



**The Corporation of the
City of Sault Ste. Marie**

C O U N C I L R E P O R T

May 12, 2025

TO: Mayor Matthew Shoemaker and Members of City Council
AUTHOR: Peter Johnson, Fire Chief
DEPARTMENT: Fire Services
RE: Community Risk Assessment Update 2025

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the Community Risk Assessment (CRA) as per Ontario Regulation 378/18 to the Mayor and Council.

Background

Through Council approval, Tayport Limited, in association with Dillion Consulting, engaged in the completion of the update to the 2018 Community Risk Assessment. The new legislation requires all municipalities to be compliant with the regulation.

Ontario Regulation 378/18 states that:

Every municipality and every fire department in a territory without municipal organization must,

- a) Complete and review a community risk assessment as provided by this Regulation and
- b) Use its community risk assessment to inform decisions about the provisions of fire protection services.

The Office of the Fire Marshal monitors and reviews all municipal Community Risk Assessments to ensure compliance.

This CRA update will directly connect to the Fire Master Plan (FMP) update, which is currently underway. Once completed, the FMP update will provide the Mayor and Council with a strategic planning framework to inform the delivery of fire protection services over the next ten years.

The FMP update will be presented to Council in the coming months.

Analysis

A CRA is a process of identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and prioritizing risks to public safety to allow a municipality to make informed decisions regarding the provision of fire protection services.

In addition to a CRA, the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act* (FPPA) requires municipalities to provide fire protection programs that “must include public education with respect to fire safety and certain components of fire prevention and provide such other fire protection services as it determines may be necessary in accordance with its needs and circumstances.” The Regulation is a core component of developing an in-depth analysis of a community’s fire-related risks through an analysis of nine mandatory profiles.

The nine profiles are:

- 1) Geographic Profile
- 2) Building Stock Profile
- 3) Critical Infrastructure Profile
- 4) Demographic Profile
- 5) Hazard Profile
- 6) Public Safety Response Profile
- 7) Community Services Profile
- 8) Economic Profile
- 9) Past Loss and Event Profile

The mandatory profile analyses result in a series of risk-related conclusions that will inform service levels or other strategies in alignment with the three lines of defence (1. Public Education and Prevention, 2. Fire Safety Standards and Enforcement, and 3. Emergency Response).

These risk-related conclusions will be referred to as key findings or identified risks throughout the CRA. Once identified, they will be taken through a risk treatment process and aligned with the “Five E’s” of Community Risk Reduction – Education, Engineering, Enforcement, Economic Incentives, and Emergency Response.

Specifically, how the Five Es align:

1. Increase awareness (Education)
2. Changes to the physical environment (Engineering)
3. Influencing change through economic incentives (Economic Incentives)
4. Enforcing legislation through inspection programs (Enforcement)
5. Mitigating injury, illness, and saving lives (Emergency Response)

The CRA update will identify ways to address the risks through planning. Ultimately, the completion of the FMP will be the guiding document that captures the identified risks and key findings into the strategic framework.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications in the CRA.

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Strategic Plan / Policy Impact / Climate Impact

This matter is associated with the strategic plan for the service delivery and infrastructure components.

Recommendation

It is therefore recommended that Council take the following action:

Resolved that the report of the Fire Chief dated May 12, 2025, concerning update to the Community Risk Assessment be received as information;

Further that Council directs the Fire Chief (with the consultant) to return in the coming months to present the update to the Fire Master Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Johnson

Fire Chief

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