

Review of Local Food Bank System

Community Services Committee
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Introduction

- This report responds to the October 2017 Community Services Report
 - *Review of Food Bank system*
- Issues arising around food bank locations in municipal facilities, relocation of Hanmer food bank
- Opportunities to align with Greater Sudbury Food Policy
- No direct municipal supports to the food bank system at this time
- Impact on Population Health

Deliverables

- The Social Services Division (Division) was asked to review three areas:
 - Conduct a review of the service delivery system for Emergency Food Banks across the City of Greater Sudbury (City); engaging with the Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council and those working on a provincial strategy;
 - Conduct an environmental scan to identify if there are any innovative approaches to help reduce the growing need for Emergency Food Banks in the community that align with other municipal strategies to address poverty reduction; and
 - Provide recommendations to improve and advance the emergency food system and its sustainability across the City of Greater Sudbury.

Research Conducted

- In person interviews with delivery providers, allies, and other municipalities that are either currently undertaking a system review, or have completed one.
- Short community survey over a two-week period to obtain a snapshot of thoughts around knowledge, access, and use of the emergency food system, within the past 12 months:
 - Utilization of “Over to You” engagement tool .
- Review of municipal interactions in other communities.

Four Locations in Municipal Facilities

Location	Municipal Site	Catchment Area in CGS	Findings
Hanmer	4611 St Joseph St, Hanmer	P3P postal code (former radar base to Dominon Drive)	<p>All food banks in the municipal buildings were established pre amalgamation and the sites were selected because of availability.</p> <p>Contact with City varies across the four sites (unclear for service delivery members who to contact for what)</p> <p>Each building offers different opportunities and this resulted in different requests for support</p>
Garson Food Bank	Brady Clubhouse, 600 O'Neill Drive W	Garson, Skead and Falconbridge	
Falls Food Bank	Onaping Community Centre,	Levack, Onaping and Dowling	
Walden Food Bank	215 6 th Ave Lively	Beaver Lake to Copper Cliff, including Indigenous reserve area	

Survey Themes

- The themes that emerged from the survey included:
 - Difficulties with transportation to and from sites
 - Access based on hours of operation and location
 - The fear of being recognized

Opportunities

- Increase availability of community garden sites on City owned property
- Increase use of the EarthCare food access map
- Increase client knowledge about food system supports
- Increase connectivity of the emergency food banks service sites with main stream services
- Community linkage with Fair Food Market and the Ontario Food Terminal to leverage individual purchase of perishables

Greater Sudbury Food Policy Council

- Participated in the Strategic Planning process led by the Community and EarthCare Sudbury
- Participated in the Healthy Food Access and Literacy Pillar
- Shared opportunities and best practices researched

Challenges

- Key concerns around the stability and sustainability of the emergency food bank system:
 - Volunteers who are willing to provide significant personal dedication including transporting of goods
 - Availability of space within systems that are changing, i.e., churches

Mobile Solutions and Transportation Options

Neighbourhood	Prevalence of low income (%)	GAP
Copper Cliff	9.1%	High
Kingsmount-Downtown-Bell Park	19.1%	High
Minnow Lake (has 1 already)	13.5%	Possible
South End	8.6%	Possible
West End	20.3%	High

Banque d'aliments Sudbury Food Bank (BDSFB)

- 44 Member Agencies of the BDSFB
- 2017 distributed 462 tons of food items
 - 128 tons of fresh fruit and vegetables
 - 90 tons of milk
 - 6 tons of fresh eggs
 - 18 tons of meat and frozen proteins
 - 220 tons of nonperishable food items

Banque d'aliments Sudbury Food Bank (BDSFB)

- Access and Transportation key issues
 - Emergency food banks not in proximity to home requires further travel
 - Affordable transportation options to get to Emergency Food banks limited
 - Reliable transportation for some member agencies to move food from BDSFB to emergency food bank challenging

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Social Services to work with the community on the following:
 - Mobile solutions for food bank access
 - Underserviced areas of the City and options to improve access to the emergency food system
 - Work with other departments to support existing municipal food bank locations

Recommendations and Next Steps

- Research around food access and sustainability to be shared with Population Health initiative
- Formalize existing practice of providing rent free space for food banks in municipal facilities
- Continued to work with the Hanmer food bank to address current needs while addressing needs for a new location

QUESTIONS