a minimum of four hours of training to their municipal emergency control groups. On October 20, 2017, York Region partnered with all nine local municipalities, York Region Public Health, Public Health Ontario and local non-governmental organizations to conduct an all-day inter-municipal emergency training and education conference. The title of the conference was "Emerging Trends in Emergency Management – Forces Shaping the Present and Future". Approximately 200 participants learned about emerging issues in emergency management including the opioid crisis, climate change, and cyber security.

The York Region Emergency Management Program also provided training to staff and community stakeholders in partnership with the Ontario Fire Marshal and Emergency Management. In 2017, Emergency Management provided training to over 300 staff and community partners.

In addition, York Region collaborates with the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management to support the development of provincial training and education, policy and practice.

Emergency Management

Public education on emergency preparedness was provided to residents in 2017

The Public Education and Awareness Program includes public education on risks to public safety and personal preparedness for emergencies. Elements of the program include:

- Community Safety Village
- Emergency Preparedness Week
- Emergency Management workshops
- The [Emergency Preparedness Guide](#)

The Community Safety Village (a partnership between the Emergency Management Program, YRP, Paramedic Services and the Regional Fire Coordinator) continues to teach thousands of students about personal safety and emergency preparedness. In 2017, 2900 students completed the Emergency Preparedness Program.

York Region hosted its sixth annual Emergency Preparedness Fair at the Regional Administrative Centre during Emergency Preparedness Week (May 7-13, 2017). Over 300 Regional employees and local residents attended the event which included participation from local municipalities, York Regional Police, Paramedic Services, Public Health, Central York Fire Service, conservation authorities and other non-governmental organizations.

York Region Emergency Management hosted two workshops on emergency management. The workshops were attended by approximately 100 staff, local municipalities and first responders. Workshop topics included:

1. **Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance Program** - March 16, 2017
2. **Active Attacker** - December 8, 2017

In 2017, over 5000 copies of the Emergency Preparedness Guide were distributed throughout the Region by local municipal partners. The digitally available guide is available on the regional website.

5. Financial Considerations

Costs associated with implementing the York Region Emergency Management Program initiatives and meeting legislated compliance were included in the 2017 operating budget.

6. Local Municipal Impact

The key to success in emergency management is our partnership with local municipalities and key stakeholders. In 2017, York Region partnered with municipalities in updating the Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment, the Critical Infrastructure database, in emergency exercises and training, and offering the Emergency Preparedness Guidebook to residents.

7. Conclusion

The *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04 requires municipalities to develop and implement an Emergency Management Program including the Emergency Plan by Council bylaw. The Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management has received documentation confirming York Region has completed all the necessary elements to achieve compliance in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and Ontario Regulation 380/04. York Region's Emergency Management Program has received compliance since the *Act* and Regulations came into effect on December 31, 2004.

The Region will continue to play a key role and partner with stakeholders and local municipalities to help ensure emergency management capacity through a collaborative emergency management program.

For more information on this report, please contact Morris Faccin, Manager, Emergency Management at ext.71212.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

January 18, 2018

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request