



# **JUNCTION CREEK SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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Chair

June 18, 2008

*“What we want to see of all this is for the loss of life in Junction Creek to end with Adam.”*

*Denis and Kim Croteau  
October 2007*

# ACTIONS

- August 25, 2007 –  
Adam drowns in Junction Creek
- Petition submitted to City Council
- October 10, 2007  
City Council carries motion to strike an Ad Hoc Committee
- December 2007 – May 2008  
Ad Hoc Committee met and created realistic recommendations to follow

# Committee Members

- Nickel District Conversation Authority
- Sudbury and District Health Unit
- Junction Creek Stewardship Committee
- Greater Sudbury Fire Services
- Greater Sudbury Police Services
- Infrastructure Services
- Members of City Council

# Committee Mandate

- Establish educational and public safety programs
- Review infrastructure criteria and capacities under extreme events
- Review safety/rescue procedures

# COMMITTEE PROCESS

- Divided into 3 sub committees
  - Infrastructure
  - Safety/Rescue
  - Communications/Education
- Site Visits – 3 times
- Public Consultation – April 17, 2007
- Review existing programs
- Develop Recommendations

# WHAT WE LEARNED

- 22 deaths since 1921
- Canadian Red Cross Drowning Study
  - Can prevent 30% with safety programs
- Current safety conditions of creek
- Partnership and possibilities for using public education to address safety



# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Infrastructure Committee

- Develop policy and procedure for consistent safety fencing along the creek and open water bodies, especially areas that are populated and affected by traffic.  
Develop a signage design and policy relevant to Swift Water.  
Install locking pins and locks on access gates to the creek.
- Continue developing Junction Creek Waterpark trail with attention to creating a safe buffer zone.
- Add Junction Creek to Storm Water Management Study in 2009.
- Explore the possibility of making Junction Creek a municipal agricultural drainage system and managed under the Drainage Act.
- Create a Dumping By-Law Roundtable-September 2008
- Junction Creek Stewardship Committee to monitor water temperature and levels on a regular basis.



# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Safety/Rescue

- Develop swift water rescue procedures for Junction Creek and all other swift water bodies in conjunction with rescue agencies (Fire, Police, EMS) including identifying access points using GPS and developing a common code.
- Parks Department to remove fallen trees that hinder creek current and provide unsafe balance beam for children.
- Introduce a grocery cart by-law that controls carts being stranded, specifically in the creek.
- Rescue agencies to co-develop mock rescue operations based on adopted water code.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Safety/Rescue

- Engineering to design anchor pins and develop an installation strategy for culverts and along creek beds to allow life line to be attached for rescuers.
- Explore installing a wire across the culverts at an appropriate height for rescue measures.
- Installation of emergency egress at 199 Larch Street concurrent with the Larch Street Bridge restoration.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

## Communication/Education

- Develop a public education campaign aimed at children and their parents, to be named after Adam Dickie and to reinforce key messages.
- Lansdowne School to develop a swift water insert for the North American Risk Watch Unintentional Injuries program that is used in city-wide schools.
- SDHU's Children's Water Festival will host interactive displays to illustrate the instability of a creek bottoms and surrounding area.
- NDCA to revive their spring thaw advisory program.
- Contact swimming courses to include a swift water survival strategy.

# conclusion

- The actions required to improve the safety of Junction Creek and all other swift water bodies will call upon many departments and agencies .
- A follow up strategy will be implemented to ensure the efforts made are realized.
- That the recommendations be referred to staff for costs and implementation dates and that the report be submitted at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Priorities Committee.

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Denis and Kim Croteau  
October 2007

Merci

Thank you