



EVACUATION PLAN

Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

SCHEDULE B TO BY-LAW 2025-87

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Introduction and Types of Evacuations

An evacuation is defined as the process of removing people from an area where a present or imminent situation has or may result in a loss of life and/or a risk to the safety, health, and welfare of people. Damage to property or the environment may also trigger an evacuation if it poses a risk to the safety, health, and welfare of people.

A municipal evacuation plan will help streamline the evacuation process by providing an organized framework for the activities involved in coordinating and conducting an evacuation.

The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, RSO 1990, c. E.9, provides as follows:

3. Municipal Emergency Plan (1): every municipality shall formulate an emergency plan governing the provision of necessary services during an emergency and the procedures under the manner in which employees of the municipality and other persons will respond to the emergency and the council of the municipality shall by by-law adopt the emergency plan.

9. What Plan May Provide: An emergency plan formulated under Section 3, 6, or 8 shall, (b) specify procedures to be taken for the safety or evacuation of persons in an emergency area.

A municipal evacuation plan may be a stand-alone plan or part of a larger, main municipal emergency plan. The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula's Evacuation Plan has been designed in combination with the Emergency Plan.

Types of Evacuations

Evacuations may take place prior (pre-emptive), during (no notice) or after (post-incident) an incident has occurred. An evacuation may encompass the majority of the population (widespread) or part. A partial evacuation is most often internal – that is, the evacuees are hosted elsewhere within the municipality, rather than being hosted in a separate municipality. It is advisable to conduct evacuations (and returns) in phases to minimize congestion.

Pre-emptive Evacuation

Given adequate warning about a hazard, sufficient resources, and a likely threat, it is advisable to conduct pre-emptive evacuations. A pre-emptive evacuation may be undertaken when it is clear that, if delayed, conditions (weather or other hazard) would delay evacuation.

No-notice Evacuation

If it is not possible to conduct pre-emptive evacuation, it may still be advisable to carry out an evacuation even while a threat is already affecting a community. With an evacuation of this type, decisions may need to be made with limited information. Decision makers must be willing to make decisions with whatever information is

available. They may have little or no time to wait for additional information because any delay may have a significant impact on public safety. Pre-planning will be instrumental in supporting decision-making in no-notice situations.

Evacuations of this nature are done when life safety is at extreme risk. Such an evacuation poses increased risks to all involved. To acquire resources and expedite the evacuation normally requires extraordinary measures. Emergency responders may require personal protective equipment, as responder safety will be critical. Provincial and/or Federal assets may be required to facilitate an evacuation of this type.

Post-incident Evacuation

After a threat has already impacted a community, it might be necessary to:

1. Remove residents from an environment that is no longer able to sustain them.
2. Prevent or mitigate the onset of further consequences leading to a prolonged or new emergency.

Partial Evacuation

Partial evacuations typically are localized to a specific area of a municipality and may be caused by fires, hazardous materials incidents, etc. There is often on-scene activity by emergency response personnel who may direct the evacuation.

Widespread Evacuation

Larger incidents may affect an entire municipality or region. Evacuations of this type often involve a large number of evacuees, possibly from more than one municipality. This will require intensive effort by emergency management personnel to coordinate, transport, and shelter the affected populations and will place greater demands on staff and resources.

Incidents that precipitate a widespread evacuation typically cause far-reaching damage and are therefore more likely to compromise critical infrastructure in a manner that hinders evacuee movement. Structural damage to the transportation system, such as bridges and highway systems, may render them unsafe for use. If these sites are located on evacuation routes, those routes may be unavailable, and alternatives will need to be identified. In cases where the transportation network is severely restricted by such damage, sheltering in place may be a safer short-term alternative.

Internal Evacuation

An internal evacuation is where evacuees are hosted at another location within the same municipality, as opposed to being hosted by another municipality.

Self-evacuation

Self-evacuation is when people choose to evacuate without explicit direction to do so. If people self-evacuate, they may still request shelter or other services.

Evacuation may result in a tremendous psychological effect on those persons directly affected. Adequate communication with the people involved is essential and shall include explaining that an evacuation is pending, what they shall be required to do and when they shall be required to react if an evacuation is issued. A decision to evacuate should only be made when absolutely necessary.

First response services alone cannot be expected to deal with a large-scale evacuation and relocation of residents. An effective response will require participation and cooperation between municipal services, industry, and volunteer services as outlined in this Plan and the Emergency Plan.

Potential Community Hazards Which May Require Evacuation

The following events – which list is not exhaustive and which events are not listed in any particular order of risk – are considered potential community hazards within the Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula and surrounding areas, which may require evacuation:

1. Severe windstorm, tornado
2. Road, highway or marine incident involving a dangerous goods spill, fire and/or explosion
3. Snow/ice storm and/or blizzard with power outage
4. Heavy rain, flooding
5. Rupture of a vessel or piping containing propane, natural gas, or other volatile materials under pressure
6. Forest fire
7. Pandemic influenza

Evacuation should be considered when other response measures are insufficient to ensure public safety. Factors influencing the decision to evacuate include:

1. The level of threat to the lives and well-being of the population
2. The urgency of the evacuation
3. Environmental safety (i.e., whether the environment poses a threat to the safety, health, and welfare of the population (e.g., smoke conditions))
4. Meteorological conditions (e.g., precipitation and wind speed and direction)
5. The scale of the incident (i.e., the number of people and/or communities to be evacuated)
6. The time frame required to move the population
7. The capacity of the community to address the threat or its impact
8. Damage to community infrastructure such that:
 - a. Food, water, and shelter are not immediately available
 - b. Debris restricts movement
 - c. Electrical power is or will be unavailable for an extended period of time
 - d. Local emergency or public communications is or will be unavailable

- e. Health services, medical facilities, and medical transport are or will be unavailable.

The urgency of an evacuation is determined based on the immediacy of the threat to the community (life, safety, health, and welfare), the resilience of the community, and, depending on the nature of the threat, the availability of resources for evacuation or shelter-in-place.

Objective

The objective of this Evacuation Plan is to provide a vehicle through which a timely and effective evacuation and reception of people can be achieved. This Plan has been developed in order that all residents can be moved to safety with a minimum of delay and confusion. The purpose of the Plan is to ensure the following:

1. Everyone in the affected area is notified,
2. Assistance and transportation are provided for those in need of these services, and
3. Food and shelter are provided for the residents.

Steps for Activation of the Evacuation Plan

This Plan will be activated as soon as it becomes apparent that, due to an emergency of such magnitude as to warrant its implementation, evacuation and relocation of people is necessary.

Should a major incident occur in the Municipality, the Mayor, Fire Chief or the Community Emergency Management Coordinator, on the advice of the first response agency, will activate the Emergency Plan. The Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) will activate the notification procedure set out in the Emergency Plan so members of the MECG are alerted and instructed to report to the Emergency Operations Centre.

If the need to evacuate and relocate residents of the affected area(s) is apparent, the provisions of this Evacuation Plan shall be implemented. In such events, the Mayor or alternate shall declare a state of emergency before a mandatory evacuation is carried out.

Residents will be alerted of an evacuation by the Alert Ready system and/or continuous sounding of fire sirens within more populated areas. On hearing the alert, residents are asked to tune their radios to one of the following radio stations:

- AM 560 CFOS
- FM 93.7 Country
- FM 106.5 Mix 106
- FM 90.7 Bruce Peninsula National Parks
- FM 92.3 The Dock

- FM 91.9 in the north or 97.9 The Bruce
- FM 104.3 Municipal Information and Emergency Radio in Tobermory

Emergency information will be posted online on the municipal website, Social Media, and Facebook pages, and a notification will be sent to registered users in the Burn Permit System database, if possible.

The Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Fire and Emergency Services will have the primary responsibility for the implementation of an evacuation consistent with their operating procedures. All other services and agencies will be prepared to support evacuation activities.

The exception to the above is where an evacuation site is under the management of a department other than fire services, (i.e., ruptured gas line or toxic spill due to marine accident). In this instance, the Emergency Site Manager has the responsibility for the evacuation of people within the danger area.

Steps for Activation of Evacuation Plan

- Step 1: Incident occurs
- Step 2: Emergency Services responds
- Step 3: Situation assessed
- Step 4: Precautionary evacuation order by Emergency Services
- Step 5: Emergency Plan activation required
- Step 6: Emergency Operations Control Group convened
- Step 7: Request aid from support groups
- Step 8: Assess need for mandatory evacuation if the situation escalates
- Step 9: If evacuation is necessary – follow the Evacuation Plan in conjunction with the Emergency Plan

Evacuation Operations – Municipal Emergency Control Group Responsibilities

Once the decision has been made to evacuate an area of the Municipality, the Municipal Emergency Control Group shall determine the following:

1. Boundaries of the area to be evacuated
2. Main evacuation route(s) to be used, and identify necessary traffic control points
3. Assemble areas to be used
4. Location of facilities within the evacuation area to be notified, and how notification will be carried out

5. Time of the evacuation start, and if necessary, who will be evacuated first (stages of evacuation)
6. Proceed to alert of the evacuation order to all concerned, including the Province of Ontario, through Emergency Management Ontario
7. Preparation of media release for immediate broadcast to the public
8. Activate the fan-out notification system for affected residents
9. If necessary, have the Emergency Site Manager direct the evacuation and relocation

Evacuee Registration and Temporary Shelters

If the evacuation of any residents of the Municipality is necessary, the following locations will be used as registration areas and temporary shelters:

1. St. Edmunds Community Centre, 7430 Highway 6, Tobermory
2. Fire Station # 10, 7 Nicholas Street, Tobermory
3. Lion's Head and District Community Centre, 4 Tackabury Street, Lion's Head
4. Fire Station # 20, 90 Main Street, Lion's Head

From the registration areas, residents will be directed to appropriate municipal facilities.

The residents of the Municipality who have been relocated to temporary shelters will require a wide range of support services. The Bruce County Human Services Administration has the primary responsibility for the provision of all such services, with the assistance of volunteer agencies such as the Canadian Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, and the Salvation Army.

A reciprocal agreement with the Town of South Bruce Peninsula is in place in the event that further evacuation centres are required. The following facilities in the Town of South Bruce Peninsula can be utilized:

1. Wiarton District Community Centre and Arena, 526 Taylor Street, Wiarton
2. Sauble Beach Community Centre, 30 Community Centre Drive, Sauble Beach

School Board Responsibilities During Evacuation

Bruce Peninsula District School in Lion's Head and St. Edmunds Public School in Tobermory are governed by the emergency plans and policies that are applicable to the Bluewater District School Board.

Essential Services

Designated essential municipal and, in some cases, industrial facilities cannot be fully evacuated, and minimal staff must remain on the job. If there are other essential services within the Municipality that cannot be left unattended, these positions will be rotated as often as feasible and will be abandoned only under immediate life-threatening circumstances. Essential positions would be those associated with traffic, hydro, telephone, and emergency services.

Request for Assistance from the Province, Recovery and Return

When an emergency evacuation order is in effect, the Mayor, with the advice of the Emergency Operations Control Group, may request assistance from the Provincial Government through Emergency Management Ontario by calling its 24/7 line at 1-866-314-0472.

Recovery

The goal is for the Municipality, citizens, and businesses to recover from the event. This includes restoring the physical infrastructure where possible or desirable, as well as addressing the emotional, social, economic, and physical well-being of those involved. If damages have been incurred, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing should be engaged in terms of the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians and/or the Municipal Disaster Recovery Assistance programs.

Return

When the emergency that prompted the evacuation has been resolved, it will be necessary to plan for the return of evacuees. The impacted area must be safe for residents and business owners to return. The decision to re-enter an area that has been evacuated is based on numerous public safety factors, including:

1. The threat that prompted the evacuation has been resolved or has subsided
2. Access to the community is assured
3. The infrastructure is safe to use (e.g., Tobermory Airport and roads between the airport and the community)
4. Safety hazards connected to the emergency have been eliminated
5. Weather conditions allow for a safe return
6. Services have resumed and are sufficient to support returning evacuees, for example, power, water, sanitation, security, food and essential supplies, and medical services.

Below is a list of some of the activities which may be needed:

- An initial assessment of damage to homes and businesses
- Assisting any victims who did not evacuate
- Determine if any work must be done before residents can return home (i.e., switch utilities back on, test drinking water, check for extent of damage, and waste and debris management, etc.)
- Ensure evacuees are notified that the emergency is terminated and that they can return home
- Make transportation arrangements for those requiring assistance to return home
- Where required, provide access to counselling services
- Ensure registration and inquiry services are available for a period of time after the emergency is over to provide people with post-emergency information

Since the degree of damage will likely vary within the affected area, it might be beneficial to initiate a phased re-entry process. As geographic areas are declared safe for re-entry, evacuees will be able to return.

Evacuees who self-evacuated using their own means of transportation should be able to return on their own. If the Municipality provided transportation to shelters, it may have to organize return transportation for those evacuees. As with the initial evacuation, numerous resources, especially personnel and transportation-related resources, will be required to successfully return evacuees to the affected area.

Testing of the Evacuation Plan

This Plan shall be the object of occasional testing in order to verify its overall effectiveness and provide training to the Emergency Operations Control Group, Fire and Emergency Services and associated agencies. The test can take the form of a simple paper exercise or a more elaborate functional exercise. Revisions to this Plan should incorporate recommendations stemming from all such exercises.

Public Education and Awareness of Evacuation Procedures

Since public awareness of evacuation procedures will contribute to an effective evacuation process, ongoing public awareness and education shall be an integral component of this Plan. The Evacuation Plan shall be posted on the Municipal website in order that the public may have unconstrained access to it, and printed information shall be provided to residents when requested.

Alert Ready messages may be broadcast to cellular devices, television stations, and radio stations as part of the evacuation process. Alert Ready is Canada's emergency alerting system. Alert Ready delivers critical and potentially life-saving alerts to Canadians through television, radio and LTE-connected and compatible wireless devices.

During an emergency evacuation, residents are to be advised to listen to the local radio stations (AM 560 CFOS, FM 93.7 Country, FM 106.5 Mix, FM 90.7 Parks, FM 92.3 The Dock, 97.7 The Bruce or 91.9 in the North, and 104.3 MNBP Information Station) for information and instructions. Residents are to be requested to refrain from nonessential telephone use during an emergency evacuation in order to keep telephone communication services available and open for emergency purposes.

Evacuation preparedness initiatives with regard to training, public education, and communications will continue to be ongoing. The public education material may include the following:

- Personal preparedness message, including contents of an emergency kit for short-notice evacuations
- Preparedness for pets
- How an evacuation will be declared

- What transportation options may be available
- What support services are likely to be offered to evacuees
- What residents should take with them during an evacuation
- Recommendations for families with small children
- Where to access information during an evacuation
- To follow the advice of emergency response personnel when directed to evacuate

Tobermory Primary Evacuation Centre

In the event of a declared or non-declared evacuation, the St. Edmunds Community Centre has been identified in the Municipality's Emergency Plan as the primary evacuation centre for those citizens in the Tobermory area who need to be evacuated from their homes.

The St. Edmunds Community Centre has been equipped with the essentials required in order to sustain a substantial number of evacuees for an extended period of time.

In the fall of 2018, a 60-kilowatt stationary generator with an automatic transfer switch was installed to provide alternate power during power outages. The generator will provide the minimal amount of power to ensure that heat, washroom facilities, cooking, sleeping accommodations and water are supplied.

In the event the St. Edmunds Community Centre is at capacity for the required number of evacuee beds it can handle, Fire Station # 10 may be used. The station is located adjacent to the St. Edmunds Community Centre and can be operated as a secondary evacuation centre for an additional 40 beds, or could be used first as a primary evacuation centre if the number of evacuees is less than 40 and for a short-term stay of less than 20 hours.

Lion's Head Primary Evacuation Centre

In the event of a declared or non-declared evacuation, the Lion's Head and District Community Centre has been identified in the Municipality's Emergency Plan as the primary evacuation centre for those citizens in the Lion's Head area who need to be evacuated from their homes.

The Lion's Head and District Community Centre has been equipped with the essentials required in order to sustain a substantial number of evacuees for an extended period of time.

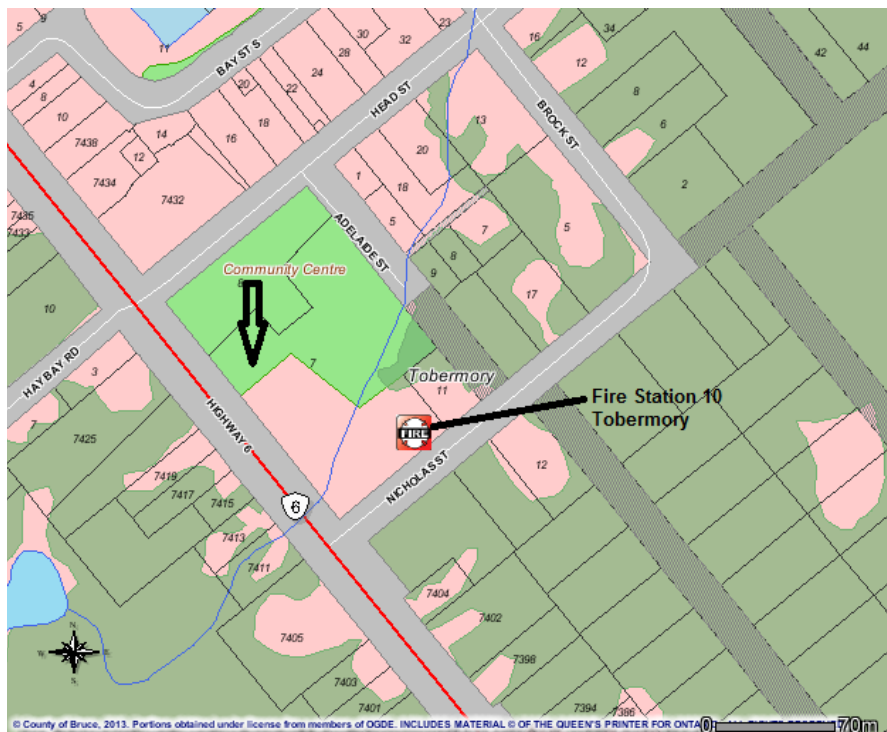
A 15,000-watt stationary propane generator with a manually operated transfer switch will provide alternate power during power outages. The generator will provide the minimal amount of power to ensure that heat, washroom facilities, cooking, sleeping accommodations and water are provided.

In the event the Lion's Head and District Community Centre is at capacity for the required number of evacuee beds it can handle, Fire Station # 20 may be used. The station is located at 90 Main Street, Lion's Head and can be operated as a secondary evacuation centre for an additional 40 beds or could be used first as a primary evacuation centre if the number of evacuees is less than 40 and for a short-term stay of less than 20 hours.

Evacuation Centre Locations

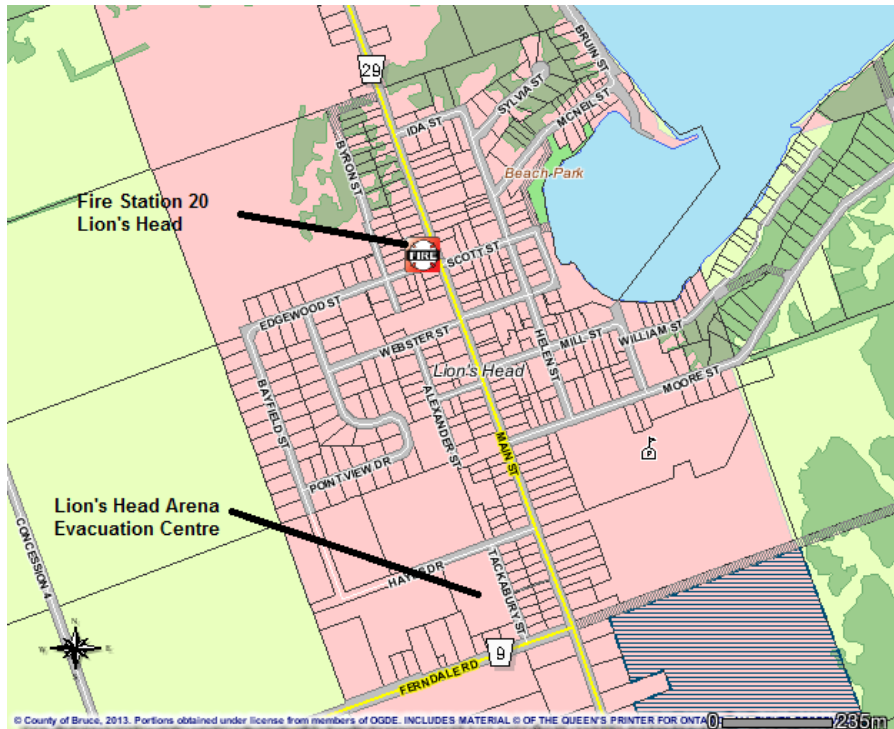
St. Edmunds Community Centre
7420 Highway 6
Tobermory, Ontario N0H 2R0
(519) 596-2161

Fire Station # 10
7 Nicholas Street
Tobermory, Ontario N0H 2R0
(519) 596-2799



Lion's Head and District Community Centre
4 Tackabury Street
Lion's Head, Ontario N0H 1W0
(519) 793-3318

Fire Station # 20
90 Main Street
Lion's Head, Ontario N0H 1W0
(519) 793-3713



Registration

Once the St. Edmunds Community Centre has been identified as the location for evacuees, the registration area will be set up in the front lobby area.

For short-term evacuees at Station # 10, registration will occur at the west door of the fire station.

Evacuation registration at the Lion's Head and District Community Centre will occur in the front lobby area, before evacuees are assigned a spot.

Short-term evacuees at Fire Station # 20 will register in the lobby of the fire station off of Main Street.

Registration will be organized by Bruce County Human Services, Red Cross staff and/or assigned local municipal emergency management staff.

Evacuees will receive the following at the time of registration

- An 8.5" x 11" card with name, address, phone number, family doctor's name
- A personal care package
- A cot with cot number assigned to a location within the facility

Evacuation Procedures

Parking and Security

The St. Edmunds Community Centre parking lot will accommodate 100 vehicles. This parking lot will be used exclusively for vehicles belonging to people who have been evacuated and support volunteers, and/or staff. If additional parking is required, the MTO Yard at 22 Hay Bay Road, and the Municipal parking lot across from the Tobermory Legion on Legion Street can be utilized.

Winter snow removal will be completed if necessary and security will be carried out by the local Ontario Provincial Police staff.

Fire Station # 10 will utilize the St. Edmunds Community Centre parking lot adjacent to the station. All designated fire station parking must be left reserved for firefighters responding to emergencies.

The Lion's Head and District Community Centre has 100 parking spaces, which will sufficiently ensure that all evacuees have a spot to temporarily park their vehicles. Ontario Provincial Police staff will deal with the security of these vehicles. If additional parking is necessary, the recreation centre field to the west will be made available, depending on weather conditions.

Fire Station # 20 has virtually no parking for evacuees' vehicles, as all identified spaces must be left available for firefighters to park when responding to an emergency.

Generator Services

Superior Propane (Owen Sound), Service and Fuel

www.superiorpropane.com

1-877-873-7467

Avenir Propane

(519) 924-3331

Sommers (repair)

101 Woodstock Street South

Tavistock, Ontario N0B 2R0

1-800-690-2396

(519) 275-7984

Amendments

Amendments to the Plan require formal Council approval. Formal Council approval is not required for the following:

1. Changes or revisions to the appendices,

Or for minor editorial changes such as editorial changes to the text, including page numbering, section numbering, reference changes or changes to the reference of Provincial statutes.

Amendment	Review Date	Change Date	Changed By
Added in Municipal Emergency Radio station 104.3FM	December 6, 2022.	December 6, 2022.	J. Burt
Added in 91.9FM in the North and 97.9FM The Bruce	December 6, 2022.	December 6, 2022.	J. Burt
Annual review and revisions	December 6, 2022.	December 6, 2022.	MECG
Added in Alert Ready to Evacuation Messaging	November 21, 2023.	November 21, 2023.	J. Burt
Updated ODRAP information to new programs	November 21, 2023.	November 21, 2023.	J. Burt
Annual Review and Revisions	November 21, 2023	November 21, 2023.	J. Burt
Annual Review and Revisions	November 19, 2024	November 19, 2024.	J. Burt
Annual Review and Revisions	December 2, 2025.	December 2, 2025.	J. Burt

This Evacuation Plan will be made available, upon request, in an accessible manner.