

The Corporation of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex

By-law 2025/057

Being a by-law requiring an emergency management program, emergency coordinator, program committee and plan for the protection of public safety, health, the environment, the critical infrastructure and property, and to promote economic stability and a disaster-resilient community.

May 7, 2025

Whereas the *Emergency Management Act & Civil Protection Act, 2001*, requires each municipality to develop and implement an emergency management program and plan;

And whereas the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (the Act) requires the emergency management program and plan to conform to standards promulgated by Ontario Fire Marshal/Emergency Management (OFMEM) in accordance with international best practices, including core components of emergency management, namely: mitigation, prevention, preparedness, response and recovery; and also makes provisions for the municipality and Council to develop and implement an emergency management program and plan to protect public safety, public health, the environment, the critical infrastructure and property, and to promote economic stability and a disaster-resilient community;

And whereas, the Act requires that each emergency management program shall consist of:

- a) An emergency plan;
- b) Training programs and exercises for employees of the municipality and other persons with respect to the provision of necessary services and the procedures to be followed in emergency response and recovery activities;
- c) Public education on risks to public safety and on public preparedness for emergencies; and
- d) Any other element required by the standards for emergency management programs set under section 14.2002, c. 14, s. 4 of that Act.

And whereas, subsection 10(1) Ontario Regulation 380/04 under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act requires that every municipality shall designate an employee of the municipality, or a member of Council, as its emergency management program co-ordinator;

And whereas, the Act makes provisions for the Head of Council to declare that an emergency exists in the community or in any part thereof, and also provides the Head of Council with authority to take such action or make such orders as he/she considers necessary and not contrary to law, to implement the Emergency Management Plan and respond to an emergency;

And whereas, the Act provides for the designation of one or more members of Council who may exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Head of Council during his/her absence or his/her inability to act;

And whereas, the Act authorizes employees of a municipality to respond to an emergency in accordance with the Emergency Management Plan where an emergency exists but has not

yet been declared to exist;

Now therefore be it enacted as follows:

1. That, an emergency management program and plan be implemented in accordance with the standards published by the Ontario Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Ontario;

That, for the purposes of compliance to provincial legislation, Bettina Weber is hereby designated Community Emergency Management Coordinator for the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex and the Southwest Middlesex Fire Chief is designated as an alternate;

2. That, the County provides emergency management services to member municipalities;
3. That the Head of Council or designated alternate, as provided in the plan, be empowered to declare an emergency and implement the Emergency Management Plan;
4. That certain appointed officials or their designated alternates, as provided in the approved Emergency Management Plan are empowered to cause an emergency notification to be issued to members of the Emergency Control Group, and to respond to an emergency in accordance with the Emergency Management Plan where an emergency exists but has not yet been declared to exist;
5. That the Emergency Management Program Committee (EMPC) will review annually the Emergency Management Program and the Emergency Management Plan and to recommend changes as considered appropriate and refer recommendations to Council for further review and approval. The EMPC membership consists of:
 - a) Mayor or alternate (Chair)
 - b) Fire Chief
 - c) Chief Administrative Officer (Emergency Information Officer)
 - d) Treasurer
 - e) Clerk (Scribe)
 - f) Manager of Public Work (alternate EIO)
 - g) Manager of Community Services and Facilities (Reception Centre Supervisor)
 - h) Admin/Public Works/Drainage/Fire Co-Ordinator (Social Services Representative)
6. That any Annex, Appendix or Schedule made to the Emergency Management Plan may be added, amended or removed with the approval of the Emergency Management Program Committee, without amendment to this By-law;
7. That the Municipal Emergency Control Group defined under Section 12 of the regulations will be made up of the members of the Municipal Emergency Program Committee;
8. The County of Middlesex can provide resources and other assistance to one of more municipalities who are experiencing an incident or emergency. The municipality at all times retains control and responsibility for the management of their community's response.

9. That the Emergency Management Plan attached hereto as Schedule 'A' of the By-law is hereby adopted and enacted;
10. That By-laws 2020/086 and 2022/033 are hereby repealed;
11. That this by-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of passing.

Read a first, second, third and final time this 7th day of May, 2025.



Allan Mayhew, Mayor

Kendra Kettler, Clerk



EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF
SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX

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May 7, 2025



AMENDMENTS
TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX
EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

| AMENDMENT NUMBER | AMENDED BY | DATE IMPLIMENTED | REMARKS / INITIALS |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| 1 | Emergency Management Program Committee | Nov 28, 2005 | All revisions sent to Bettina Weber, CEMC for approval |
| 2 | Bettina Weber, CEMC | July 31, 2006 | Corrections, etc. |
| 3 | Bettina Weber, CEMC | March 4, 2008 | Municipal Emergency Information Guide – 2008 |
| 4 | Bettina Weber, CEMC | September 15, 2008 | Review of ERP |
| 5 | Bettina Weber, CEMC | December 15, 2008 | Review of ERP |
| 6 | Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) | November 25, 2020 | Review and updated ERP |
| 7 | Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) | May 7, 2025 | Review and updated ERP |



MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

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MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

FOREWORD

This plan has been prepared to assign responsibilities and to guide the immediate actions of key officials in the first critical hours after the onset of an emergency in the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex.

This plan has been adopted through By-Law No. 2025/057 passed on May 7, 2025 under the legal authority of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER E.9*

It is essential that all staff concerned are aware of the plan's provisions and that every official and service is prepared to carry out their assigned functions and responsibilities in an emergency. Municipal services are to review this plan on a regular basis and keep up to date their own procedures for handling emergencies.

Dated at Glencoe, Ontario, this 8th day of May, 2025.

Allan Mayhew, Mayor

Kendra Kettler, Clerk



MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTHWEST MIDDLESEX

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

INTRODUCTION

1. Emergency is defined as a situation or an impending situation that constitutes a danger of major proportions that could result in serious harm to persons or substantial damage to property and that is caused by the forces of nature, a disease or other health risk, an accident or an act whether intentional or otherwise.

The population of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex is 5,893 residents as of the 2021 Census.

2. In order to protect residents, businesses and visitors, the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex requires a coordinated emergency response by a number of agencies under the direction of the Emergency Control Group. These are distinct arrangements and procedures from the normal day-to-day operations carried out by emergency services. When an emergency situation can be handled successfully by the emergency services responding; that is Fire Departments, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), the Ontario Provincial Police and the Public Works Department, they will and are authorized to carry out their respective responsibilities in so doing without delay. When, in the judgment of Members of Council or of Fire, Police, or Public Works authorities on the spot, an emergency situation requires additional resources beyond those available to the emergency services, or calls for resources or services that will commit the Municipality to major expense, they will recommend the immediate activation of this Emergency Response Plan.

3. The Municipality of Southwest Middlesex Emergency Management Program Committee developed this Emergency Response Plan. Every official, municipal department and agency must be prepared to carry out assigned responsibilities in an emergency. The Emergency Response Plan has been prepared to provide key officials, agencies and departments of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex important information related to:

- Arrangements, services and equipment; and
- Roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

In addition, it is important that residents, businesses and interested visitors be aware of its provision. Copies of the Emergency Response Plan may be viewed at the Municipal Office and on the municipal website at www.southwestmiddlesex.ca.

Some information in the document may not be available to the public due to security and/or confidentiality reasons, and is protected under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

AUTHORITY

4. As enabled by the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* this Emergency Response Plan and its elements have been:
 - Issued under the authority of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex By-law # 087/2007; and
 - Filed with Emergency Management Ontario, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.
5. The *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) R.S.O. 1990 Chapter E.9* is the legal authority for this Emergency Response Plan in Ontario and is the primary authority enabling passage of the by-law formulating this Emergency Response Plan, which will govern the provision of necessary services during an emergency. This plan also prescribes procedures under and the manner in which municipal employees and other persons will respond to an emergency. Important measures enabled under the legislation, and which form part of this plan, are:
 - a. Authorization for municipal employees to take appropriate action before formal declaration of an emergency;
 - b. Specifying procedures to be taken for the safety and/or evacuation of persons in an emergency area;
 - c. Designating other Members of Council who may exercise powers and perform the duties of the Head of Council under the Emergency Response Plan during the absence of the Mayor;
 - d. Obtaining materials, equipment and supplies for use in managing the emergency;
 - e. Establishing committees and designating employees to be responsible for reviewing the Emergency Response Plan, for training employees in their functions and for implementing the Emergency Response Plan during an actual emergency;
 - f. The expenditure of monies associated with the upkeep and implementation of the plan; and
 - g. Such other measures as are considered necessary in implementing the Emergency Response Plan.
6. The Municipality has access to maps, which may show points of significance in an emergency.

AIM

7. The aim of the plan is to make provision for the extraordinary arrangements and measures that may have to be taken to safeguard property and the health, safety, welfare, environment and economic health of the residents, businesses and visitors of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex when faced with an emergency.

It enables a centralized controlled and coordinated response to emergencies in the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex and meets the legislated requirements of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)*.

Emergencies can occur within the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex and the most likely are:

Windstorms and Tornadoes, Water Quality Emergencies, Hazardous Materials Transportation Incidents, Severe Winter Storms, Fires / Explosions, Critical Infrastructure Failure, Transportation Accidents (involving multiple casualties), Human Health Emergencies and Epidemics, Forest and Wild Fires, Petroleum/Gas Pipeline Emergencies, Hazardous Material Fixed Site Incidents and Animal Disease Outbreaks.

(Community Risk Profile for Southwest Middlesex, reviewed annually)

MUNICIPAL TASKS

8. Municipal Tasks are:
 - a. Response - the earliest possible recognition of and response to the emergency by all services that may be required;
 - b. Control - the earliest possible establishment of overall control of emergency operations by local government authority;
 - c. Crowd Convergence - the earliest possible establishment of controls to minimize crowd convergence and to maintain order at the site so that emergency operations are not impeded and additional casualties are prevented;
 - d. Evacuation - assessment of potential danger to the residents and the evacuation of personnel if necessary. Such evacuation will likely require the establishment of a reception centre and the provision of Registration and Inquiry Services;

- f. Rescue - the rescue of trapped or incapacitated persons and the provision of first aid at the site;
- g. Casualties - the provision of controlled evacuation and appropriate distribution of casualties to hospitals;
- g. Emergency Social Services - the provision where necessary of such essential social services (food, clothing, lodging, Registration and Inquiry Service and other personal services) as may be required for persons affected by the incident as well as the emergency services personnel involved;
- h. Public Information - to make available as early as possible accurate official information to:
 - (i) EMO Provincial Operations Centre upon the declaration and termination of an emergency by phone at 1-866-314-0472 and by fax to 1-416-314-6220;
 - (ii) The County Warden and adjacent Municipalities;
 - (iii) Other officials involved in emergency operations including appropriate senior government agencies;
 - (iv) The news media to allay public anxiety and to reduce the number of curious bystanders at the scene; and
 - (v) Concerned individuals seeking personal information;
- i. Recording of Emergency/Disaster Costs - to ensure that a cost record of emergency/disaster consequences is compiled to:
 - (i) Aid in the preparation of municipal claims which might arise from Provincially directed assistance to another municipality pursuant to the provisions of Section 7(4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) R.S.O. 1990 Chapter E.9*, and
 - (ii) Aid in the preparation of requests for compensation from Provincial or Federal Governments in the event of a major local disaster which might be eligible for such assistance. (Reference should be made to the Disaster Recovery Assistance for Ontarians Program [DRAO] where required).

EMERGENCY SITE MANAGEMENT

Relationship between Emergency Control Group (ECG) and the Emergency Site Manager (ESM)

9. Depending on the nature of the emergency and once the ESM has been assigned, the ECG relationship with the ESM is to offer support with equipment, staff and other resources, as required. The ECG will also ensure that the rest of the community maintains municipal services.

Relationship between the Emergency Site Manager (ESM) and Command and Control Structures of Emergency Responders

10. The senior representative for each emergency responder (Police, Fire, EMS, and Public Works) at the site will consult with the ESM, so as to offer a coordinated and effective response. Regular briefings will be held at the site and chaired by the ESM, so as to establish the manner and process in which the emergency will be managed.
11. In any emergency, the emergency services will be at the scene from the outset responding to the situation as it exists. The senior member of the emergency service responsible for operations at the emergency site will act as ESM until such time as the ECG decides that the nature of the emergency dictates a change in this appointment. There may be a need for an on-site "command post" at the scene; if so this will be established as soon as practicable by the ESM to bring together all emergency service elements operating at the scene for coordinated action. The situation may require more than one ESM and command post where more than one emergency site or major function exists during an emergency.
12. If the situation warrants, the ESM will establish an inner and outer perimeter to define the area around the site and to control access. The inner perimeter will define the area within which only emergency response personnel are permitted for reasons of safety, preservation of evidence and security of the scene. The outer perimeter will define the limit within which spectators are not permitted. The area between the inner and outer perimeter will likely contain some or all of the following sites:
 - a. a site command post;
 - b. a triage area;
 - c. a staging area; and
 - d. traffic control posts.
13. Depending on the type of emergency, a variety of outside agencies will respond to the emergency. They should all report to the on-site command post on arrival.

COMMUNITY CONTROL GROUP (CCG)

14. When it has been decided to activate this Emergency Response Plan, the emergency operations will be controlled by the officials listed below who will form the CCG for the Municipality. The CCG should not be located with the on-site command post at the scene of the emergency. The CCG will report to the primary EOC located at the Municipal office. In the event this operations centre cannot be used, then the alternate location will be used. The emergency response will be directed and controlled by the CCG – a group of officials who are responsible for coordinating the provision of the essential services necessary to minimize the effects of an emergency on the community. The CCG consists of the following officials:

- a. Mayor (Chair) or alternate;
- b. Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) & Emergency Information Officer or alternate;
- c. Treasurer or alternate;
- d. Fire Chief(s) or Representative;
- e. Manager of Public Works (alternate EIO);
- f. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or alternate;
- g. Middlesex OPP;
- h. Community Emergency Management Coordinator (CEMC) or alternate;
- i. Social Services Representative or alternate; and
- j. Reception Centre Supervisor or alternate;
- k. Clerk (Scribe) or alternate;
- j. Middlesex-London Health Unit Representative.

Additional personnel called or added to the ECG may include:

- k. Telecommunications Coordinator;
- l. Utility representative (gas, water, electricity);
- m. Emergency Management Ontario Community Officer;
- n. St. Clair Region Conservation Authority and Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority;
- o. Liaison staff from provincial ministries;

The Community Control Group may function with only a limited number of persons, depending on the emergency. While the CCG may not require the presence of all the people listed as members of the control group, all members of the CCG must be notified.

SUPPORT AND ADVISORY STAFF

The following staff may be required to provide support, logistics and advice to the ECG:

- a. Deputy Clerk;
- b. Designated Solicitor;
- c. Treasurer;
- d. Telecommunication – Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Coordinator;
- e. Other Agencies;
- f. County Committees;
- g. School Boards (public and separate);
- h. Citizen Inquiry Supervisor (Middlesex County Library staff);
- i. Reception Centre Supervisor;
- j. Deputy Treasurer;
- k. Other Staff.

OPERATING CYCLE

15. Members of the ECG will gather at regular intervals to inform each other of actions taken and problems encountered. The CAO or designate will establish the frequency of meetings and agenda items. Meetings will be kept as brief as possible thus allowing members to carry out their individual responsibilities. The Scribe will maintain the status board and maps, which will be displayed and kept up-to-date.

PRIMARY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (EOC) AND ALTERNATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE

16. The ECG when alerted will assemble at the Municipal Office which will be known as the primary Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) during the emergency. The Municipal CAO or designate is responsible for the readiness of the EOC or alternate site. In the event the Municipal Office is untenable, the Glencoe Fire Hall, 71 Main Street, Glencoe Ontario will be the alternate location for the EOC.

ALTERNATES

17. Alternates are designated appointments having specific responsibility under this plan. The alternate will act for the member in his/her absence during an emergency or during a prolonged emergency to provide relief for the incumbent. The Deputy Mayor will act for the Mayor when the Mayor is not available. When neither the Mayor nor the Deputy Mayor is available, the Member of Council so designated by the ECG will assume the responsibility of Head of Council for purposes of this plan.

TELECOMMUNICATION

18. Adequate communications between the emergency site and the EOC will be essential. Some or all of the following communications means may be used:
 - a. OPP, Fire, EMS and Public Works Departments radio links from their on-site representative to their ECG member;
 - b. The closest operating telephone to the emergency location may be utilized if practicable;
 - c. Cellular phones; and
 - d. The Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) is prepared to help with mobile radio equipment and volunteer operators and can be contacted through the ACS coordinator.
19. The fire representative, who will join the ECG in the emergency, will be arranged for by the Fire Chief responsible for firefighting operations at the emergency site. The Fire Chief will decide, based on the situation existing, either to join the ECG in person, to send a senior member of the department, or to request one of the other Fire Chiefs serving the Municipality to attend.
20. The ECG will need the advice and support of the Medical Officer of Health in any emergency situation. The Mayor, at the outset, will contact the Medical Officer of Health and if the situation warrants it, the Medical Officer of Health will provide a health representative to join the ECG as soon as possible.
21. A designated staff member will act as Social Services Member of the ECG to provide coordination in social services matters in the emergency and will coordinate prior planning for emergency social services arrangements. The County Director of Social Services may be requested to provide a Social Services representative to assist with this responsibility.
22. The CAO or designate will act as the Emergency Information Officer (EIO) to the ECG. The Mayor must approve the release of any announcements or news releases.
23. Additional ECG members may need to be drawn from various sources to provide specialized knowledge, advice and support; these might include representatives from the County Administration, or from Provincial Ministries, or from the private sector.
24. When the emergency situation calls for close coordination with a neighbouring municipality, the Mayor may request the Head of Council of the neighbouring municipality to appoint a representative to join the ECG to assist in mutual support matters.

ECG ALERTING SYSTEM/FANOUT SYSTEM

25. A serious emergency situation will usually be first identified by the emergency services that will be among the first on the scene. If the senior on-site Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) or Public Works Representative is satisfied that a serious potential emergency situation exists, he/she will so advise the respective Fire Chief or OPP Supervisor (or designate) who will then consider the advisability of assembling the ECG designated in Section 14 above. A decision to assemble the ECG may also be taken by any two of the designated members of the ECG, or in the absence of a designated member, by any of the alternates identified in this plan. When a designated member decides that the ECG should be called together he/she will contact the Municipal Office which will initiate the telephone alerting procedure.

EMERGENCY CONTROL GROUP OPERATIONS

26. When a working majority of members of the ECG are present at the municipal EOC, the Mayor will convene an "initial briefing" of the ECG at which each member will report on information learned about the emergency situation and will make recommendations on action that should be considered by the ECG. The Mayor, with the advice of the members, may then make a decision to implement this plan and to take action to support the emergency services working at the emergency site and/or action to provide for the safety and welfare of residents and the protection of property in the municipality. If it is decided that the ECG should remain in place to control/monitor the emergency situation, the Mayor will call the ECG into conference session approximately every hour for brief reports by each member and for discussion of action required, followed by a break to permit members to direct steps to be taken by municipal services, to contact outside agencies and to develop plans. The responsibilities of the ECG will, in most situations, be carried out by group assessment of events as they occur, leading to agreement on the action to be taken by municipal authorities and services.

DECLARATION OF AN EMERGENCY

Definition of an Emergency

27. In Ontario, the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* defines an emergency as: "a situation or an impending situation that constitutes a danger of major proportions that could result in serious harm to persons or substantial damage to property and that is caused by the forces of nature, a disease or other health risk, an accident or an act whether intentional or otherwise."

Emergency Notification Procedure

28. Where a threat of an impending emergency exists, all ECG members will be notified and placed on standby.
29. Upon receipt of a warning of a real or potential emergency, the responding department will immediately contact the Municipal Office to request that the notification system be activated. Upon receipt of the warning, the municipal staff will notify the members of the ECG. Upon being notified, it is the responsibility of all ECG officials to notify their own alternate, staff and volunteer organizations.

Activating the Emergency Operations Centre

30. The EOC can be activated for any emergency for the purpose of managing an emergency, maintaining services to the community and supporting the emergency site. The EOC may also be opened when the threat of an impending emergency exists, where a neighbouring municipality, the county or the province has declared an emergency, and also for exercise and training purposes.

A Declared Community Emergency

31. Where serious and extensive steps to protect the property and the health and safety of residents are deemed necessary to cope with emergency conditions, the Mayor may, on the advice of the other members of the ECG, call for a formal declaration that an emergency exists under the provisions of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* R.S.O. 1990, c E.9, s.4 (1) states that "the head of council of a municipality may declare that an emergency exists in the municipality or in any part thereof and may take such action and make such orders as he or she considers necessary and are not contrary to law to implement the Emergency Response Plan of the municipality and to protect property and the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the emergency area". The Mayor will notify Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) by telephone at 1-866-314-0472 and by fax at 1-416-314-0474 when a declaration of an emergency is made. The Mayor should also notify the Warden of the County, adjacent municipalities and the public.
32. The Mayor of the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex should carefully assess the situation prior to making a decision to declare an emergency. The Mayor should ensure that:
 - a. the information received as to the seriousness of the situation has been confirmed;
 - b. the situation involves an extended evacuation, or a significant degree of

- damage, loss of life or threat to the environment; or interruption to critical infrastructure; and
- c. additional resources of personnel or equipment are required to support the emergency services.

A formal declaration of an emergency will,

- a. invoke the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA)* and provide for protection from personal liability;
- b. provide authority to expend municipal funds without reference to council; and
- c. provide coverage under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) for registered volunteers.

A Declared Community Emergency

33. The Mayor or Acting Mayor, as the Head of Council, is responsible for declaring an emergency. This decision is made in consultation with other members of the ECG.

Upon declaring an emergency, the Mayor will notify:

- a. Emergency Management Ontario;
- b. Municipal Council;
- c. County Warden;
- d. Public;
- e. Neighbouring community officials, as required;
- f. Local Member of the Provincial Parliament (MPP);
- g. Local Member of the Federal Parliament (MP).

A community emergency may be terminated at any time by:

- a. Mayor or Acting Mayor; or
- b. Council; or
- c. Premier of Ontario.

When terminating an emergency, the Mayor will notify:

- a. Emergency Management Ontario;
- b. Council;
- c. County Warden;
- d. Public;
- e. Neighbouring community officials, as required;

- f. Local Member of the Provincial Parliament (MPP);
- g. Local Member of Federal Parliament (MP).

Request for assistance

34. Assistance may be requested from the County at any time by contacting the County Warden. The request shall not be deemed to be a request that the County assumes authority and control of the emergency.

Community Control Group (ECG) Responsibility

35. The members of the ECG are responsible for the following actions or decisions:
- a. Calling out and mobilizing their emergency services, agencies and equipment;
 - b. Coordinating and directing their service and ensuring that any action necessary for the mitigation of the effects of the emergency is taken, provided they are not contrary to law;
 - c. Determining if the location of the EOC and composition of the ECG are appropriate;
 - d. Advising the Mayor as to whether the declaration of an emergency is recommended;
 - e. Advising the Mayor on the need to designate all or part of the municipality as an emergency area, and then notifying the services, agencies or groups under direction, of the declaration of the emergency;
 - f. Ensuring that an Emergency Site Manager (ESM) is appointed;
 - g. Ensuring support to the ESM by offering equipment, staff and resources, as required;
 - h. Ordering, coordinating and/or overseeing the evacuation of inhabitants considered being in danger;
 - i. Discontinuing utilities or services provided by public or private concerns, i.e. hydro, water and gas, closing down a public or private facility;

- j. Arranging for services and equipment from local agencies not under community control i.e. private contractors, industry, volunteer agencies, service clubs;
- k. Notifying, requesting assistance from and/or liaison with various levels of government and any public or private agencies not under community control, as considered necessary;
- l. Determining if additional volunteers are required and if appeals for volunteers are warranted;
- m. Determining if additional transport is required for evacuation and/or transport of persons and/or supplies;
- n. Ensuring that pertinent information regarding the emergency is promptly forwarded to the Emergency Information Officer (EIO) and Citizen Inquiry Supervisor, for dissemination to the media and public;
- o. Determining the need to establish advisory groups and/or sub-committees/ working groups for any aspect of the emergency, including recovery;
- p. Authorizing expenditure of monies required in dealing with the emergency;
- q. Notifying the services, agencies or groups under direction, of the termination of the emergency;
- r. Maintaining a log outlining decisions made and actions taken and submitting a summary of the log to the CAO/Clerk within one week of the termination of the emergency, as required;
- s. Participating in the debriefing following the emergency; and
- t. Addressing the emotional needs of the affected public and staff through Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) assistance.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM

Individual responsibilities of the Community Control Group (ECG) Members

36. MAYOR

The Mayor, with the advice of the ECG, will be responsible in the emergency for:

- a. Chairing meetings of the ECG, making decisions, determining priorities and giving direction to the heads of municipal services;
- b. Requesting assistance from neighbouring municipalities, from the County and from senior levels of government when required;
- c. Advising the Medical Officer of Health of the emergency situation and obtaining health advice and assistance in dealing with the emergency;
- d. Requesting assistance from volunteer and other outside agencies not under municipal control as required;
- e. Declaring an emergency within the designated area;
- f. Declaring that the emergency has terminated (Note: Council or the Premier of Ontario may also terminate the emergency);
- g. Notifying Emergency Management Ontario by telephone and by fax of the declaration of an emergency and termination of the emergency;
- h. Ensuring that members of council are advised of the declaration and termination of an emergency and kept informed of the emergency situation;
- i. Approving news releases and public announcements prepared by the EIO; and
- j. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

37. DEPUTY MAYOR

The Deputy Mayor will be responsible in an emergency for:

- a. Acting as Head of Council in the absence of the Mayor;
- b. Relieving the Mayor as Chairman ECG during a protracted emergency;
- c. Acting as the Emergency Information Officer (EIO);
- d. Other responsibilities as assigned by the Mayor; and
- e. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

38. CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (CAO)

The Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or designate, upon learning of a potential emergency, will in consultation with the OPP, Fire services, EMS or Public Works, consider the possible need to assemble the ECG and, if warranted, will initiate the fan-out procedure for assembling the ECG as outlined in section 25 of this plan. The CAO will decide if the alternate location for the ECG should be used and will so advise when initiating the assembly procedure when this is necessary. The CAO will proceed to the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to assume the following responsibilities in the emergency:

- a. Activating the emergency notification system through the municipal office in consultation with the OPP, Fire Services, EMS or Public Works;
- b. Ensuring security arrangements for the EOC;
- c. Coordinating all operations within the EOC, including the scheduling of regular meetings;
- d. Advising the Mayor on policies and procedures, as appropriate;
- e. Approving, in conjunction with the Mayor, major announcements and media releases prepared by the EIO, in consultation with the ECG;

- f. Organizing the EOC and arranging for the provision of equipment and data;
- g. Ensuring the communication link is established between the ECG and the ESM;
- h. Calling out additional municipal staff to provide assistance, as required;
- i. Maintaining a record of actions taken by the Mayor and the ECG in dealing with the emergency;
- j. Compiling records of costs incurred as a result of emergency action;
- p. Arranging for periodic relief of ECG members and support staff in a protracted emergency; and
- l. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

39. **FIRE CHIEF(S)**

The nature of the emergency may require that the fire chief(s) be totally committed to the on site operations. Depending on the on site situation, the chief or his/her representative would join the ECG when assembled at the Emergency Operations Centre to assume the following responsibilities:

- a. Providing the ECG with information and advice on firefighting and rescue matters;
- b. Depending on the nature of the emergency, assign an interim Emergency Site Manager (ESM) and inform the ECG;
- c. Establish an ongoing communication link with senior fire officials at the scene of the emergency;
- d. Inform the Mutual Aid Fire Coordinator and/or initiate mutual aid arrangements for the provision of additional firefighters and equipment, if needed;
- e. Determine if additional or special equipment is needed and recommend possible sources of supply, e.g. breathing apparatus, protective clothing;

- f. Provide assistance to other community departments and agencies and be prepared to take charge of or contribute to non fire fighting operations if necessary, e.g. rescue, first aid, casualty collection and evacuation;
- g. Contacting utility providers, natural gas or petroleum companies for assistance in the emergency if needed;
- h. Establishing, with the appropriate Ministry and industry representatives, procedures to deal with special hazards such as hazardous material spills, explosions or noxious fumes;
- i. Arranging that a record be kept of outside assistance called for by Fire Departments involved; and
- j. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

40. MIDDLESEX OPP

Upon learning of a potential emergency, the OPP in consultation with the Fire Chief(s) will consider the possible need for assembling the Community Control Group (ECG) and, if warranted, will contact the CAO to implement the alerting procedure. The OPP will then report to or send a representative to the EOC to assume the following responsibilities as police member of the ECG:

- a. Notifying necessary emergency and community services, as required;
- b. Establishing a site command post with communications to the EOC;
- c. Depending on the nature of the emergency, assign an interim Emergency Site Manager (ESM) and inform the ECG;
- d. Establish an ongoing communications link with the senior police official at the scene of the emergency;
- f. Establish the outer perimeter in the vicinity of the emergency to facilitate the movement of emergency vehicles and restrict access to all but essential emergency personnel;

- f. Providing traffic control staff to facilitate the movement of emergency vehicles;
- g. Alerting persons endangered by the emergency and coordinating evacuation procedures;
- h. Ordering the opening of a short-term evacuation centre at a school, church or other nearby facility, in an unplanned or urgent evacuation situation, where the threat of immediate danger to residents and travelers exists;
- i. Ensuring the protection of life and property and the provision of law and order;
- j. Providing police services in the EOC, reception centers, temporary morgues and other facilities, as required;
- k. Notifying the coroner of fatalities;
- l. Ensuring liaison with other community, provincial and federal police agencies, as required;
- m. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

41. **THE MANAGER OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Upon learning of a potential emergency, the Manager of Public Works will consider the possible need for assembling the ECG and, if warranted, will contact the municipal office and request the ECG be assembled. The Manager of Public Works will alert the Public Works Department staff and will report to the EOC to assume the following responsibilities;

- a. Providing the ECG with information and advice on engineering and public works matters;
- b. Depending on the nature of the emergency, assign an ISM and informing the ECG;
- c. Establishing an ongoing communications link with the Senior Public Works Official at the scene of the emergency;

- d. Ensuring liaison with the Public Works Representative from the neighbouring community(s) to ensure a coordinated response;
- e. Ensuring provision of engineering assistance;
- f. Ensuring construction, maintenance and repair of municipal roads;
- g. Ensuring the maintenance of sanitary sewage and water systems;
- h. Providing equipment for emergency pumping operations;
- i. Ensuring liaison with the Fire Chief(s) concerning emergency water supplies for firefighting purposes;
- j. Providing emergency potable water, supplies and sanitation facilities to the requirements of the Medical Officer of Health;
- k. Discontinuing any public works service to any resident, as required and restoring these services when appropriate;
- l. Ensuring liaison with public utilities to disconnect any service representing a hazard and/or to arrange for the provision of alternate services or functions;
- m. Providing public works vehicles and equipment as required by any other emergency services; carrying out the responsibilities of the Municipal Flood Coordinator in a flood emergency and maintaining liaison with the appropriate Conservation Authority;
- n. Ensuring liaison with the Conservation Authority regarding flood control, conservation and environmental matters and being prepared to take preventative action;
- o. Re-establishing essential municipal services at the end of the emergency period;
- p. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

42. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Medical Officer of Health or Middlesex-London Health Unit representative will have the following duties:

- a. Activating the ECG Notification System in the event of a health emergency;
- b. Acting as a coordinating link for all emergency health services at the ECG;
- c. Liaising with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Public Health Branch;
- d. Depending on the nature of the emergency, assigning an interim Emergency Site Manager (ESM) and informing the ECG;
- e. Establishing an ongoing communications link with the senior health official at the scene of the emergency;
- f. Liaising with senior EMS representatives, hospital officials, relevant health care organizations (i.e. Community Care Access Centre, long-term care facilities), the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and relevant government agencies;
- g. Providing authoritative instructions on health and safety matters to the public through the EIO;
- h. Coordinating the response to disease related emergencies or anticipated emergencies, such as epidemics, according to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care policies;
- i. Coordinating care of citizens at home and in reception centres during an emergency;
- j. Liaising with voluntary and private health care agencies, as required, for augmenting and coordinating public health resources;
- k. Coordinating efforts towards prevention and control of the spread of disease during an emergency;

- l. Notifying the ECG regarding the need for potable water supplies and sanitation facilities;
- m. Liaising with the Social Services Representative on areas of mutual concern regarding health services in reception centres;
- n. Providing advice to the Mayor and the ECG on health matters;
- o. When advised by emergency services of an emergency situation involving hazardous substances or any threat to public health, providing advice for the safety of emergency service workers and activities to reduce the adverse effects on public health;
- p. Directing precautions in regard to food and water supplies when warranted;
- q. Arranging for mass immunizations where required;
- r. Notifying other agencies and senior levels of government about health related matters in the emergency; and
- s. Maintaining a log of all decisions made and actions taken by him/her during the emergency.

43. **SOCIAL SERVICES MEMBER**

The person designated as Social Services Member of the ECG, assisted if possible by a Social Services Representative provided by the County Director of Social Services, will assume responsibility in an emergency for:

- a. Ensuring the well being of residents who have been displaced from their homes by arranging emergency lodging, clothing, food services, Registration and Inquiry Service and other services. Usually this individual is a key link with the volunteer organizations such as the Salvation Army.
- b. Supervising the opening and operation of temporary evacuation centres and/or long-term reception centres and ensuring they are adequately staffed;

- c. Ensuring liaison with the OPP with respect to the designation of evacuation centers which can be opened on short notice;
- d. Liaison with the Medical Officer of Health on areas of mutual concern regarding operations in reception centers;
- e. Ensuring that a representative of the Board of Education and/or Separate School Board is notified; and
- f. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

44. **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) REPRESENTATIVE**

The Emergency Medical Services Representative is responsible for:

- a. Providing information on patient care activities and casualty movement from the emergency site;
- b. Establishing an ongoing communications link with the EMS official(s) at the scene of the emergency;
- c. Liaising and obtaining EMS resources from the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care - Emergency Health Services - Ambulance Service Branch (Senior Field Manager or on-call Duty Manager) and from other municipalities, if required;
- d. Liaising with the Central Ambulance Communications Centre (CACC) regarding patient status, destination and department case load;
- e. Organizing the EMS response to assist and coordinate the actions of other social service agencies' EMS branches and other transportation providers;
- f. Advising the ECG if other means of transportation are required for large-scale responses;
- g. Obtain EMS Mutual Aid assistance as required for both land and air-based patient transport;

- h. Assist with the emergency evacuation when required;
- i. Ensure balanced EMS coverage is available at all times throughout the community;
- j. Liaising with the receiving hospitals;
- k. Liaising with Police, Fire, Coroner and the Medical Officer of Health, as required; and
- l. Maintaining a log of all decisions made and actions taken by him/her during the emergency.

45. COMMUNITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR (CEMC) OR ALTERNATE:

The CEMC is the main link on a regular basis with EMO. The CEMC will be a resource and can provide support to other members of the ECG, especially to the Social Services Member and the EIO. The responsibilities of the CEMC include:

- a. Assisting with the decision making process to determine whether to activate the ECG notification system when applicable;
- b. Providing advice and support to the ECG, including liaison with appropriate agencies and departments;
- c. Assisting in preparing and arranging the Emergency Operations Centre in readiness to activate;
- d. Providing a process for registering ECG members and other EOC staff;
- e. Ensuring ECG members have all plans, resources, supplies, maps and equipment;
- f. Providing advice and clarification regarding the Emergency Response Plan;
- g. Lead contact between the Municipality and Emergency Management Ontario;
- h. Liaising with provincial and federal agencies as required;
- i. Liaising with community support agencies (i.e. Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, Salvation Army) and local volunteer groups, as required;

- j. Addressing any action items that may result from the activation of the Emergency Response Plan;
- k. Maintaining logs for the purpose of debriefings and post emergency reporting; and
- l. Maintaining a log of all decisions made and actions taken by him/her during the emergency.

46. EMERGENCY INFORMATION OFFICER (EIO)

The Municipal Emergency Information Officer, as indicated in Section 22, will assume responsibility in the emergency for:

- a. Preparing public announcements and media releases concerning the emergency for approval by the Mayor;
- b. Arranging with media representatives for assistance in collecting and forwarding warnings and directions to the public that have been approved by the Mayor;
- c. Issuing media releases approved by the Mayor to the media;
- d. Establishing, when such is considered necessary by the ECG, an Emergency Information Centre (EIC) to which the emergency services can direct members of the public or media representatives seeking information;
- e. Informing the media of the point of telephone access for the public to reach the Registration and Inquiry Service, if such service is in operation, so that this information can be passed to the public quickly;
- f. The EIO may be called upon to link with provincial and other inquiry information staff; and
- g. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency;

47. SUPPORT AND ADVISORY STAFF

Other Agencies:

In an emergency, many agencies may be required to work with the ECG. Others might include Emergency Management Ontario, Ontario Provincial Police, the Office of the Fire Marshall, industry, volunteer groups, conservation authorities and provincial ministries.

In addition, the following staff may be required to provide support, logistics and advice to the ECG.

48. CLERK

The Clerk is responsible for assisting the Chief Administrative Officer as required:

- a. Acting as Scribe, recording all important decisions made and actions taken by the ECG;
- b. Ensuring that maps and boards are kept up to date;
- c. Provide a process for registering ECG members and maintaining a ECG member list;
- d. Notifying the required support and advisory staff of the emergency and the location of the EOC;
- e. Initiating the opening, operation and staffing of switchboard at the community offices, as the situation dictates and ensuring operators are informed of ECG members' telephone numbers in the EOC;
- f. Arranging for printing of material, as required;
- g. Coordinating the provision of clerical staff to assist in the EOC, as required;
- h. Upon direction by the Mayor, ensuring that all council and staff are advised of the declaration and termination of the emergency; and
- i. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

49. **TREASURER**

The Treasurer is responsible for:

- a. Providing information and advice on financial matters as they relate to the emergency;
- b. Ensuring liaison, if necessary, with the Treasurers/Directors of Finance of neighbouring communities;
- c. Ensuring that records of expenses are maintained for future claim purposes;
- d. Ensuring the prompt payment and settlement of all the legitimate invoices and claims incurred during an emergency; and

As the Purchasing Agent, the Treasurer is also responsible for:

- e. Providing and securing of equipment and supplies not owned by the Municipality;
- f. Ensuring liaison with purchasing agents of the neighbouring communities, if necessary;
- g. Maintaining and updating a list of all vendors (including 24-hour contact numbers) whom may be required to provide supplies and equipment.
- h. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

50. **DESIGNATED SOLICITOR**

The Designated Solicitor is responsible for:

- a. Providing advice to any member of the ECG on legal matters;
- b. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

51. HUMAN RESOURCES REPRESENTATIVES (PAYROLL/CLERK/DEPUTY
TREASURER

- a. Coordinating and processing requests for human resources;
- b. Coordinating offers of and appeals for, volunteers with the support of the ECG;
- c. Selecting the most appropriate site(s) for the registration of Human Resources;
- d. Ensuring records of human resources and administrative details, that may involve financial liability, are completed;
- e. Ensuring that a Volunteer Registration Form is completed, when volunteers are involved and a copy of the form is retained for municipal records;
- f. Ensuring identification cards are issued to volunteers and temporary employees;
- g. Arranging for transportation of human resources to and from site(s);
- h. Obtaining assistance, if necessary, from Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC), as well as other government departments, public and private agencies and volunteer groups;
- i. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

52. TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR (MANAGER OR PUBLIC WORKS)

As the Transportation Coordinator, the Manager of Public Works is responsible for:

- a. Coordinating the acquisition, distribution and scheduling of various modes of transport (i.e. public transit, school buses, trains, boats and trucks) for the purpose of transporting persons and/or supplies, as required, by members of the ECG and the support and advisory staff;
- b. Procuring staff to assist, as required; and
- c. Ensuring that a record is maintained of drivers and operators involved.

53. TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUXILIARY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (ACS) COORDINATOR

The Telecommunications Coordinator reports to the ECG and is responsible for:

- a. Activating the emergency notification system of the local amateur radio operators group;
- b. Initiating the necessary action to ensure the ACS radio system at the ECG and other sites functions as effectively as possible, as the situation dictates;
- c. Ensuring that the emergency communications center is properly equipped and staffed and working to correct any problems which may arise;
- d. Maintaining an inventory of community and private sector communications equipment and facilities within the community, which could be used to augment existing communications systems in an emergency;
- e. Making arrangements to acquire additional communications resources during an emergency, if required; and
- f. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

54. COMMUNITY SPOKESPERSON

The Community Spokesperson will be appointed by the ECG and will work closely with the EIO. The spokesperson is responsible for:

- a. Giving interviews on behalf of the community;
- b. Establishing a communication link and regular liaison with the EIC at the EOC;
- c. Redirecting all inquiries about decisions made by the ECG and about the emergency as a whole, to the EIO;
- d. Coordinating media photograph sessions at the scene when necessary and appropriate;

- e. Coordinating on-scene interviews between the emergency services personnel and the media;
- f. Please note: The OPP in Middlesex County has agreed to assist the EIO with media relations, including acting as spokesperson for the ECG as required.

55. CITIZEN INQUIRY SUPERVISOR (MIDDLESEX COUNTY LIBRARY STAFF)

The Citizen Inquiry Supervisor is responsible for:

- a. Establishing a Citizen Inquiry Service, including the appointment of personnel and designation of telephone lines;
- b. Informing the EIO of the establishment of the Citizen Inquiry Service and designated telephone numbers;
- c. Informing the affected emergency services, the ECG and Municipal switchboards of the establishment of the Citizen Inquiry Service and designated telephone numbers;
- d. Ensuring liaison with the EIO to obtain current information on the emergency;
- e. Responding to and re-directing inquiries and reports from the public based upon information from the EIO. (Such information may be related to school closings, access routes, the location of reception centers, etc.);
- f. Responding to and redirecting inquiries pertaining to the investigation of the emergency, deaths, injuries or matters of personnel who are involved with or affected by the emergency to the appropriate emergency service;
- g. Responding to and redirecting inquiries pertaining to persons who may be located in reception centers to the Registration and Inquiry Service telephone number(s);
- h. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

56. THAMES VALLEY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD AND CATHOLIC DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

The Thames Valley District School Board and Catholic District School Board are responsible for:

- a. Providing any school (as appropriate and available) for use as a reception centre and a representative(s) to co-ordinate the maintenance, use and operation of the facilities being utilized as a reception center; and
- b. Ensuring liaison with the municipality as to protective actions to the schools (i.e. implementing school shelter in place procedure and implementing the school evacuation procedure.

57. THE MUNICIPAL SUPPORT STAFF

The Municipal support staff should be organized to carry out the following duties:

- a. Acting as recorders to establish a paper trail and record decisions and actions taken;
- b. Maintaining an events display board;
- c. Maintaining a communications log;
- d. Answering and maintaining a record of all public inquiries;
- e. Monitoring the media broadcasts;
- f. Registering all volunteers;
- g. Providing essential housekeeping for the EOC;
- h. Maintaining a log of all action taken by him/her during the course of the emergency.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUPPORTING AGENCIES/OFFICIALS

58. COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

The County Director of Social Services should be contacted as soon as an emergency occurs so that he/she can advise the Municipal Social Services Member on:

- a. Arrangements for the opening, operation, direction and supervision of emergency reception centre(s) to provide emergency social services, as required; and
- b. Liaison with community agencies and volunteer groups to assist in humanitarian functions.

59. ST. JOHN AMBULANCE

St. John Ambulance has a capability in all areas of first aid, including mobile first aid stations, nursing and childcare and will respond to requests at any time, as well as under emergency and disaster conditions. Also available is an emergency lighting and generator unit, mobile canteen service unit, designed for response under emergency or disaster conditions. These volunteers are on 24-hour call; the response teams are governed by a time lapse of 30-45 minutes. Members must respond to St. John Headquarters, signalled by radio or pager, for assembly and duty assignments. Additional equipment available includes wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and stretchers. Local unit response by up to 50 members has the option to draw on up to 100 members from the surrounding district. Requests for St. John Ambulance services are to be routed through the Fire Communications Centre.

60. CANADIAN RED CROSS

The Red Cross will assist the community in an emergency in the form of a Registration and Inquiry Service as described in the Department of National Health and Welfare *Registration and Inquiry Manual*. This service will assist the public in locating immediate relatives who have left their homes as a result of an emergency. Inquiry services may be operated from outside the disaster area in accordance with Red Cross standard operating procedures and may involve the assistance of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). When an Inquiry Service is activated, the Red Cross will arrange that the telephone number(s) to be used by relatives making inquiries be publicized through the Media.

61. HOSPITALS

Area Hospitals are prepared to implement their Medical Disaster Plans as required. The Medical Disaster Plan is activated on the advice of the Police and the Ambulance Services.

62. AMBULANCE SERVICES

An ambulance station is located in Glencoe at 147 McKellar Street, Glencoe, Ontario, N0L 1M0. Please refer to Section 44 for the responsibilities of the Emergency Medical Services Representative to the ECG.

63. SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army has an emergency capability in welfare, short term accommodation, clothing and food services and will respond, within their budgetary capabilities, when requested by the ECG.

64. AUXILIARY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE (ACS)

ACS is the volunteer group, which coordinates amateur radio in the area. They are prepared to establish emergency radio communications for any purpose required, including Registration and Inquiry Services and communications between hospitals.

65. SCHOOL BOARDS

Most School Boards have developed emergency preparedness plans. These plans may involve the assembly of a School System Emergency Management Team that will provide direction to school principals in the event of an emergency. To ensure that they are kept informed about the emergency they may ask to send a liaison officer to the municipal ECG. School Boards may be asked to provide their Board facilities for use during the emergency.

CASUALTY MANAGEMENT

66. Arrangements for coping with casualties in an emergency are made jointly by the ambulance services and the hospitals serving the County. The Central Ambulance Communications Centre on calls from Fire and Police authorities will dispatch ambulances. Ambulance, Fire or Police authorities may call upon further assistance from area hospitals in handling mass casualties as the situation warrants. St. John Ambulance, normally alerted through the Fire Communications Centre, is prepared to assist with mobile first aid posts when called upon.

POPULATION EVACUATION

67. It may be necessary in an emergency for the residents of an area of the Municipality to be temporarily evacuated from their homes for their own welfare and safety. Such a requirement may be of an urgent or short-notice nature, caused by an immediate hazard and decided upon and directed on the spot by Police and/or Fire authorities. A less immediate but probably larger scale evacuation could be decided upon and directed by the ECG, as in the case of an impending flood situation.

The aim in any such operation will be to care for the evacuated persons, to bring families together and to re-establish residents in their homes as soon as possible.

68. The Municipality has access to an Evacuation Plan for the Municipality of Southwest Middlesex.

COMMUNICATIONS /MEDIA PLAN

69. Communication, in both the electronic and the information-sharing sense is usually a major problem during most emergencies. Equipment breaks down, frequencies and/or equipment are found to be incompatible, messages are misunderstood and those responding to the emergency forget to pass on or share information. Careful planning, training and testing can overcome some of these difficulties.
70. The Municipality will need media cooperation to provide the ECG with the means to communicate with the public during the emergency. It is thus in our own interest to be prepared to respond to media requests for information.
71. Action should be taken by the EIO to establish an Emergency Information Centre (EIC) near to but not in the EOC. The EIC should have telephone and electrical outlets and should provide space for news conferences and briefings. News conferences should be scheduled for both the public and the media. In Middlesex County, the branches of the County Library will be used to house the EIC and the Citizen Inquiry Service.
72. The Municipality has access to information with respect to the Communications/Media Plan.

FLOOD CONTROL

73. A flood contingency authority plan applicable to the Municipality is maintained by each Conservation Authority.

SPECIAL HAZARDS (as identified in the Community Risk Profile)

74. The Municipality of Southwest Middlesex has the potential of experiencing an emergency based on any of the following circumstances:
- a. Windstorms and Tornadoes;
 - b. Water Quality Emergencies;
 - c. Hazardous Materials Transportation Incidents;
 - d. Winter Storms, Snowstorms, Blizzards, Ice/Freezing Rain Storms;
 - e. Fires/Explosion;
 - f. Transportation Accidents involving passengers (road, rail, air);
 - g. Human Health Emergencies and Epidemics;
 - h. Critical Infrastructure failure defined as the nine categories: Food and Water,
 - i. Electricity, Telecommunication, Financial Institution, Gas, Oil and Chemical Industries, Transportation, Continuity of Government Services, Public Safety and Security and Health Services;
 - j. Fires – Forest and Wild;
 - k. Petroleum/Gas Pipeline Emergencies;
 - l. Spills of hazardous materials –fixed sites; and
 - m. Animal Disease Outbreaks.
75. There are industrial sites in the Municipality that are considered to present Special Hazards.

76. Preparations to respond to these special hazards require that the ECG be provided with essential data. The following information should be readily available at the EOC:
- a. Maps identifying the following:
 - (i) Transportation routes;
 - (ii) Pipeline data (Union Gas);
 - (iii) Municipal drains;
 - b. Information sheets on nursing homes;
 - c. Resource Directory.

COUNTY ASSISTANCE

77. When the support and assistance of County Services are needed in an emergency situation, the Mayor may contact the Warden or the CAO of the County or the County Engineer to request such assistance.

PROVINCIAL ASSISTANCE

78. The Mayor may request assistance from the Provincial Government at any time. Locally arranged support such as technical advice from district representatives of the Ministry of the Environment or help from Ministry of Transportation installations in the County can be arranged directly with local Ministry authorities. Further help from Provincial sources can be requested through the OPP representative with the ECG. In declared emergencies, requests for assistance will be made directly to Provincial and/or Federal organizations through EMO as soon as possible.
79. In the case of flood control assistance, help from the Ministry of Natural Resources can be requested through, and with the advice of, flood coordination officers of the Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority and the St Clair Region Conservation Authority.

OTHER ASSISTANCE

80. Outside organizations prepared to assist in an emergency within their capability and expertise include the following.
- a. **Environment Canada:** Environment Canada can provide information on weather conditions as they affect emergency operations.
http://weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca/warnings/warnings_e.html
 - b. **Ministry of the Environment:** The Ministry of the Environment through their Regional Offices in London or the Toronto "Spills Action Centre" are able to provide advice in handling serious oil and chemical spills and discharges;
 - c. **Department of Communications:** The London District Office of the Federal Department of Communications is prepared to provide advice and assistance on communication matters in an emergency;
 - d. **Ministry of Agriculture and Food:** The Ministry of Agriculture and Food through their County Office could provide advice with respect to the effect of hazardous vapours on crops and animals;
 - e. **Ministry of Natural Resources:** The Ministry of Natural Resources through their District Office would act as Lead Ministry for floods or forest fires;
 - f. **Emergency Management Ontario:** The Chief, Emergency Management Ontario, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, is prepared to provide advice and assistance in an emergency, particularly with matters of Provincial Government Support;
 - g. **Insurance Bureau of Canada:** A coordinator for the Insurance Bureau of Canada is available in London to organize insurance company action on claims adjustments under emergency conditions;
 - h. **Snowmobile Assistance:** The Glencoe Snowmobile Club, through the President can assist in organizing snowmobile operator help for the urgent movement of people, medicines and supplies in a serious winter storm;

- i. **Canada Employment:** The local Employment Centre can assist by organizing extra emergency workers at a central location;
- j. **Department of National Defence:** Land Forces Central Area Support Unit London has limited resources of personnel and equipment. Assistance should be requested through Emergency Management Ontario 1-866-314-0472 as Provincial/Federal costs may be involved;
- k. **Bell Canada /Brooke/AlvinstonTelecommunications:** Bell Canada and Brooke/Alvinston Telecommunications have Emergency Response Plans for restoration or installation of essential telephone services as well as telephone-equipped vehicles which can be positioned at emergency sites to augment municipality communication capabilities;
- l. **Union Gas:** Union Gas has Emergency Response Plans and appropriately trained personnel and equipment for restoration of essential gas mains and services and has radio-equipped vehicles which can be positioned at emergency sites to coordinate the activities of Union Gas with other utilities and civic services. Their knowledge and relay of such to municipal officials, regarding location of gas lines, control points and emergency procedures may be of prime importance in many emergencies;
- m. **Broadcasting Stations:** The utilization of the local broadcasting stations may play a very significant role under emergency conditions particularly where landline communications are disrupted or overloaded. They can be used to request public cooperation in freeing telephone circuits for emergency use, passing warnings or official status reports to the public, answering mass inquiries, passing instructions to emergency department personnel upon departmental request, requesting public assistance in traffic control problems and seeking private sources of particular supplies, facilities or skills. They have emergency electrical power;
- n. **Press:** The use of the Press will play an important role as a means of giving explicit and perhaps lengthy directions to the public, especially in incidents of some duration like heavy snow emergencies. For example, official releases on actions to take in blizzard conditions may contain detailed information on utility precautions, emergency Social Services, Fire, Police, Engineering and Health measures in one concise release;

- o. **Conservation Authorities:** Advice on flood control can be obtained from each Conservation Authority. The Watershed Flood Warning System provides a plan to warn of imminent flood conditions. This plan lists Municipal Flood Coordinators and alternates in each municipality of the watershed;

EXERCISING THE PLAN

- 81. An **annual** exercise will be conducted to test the Emergency Response Plan and allow the members of the ECG, support staff and volunteers to practice the performance of their responsibilities in an emergency.
- 82. Each new Municipal Councillor will be briefed on the Municipal Emergency Response Plan by the Chief Administrative Officer.

REVIEW/AMENDMENT OF THE PLAN

- 83. The requirement to keep this Emergency Response Plan current dictates that the following duties be assigned with respect to an annual review of the plan:

- a. **Duties of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)**

- (i) Request that each member of the ECG review the plan annually;
- (ii) Review the ECG alerting plan;
- (iii) Review the list of useful telephone numbers;
- (iv) Ensure that the EOC equipment and data are current;
- (v) Publish routine amendments as they occur; and
- (vi) Process major changes to the ERP for Council approval.

b. Duties of the Manager of Public Works

- (i) Maintain the currency of the data on the map with assistance of Fire Chief(s);
- (ii) Maintain the currency of the Resource Directory; and
- (iii) Maintain the Flood Contingency Plans.

c. Duties of the Fire Chief(s)

- (i) Maintain the accuracy of the list of Special Hazards; and
- (ii) Assist the Director of Operations in the maintenance of the Resource Directory and maps.

d. Duties of the Emergency Information Officer (EIO)

- (i) Maintain the currency of the Communications/Media Plan.

e. Duties of the Social Services Representative, or Alternate

- (i) Maintain the currency of the Evacuation Plan;
- (ii) Maintain the accuracy of the Information Sheets;
- (iii) Maintain the plan for Reception Centres.

84. Amendments to the guide can be initiated without reference to Council.