







HEALTHY COMMUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

The City of Greater Sudbury supports the principles of the Healthy Community and promoted within its area of competency, public policies, and strategies which enhance the overall health status of its population and the sustainability of the community as a whole.

It is recognized that balanced economic, environmental, and social factors will contribute to this goal.

The Healthy Community Strategies were developed with the following **guiding principles**:

-  Embrace diversity, and respect cultural and linguistic needs of the population
-  Build capacity, encourage community participation and foster social inclusion
-  Empower the community to take ownership of their health and well-being
-  Allocate appropriate resources for project sustainability
-  Support and acknowledge existing and ongoing programs
-  Inspire individuals and the collective community
-  Foster an environment that promotes learning
-  Build on the strengths and learn from mistakes
-  Recognize and celebrate progress and achievements
-  Nurture and appreciate relationships and partnerships that develop
-  Find solutions, not treatments
-  Remain realistic and maintain a positive outlook of the future

Overview

The Council of the City of Greater Sudbury is the governing body for the Healthy Community Strategy (HCS). The Healthy Community Cabinet, the functional body for the HCS was created by Council to lead the development of a Healthy Community, one of the strategic priorities of the Council of the day. The Cabinet is comprised of community leaders that share in the desire to make the City of Greater Sudbury a healthier community in which to live.

Three sub-committees have been established to complete the tasks delegated by the Cabinet:

Broad Implementation Team (Coordination Team) – working in conjunction with the Communications and Research sub-committees, the Coordination team will ensure that the work of the Healthy Community Cabinet is carried out and communicated appropriately.

The Communications Sub-Committee – working in conjunction with the Coordination and Research sub-committees, the Communications sub-committee will be responsible for the development, implementation and management of the Healthy Community social marketing, public awareness and public education initiatives, and

The Research and Evaluation Sub-Committee – working in conjunction with the Coordination and Communications Sub-committees, the Research and Evaluation sub-committee will be engaged to guide and support the development, implementation and evaluation of the HC/RCE practices and ongoing surveillance and best practices research.

The work of the Healthy Community Cabinet is driven by four pillars and the sustainable development challenges that are associated with each pillar.


Human Health and Well-being	Environmental Sustainability	Economic Vitality	Social Capital
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Health Status•Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Impaired ecosystem•Lake water quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Out-migration•Unemployment•Arts and Culture facilities/promotions•Infrastructure deficit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Homelessness•Family poverty•Educational attainment

New Projects and Initiatives

The projects and community initiatives that are to be considered as Healthy Community Initiatives will be related to the guiding principles and will be selected based on their ability to address the sustainable development challenges illustrated above.


The primary consideration for any project or initiative for the Healthy Community Strategy is its relevance to the principles, pillars and challenges as outlined above. The Cabinet will strive to support projects/initiatives that are reflective of these core elements and maintain responsiveness to the community and the community's needs.


The initiatives that have been undertaken or are ongoing include, but are not limited to:


 The Healthy Community Charter: The Healthy Community Cabinet produced the Charter which cites the vision and recommends actions and efforts to achieve a healthy sustainable community be focused on four areas: Active Living/ Healthy Lifestyle; Natural Environment; Civic Engagement/ Social Capital, and Economic Growth. The Charter was approved unanimously by City Council on October 11, 2006.


 Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development designation: An RCE is a network of existing formal, non-formal and informal education organizations, mobilized to deliver education for sustainable development (ESD) to local and regional communities. A network of RCEs worldwide will constitute the Global Learning Space for Sustainable Development. RCEs aspire to achieve the goals of the [UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development](#) (DESD, 2005-2014), by translating its global objectives into the context of the local communities in which they operate.


In recognition of the importance of using formal, non formal and informal learning as a means to working towards a healthy and sustainable community, the Healthy Community Cabinet sought the identification of Greater Sudbury as an RCE. The designation was formally approved by the Ubuntu Committee of Peers for RCEs at their first meeting in Paris on December 5, 2006.

 The Healthy Community Lenses: A healthy community and RCE lens were developed to recognize the contribution of individuals and organizations in their efforts to make Greater Sudbury a healthy, sustainable community. The approval process of the completed lenses ensures that the project or initiative being recognized falls within the scope of the Healthy Community Charter. The Healthy Community Lens has been crafted to assist the community in effectively presenting projects that may meet Healthy Community criteria. . The Co-ordination Team is responsible for reviewing lenses completed by the community, and recommending acceptance of projects to the Healthy Community Cabinet.


 Social Marketing Campaign: The community public education program will be an important component of the healthy community initiative. The social marketing campaign will consist of messaging based on the twelve sustainable development challenges identified. The healthy community website has been developed, which is an electronic database for all documents and publications pertaining to healthy community initiatives. An effective public education program can empower citizens. A more knowledgeable public will create a healthy community culture and will help ensure the sustainability of this initiative.


 Healthy Community Recognition Awards: Creating a healthy community involves everyone's participation. The awards were established as a means of highlighting and celebrating accomplishments, progress and results achieved by the citizens of Greater Sudbury producing an enhanced quality of life in the community.


 Healthy Community Annual Event: Once a year a community based event takes place. Members of various organizations are invited to take part. A keynote presentation is made based on one of the twelve sustainable development challenges. The Healthy Community Recognition Awards take place at this annual event.

 Terms of Reference for the Healthy Community Cabinet, Pillar Leads and Sub-committees: Terms of reference have been developed for the Healthy Community Cabinet and the three Sub-committees to ensure the goals and objectives of the Healthy Community Strategy and Charter are met.

The Pillar Leads signed a Memorandum of Understanding on January 14, 2008 to: develop action plans that include support of programs and activities that address the healthy community initiative sustainable development challenges; wherever possible, contribute to public understanding and awareness of the healthy community strategy/ RCE activities; liaise with other lead agencies, the Healthy Community Cabinet and community stakeholders to insure that the activities of the Greater Sudbury Healthy Community Cabinet / RCE are complementary; and report on activities and outcomes of all HCC/RCE programs and initiatives.

 United Nations University RCE Bulletins: The RCE bulletin, produced every three months, carries news of RCE activities and upcoming events from around the world. Although aimed at the RCE network primarily, the bulletin also demonstrates the broad scope of the RCE global community's work. Requests are made to healthy community cabinet members for articles and pictures to include in the bulletin.

 Public Participation Policy: the Public Participation Policy is intended to provide a framework for the City of Greater Sudbury to engage its citizens in local decision-making. One of the main goals of this policy is to ensure that civic engagement activities are given consideration throughout the corporation as well as ensure that citizens can initiate civic engagement activities through a number of available entry points. This policy recognizes, unless otherwise stated by law or regulations, that it is the responsibility of the City of Greater Sudbury (Council and Administration) to assess opportunities for public engagement.

 RCE-ESD Thematic Discussion – At the 4th International RCE meeting in Montreal thematic discussions took place in the areas of Health, Biodiversity, Ecosystems, role of higher education institutions, Youth, better schools for ESD, e-learning, Poverty & Environment, and Climate Change. RCE Greater Sudbury participated in the Health & ESD area and acted as a co-moderator with RCE Penang. Dialogue focused on common RCE challenges such as health promotion and infection control, the target sectors being schools, children and families.

Potential pilot programs in the respective RCE areas were discussed. Expected outcomes would be local actions around common matters of infection control and health promotion, utilizing indicators to measure outcomes.



Sustainability - Recognizing the Healthy Community priority of the City of Greater Sudbury Councils, sustainability of the initiative will be attained through;

1. Official Plan
2. Healthy Community Initiative Fund
3. Public Participation Policy
4. Healthy Community Recognition Awards
5. Healthy Community Cabinet advisement to city council
6. Healthy Community Policy Statement and Healthy Community Strategic Plan updated every four (4) years.
7. Community Action Networks (CANs) and their terms of engagement.