

Wagmatcook First Nation Community
Emergency Management Survey Results



June 2026

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Community Emergency Management Survey Results

Introduction

The Community Emergency Management Survey was conducted to better understand community members' experiences, knowledge, expectations, and preparedness related to emergencies.

Emergency management is a shared responsibility that involves protecting our people, homes, infrastructure, lands, and cultural values. Building a resilient community requires effective planning, clear communication, community involvement, and strong collaboration between leadership, emergency responders, and residents. Understanding the perspectives of community members is essential to ensuring that emergency management initiatives are practical, effective, and reflective of local needs and priorities.

To support this effort, the survey gathered information on several key areas, including:

- Community awareness and understanding of emergency management.
- Household emergency preparedness levels.
- Expectations of leadership and emergency services during emergencies.
- Communication preferences before, during, and after emergency events.
- Priorities for future emergency management programs, services, and initiatives.

Participation in the survey was voluntary, and all responses were collected anonymously. The information gathered provides valuable insight into current strengths, areas for improvement, community concerns, and opportunities to enhance the overall emergency management program.

The results presented in this report will help guide future planning, support informed decision-making, and identify priorities for strengthening community resilience. By incorporating the voices and experiences of community members, the Emergency Management Program can better address local needs, improve preparedness efforts, strengthen response capabilities, and support effective recovery following emergencies.

The feedback gathered through this survey will play an important role in shaping the future direction of emergency management within the community and ensuring that initiatives continue to reflect the needs and expectations of community members.

About the Survey Results

The following sections present a summary of the survey responses and key findings. Results have been organized by topic area to provide a clear understanding of community perspectives on emergency preparedness, communication, response, recovery, and future program priorities.

Where appropriate, observations and trends have been highlighted to help identify areas of strength as well as opportunities for improvement. These findings are intended to support ongoing discussions, planning efforts, and decision-making to strengthen the emergency management program.

The results reflect the views and experiences of those who participated in the survey and provide valuable insight into how community members perceive emergency management and preparedness within the community.

Section 1: Demographics

A total of **54 community members** participated in the Emergency Management Survey. Not all respondents answered every question; therefore, totals may vary between questions.

Age Distribution

Survey participation was strongest among adults between the ages of **25 and 64**, representing the majority of respondents.

Age Group Responses

0–17	1
18–24	4
25–34	15
35–44	12
45–54	7
55–64	12
65+	3

Key observations:

- Youth and seniors were less represented in the survey, which may indicate a need for additional engagement efforts with these groups in future planning activities.
- The strong participation from middle-aged adults provides valuable insight into family preparedness, communication preferences, and expectations of emergency services.

Household Size

Respondents represented a mix of household sizes.

Household Size Responses

1–2 people	20
3–4 people	11
5 or more people	21

Key observations:

- Nearly half of respondents reported living in households of **five or more people**, indicating that many emergency preparedness efforts must consider larger family units.
- Larger households may require additional supplies, transportation capacity, evacuation planning, and communication support during emergencies.

Household Vulnerability Considerations

Respondents were asked whether their household included individuals who may require additional support during emergencies.

Household Member Type	Responses
Children under 12	17
Elders	11
Persons with disabilities	10
Individuals requiring medical equipment	1
Prefer not to say	11

Respondents identified a range of disabilities and health conditions within their households, including:

- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ADHD
- Epilepsy
- Mobility limitations
- Spina bifida
- Degenerative disc disease
- COPD
- Arthritis
- Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD)
- Dialysis requirements
- Fatty liver disease
- Use of respiratory support equipment (mist machine)

Key observations:

- A significant number of households include members who may require additional assistance during emergencies.
- Households with children, elders, and individuals with disabilities may face increased challenges related to evacuation, sheltering, transportation, medication access, and continuity of care.
- These findings support the importance of maintaining plans that consider vulnerable populations and identify supports that may be required before, during, and after emergencies.
- The variety of conditions identified demonstrates that vulnerability within the community extends beyond mobility challenges and includes developmental, neurological, respiratory, and chronic health considerations.

Access to Transportation

Reliable transportation is a critical factor in emergency preparedness and evacuation planning.

Transportation Access Responses

Yes	41
No	11

Key observations:

- Most respondents reported having reliable access to transportation.
- However, approximately one in five respondents indicated they do not have reliable transportation.
- This finding highlights the importance of community evacuation support measures and transportation assistance planning for emergencies requiring relocation or access to essential services.

Access to Internet Services

Respondents were also asked about reliable internet access.

Internet Access Responses

Yes	44
No	3

Key observations:

- Most respondents reported having reliable internet access.
- This suggests that digital communication methods such as social media, email, websites, and emergency notification systems could be effective ways to share emergency information.
- However, not all residents have reliable internet access, reinforcing the need for multiple communication methods, including phone calls, community notices, radio, door-to-door notifications, and other traditional communication approaches.

Demographic Summary

These results indicate that respondents primarily represent working-age adults and a mix of small and large households. Many households include children, elders, or individuals with disabilities or health conditions that could increase vulnerability during emergencies. While most respondents have access to transportation and internet services, a notable number may require transportation assistance or alternative communication methods.

Section 2: Understanding of Emergency Management

This section explored community members' understanding of emergency management, awareness of emergency planning efforts, and knowledge of where to access information during an emergency.

Importance of Emergency Management

Respondents were asked whether they believe emergency management is important for the community.

Response Responses

Yes	54
No	0

Key Observations

- All respondents indicated that emergency management is important for the community.
- This demonstrates unanimous recognition of the value of emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities.

Perceived Community Risks

Respondents were asked to identify up to three emergencies they believe are most likely to affect the community.

Emergency Type	Responses
Extended power outages	42
Severe winter storms	38
Wildfire	35
Structural fire	25
Pandemic or public health emergency	22
Flooding	19
Search and Rescue incidents	19
Extreme heat events	17
Climate change-related impacts	15
Drought	11
Hazardous materials spill	11
Other	2

Additional risks identified under "Other" included:

- Nuclear winter
- Criminal activity

Key Observations

- Extended power outages were identified as the most likely emergency risk facing the community, followed closely by severe winter storms and wildfires.
- The results suggest respondents are particularly concerned about emergencies that can disrupt essential services and affect community operations for extended periods.
- The variety of risks identified demonstrates that community members recognize both natural and human-caused emergencies as potential threats.

Awareness of the Community Emergency Management Plan

Respondents were asked if they knew whether the community has an emergency management plan.

Response Responses

Yes	16
No	37

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they were unaware of the existence of a community emergency management plan.
- These results suggest there may be opportunities to increase awareness of emergency management planning activities and improve public understanding of available emergency preparedness resources.

Understanding of a State of Emergency

Respondents were asked if they know what the term "State of Emergency" means.

Response Responses

Yes	48
No	5

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they understand what a State of Emergency means.
- A small number of respondents indicated they do not understand the term, highlighting an opportunity for continued public education and awareness efforts.

Knowledge of Where to Find Emergency Information

Respondents were asked whether they know where to find emergency information during a crisis.

Response Responses

Yes	28
No	26

Key Observations

- Responses were nearly evenly split between those who know where to find emergency information and those who do not.
- This finding suggests there may be a need to strengthen communication efforts and increase public awareness of official emergency information sources before an emergency occurs.

Section Summary

Survey results indicate a strong recognition of the importance of emergency management within the community, with all respondents identifying it as important. Community members identified extended power outages, severe winter storms, and wildfires as the most likely emergencies to affect the community. While most respondents reported understanding the meaning of a State of Emergency, awareness of the community's emergency management plan was relatively low. Responses also revealed that many community members are uncertain about where to obtain emergency information during a crisis, highlighting an opportunity to improve public awareness and communication regarding emergency preparedness and response resources.

Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities

This section explored community perceptions regarding responsibility for emergency preparedness, expectations for household preparedness, and preferred methods for receiving emergency preparedness information.

Responsibility for Emergency Preparedness

Respondents were asked who they believe is primarily responsible for emergency preparedness in the community.

Response	Responses
All of the Above	39
Emergency Management Coordinator	11
Chief and Council	5
Fire Department	5
Individual Households	1
Federal Government	1

Key Observations

- The majority of respondents selected "**All of the Above**," indicating a strong belief that emergency preparedness requires involvement from multiple groups and organizations.
- The results suggest that community members generally view emergency preparedness as a collaborative effort involving leadership, emergency services, emergency management personnel, governments, and residents.

Household Responsibility for Emergency Supplies

Respondents were asked whether individual households are responsible for maintaining emergency supplies.

Response Responses

Yes	45
No	9

Key Observations

- Most respondents believe households have a responsibility to maintain their own emergency supplies.
- This suggests a general understanding that personal and family preparedness is an important component of overall community resilience.

Expectations for Community-Supplied Emergency Kits

Respondents were asked whether the Wagmatcook Band should provide 72-hour emergency kits to households.

Response Responses

Yes	54
No	0

Key Observations

- The results indicate a strong expectation that the community play a direct role in supporting household preparedness.
- While respondents generally recognized household responsibility for maintaining emergency supplies, they also expressed unanimous support for community assistance in helping residents become prepared.

Shared Responsibility for Emergency Preparedness

Respondents were asked whether emergency preparedness should be a shared responsibility.

Response Responses

Yes	54
No	0

Key Observations

- All respondents agreed that emergency preparedness should be a shared responsibility.
- This finding aligns with earlier responses identifying multiple organizations and individuals as responsible for preparedness activities.
- The results demonstrate strong support for a collaborative approach involving community leadership, emergency services, emergency management personnel, and individual households.

Preferred Sources of Emergency Preparedness Information

Respondents were asked to identify up to three places where they would like to receive information about preparing themselves and their families for emergencies.

Information Source	Responses
Wagmatcook Community Website	42
Community Facebook Page	37
Channel 12	32
Community Information Sessions	22
Workshops	19
Pamphlets or Brochures	17
Other (Monthly Newsletter)	1

Key Observations

- Digital communication channels were the most preferred sources of preparedness information, with the community website and Facebook page receiving the highest number of responses.
- Interest in information sessions, workshops, and printed materials demonstrates that respondents support a variety of approaches to public education and outreach.
- The results suggest that a multi-channel communication strategy would be the most effective approach for sharing emergency preparedness information with community members.

Section Summary

Responses indicate that community members overwhelmingly view emergency preparedness as a shared responsibility. Most respondents selected "All of the Above" when asked who is primarily responsible for emergency preparedness, and all respondents agreed that preparedness should be shared among community members, leadership, and emergency services.

Most respondents also believe that individual households are responsible for maintaining emergency supplies. At the same time, all respondents agreed that the Wagmatcook Band should provide 72-hour emergency kits to households.

Section 4: Household Preparedness

This section explored household preparedness levels, personal responsibility for emergency preparedness, emergency supplies, planning activities, and barriers that may affect a household's ability to respond to and recover from emergencies.

Ability to Sustain the Household

Respondents were asked whether their household could sustain itself for 72 hours without outside assistance.

Response Responses

Yes	39
No	19

Key Observations

- The results suggest that while many households have some level of preparedness, not all households may be able to remain self-sufficient during a prolonged emergency.

Household Emergency Supplies

Respondents were asked which emergency preparedness items they currently have available.

Item	Responses
Flashlight	48
First Aid Kit	40
Extra Batteries	36
72-Hour Food Supply	35
72-Hour Drinking Water Supply	32
Source of Electricity During Outages	27
Source of Heat During Outages	23
Battery/Wind-Up Radio	15

Key Observations

- Flashlights and first aid kits were the most commonly reported preparedness items.

- Approximately two-thirds of respondents reported having a 72-hour supply of food and drinking water.
- Fewer respondents reported having backup electricity or alternate heating sources available during outages.

Important Documents and Communication Planning

Respondents were asked whether they keep copies of important documents stored safely.

Response Responses

Yes	32
No	22

Respondents were also asked whether their family has a communication plan in case family members become separated during an emergency.

Response Responses

Yes	27
No	24

Among those with a communication plan:

Response	Responses
Yes, includes ways to contact family, neighbours, or community members	20
No	11

Key Observations

- More respondents reported safely storing important documents than those who do not.
- Responses regarding family communication plans were nearly evenly divided.
- Most respondents with communication plans indicated their plans include methods for contacting family members and others during an emergency.

Community Warming/Comfort Centre Awareness

Respondents were asked whether they know where the community warming/comfort centre is located.

Response Responses

Yes	39
No	13

Key Observations

- Most respondents reported knowing the location of the community warming/comfort centre.
- A smaller group indicated they were unaware of its location.

Preparedness for Extended Power Outages

Respondents were asked whether they feel personally prepared for extended power outages.

Response Responses

Yes	27
No	24

Key Observations

- Responses were relatively evenly split between those who feel prepared and those who do not.
- This finding aligns with earlier responses showing that many households do not have backup power or alternate heating sources available.

Barriers to Preparedness

Respondents were asked what prevents them from being more prepared.

Barrier	Responses
Cost	33
I'm Prepared	16
Time	14
Information	13
Other	2

Additional barriers identified included:

- Need for a generator panel.
- Better communication with family members.

Key Observations

- Cost was the most frequently identified barrier to preparedness.
- Time and access to information were also identified as challenges.

Interest in Preparedness Training

Respondents were asked whether they would attend preparedness training or workshops if offered within the community.

Response Responses

Yes	50
No	3

Key Observations

- Nearly all respondents indicated they would attend preparedness training or workshops.
- The results demonstrate strong community interest in preparedness education and skill development.
- This finding suggests strong potential participation in future preparedness initiatives.

Pet Preparedness

Respondents were asked whether they have pets and whether they have a plan for them during an emergency.

Pet Ownership

Response Responses

Yes	39
No	16

Emergency Plan for Pets

Response Responses

Yes	11
No	33

Key Observations

- Most respondents reported having pets.
- Relatively few respondents reported having an emergency plan for their pets.
- The results suggest pet preparedness is an area where additional education and planning support may be beneficial.

Shelter-in-Place Knowledge

Respondents were asked whether they would know what to do if instructed to remain in their home during an emergency.

Response Responses

Yes	20
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Response Responses

No 32

Key Observations

- More respondents reported they would not know what to do if instructed to shelter in place.
- Those who indicated they would know what to do generally described remaining indoors, monitoring information sources, and relying on emergency supplies.
- The results suggest there may be a need for additional public education regarding shelter-in-place procedures.

Evacuation Knowledge

Respondents were asked whether they would know what to do if instructed to evacuate their home.

Response Responses

Yes 23

No 30

Key Observations

- More respondents reported they would not know what to do during an evacuation than those who indicated they would.
- Those who described evacuation actions generally identified leaving immediately, gathering essential items, and relocating to a safe location.
- The results suggest additional education regarding evacuation procedures may be beneficial.

Section Summary

Survey results indicate that many respondents are taking steps to prepare for emergencies and severe weather events, with most reporting that they maintain some form of emergency supplies and believe their household could sustain itself for at least 72 hours without outside assistance. Flashlights, first aid kits, extra batteries, food supplies, and drinking water were the most commonly reported preparedness items.

Respondents also demonstrated awareness of the community warming/comfort centre, and there was strong interest in attending preparedness training or workshops. Cost was identified as the most significant barrier preventing households from becoming more prepared.

At the same time, the results identified several areas where preparedness may be limited. Many respondents reported not having family communication plans, not feeling prepared for extended power outages, and not having emergency plans for their pets. Responses also indicated that more respondents would not know what to do if instructed to shelter in place or evacuate than those who said they would know how to respond. Overall, the findings suggest that while many households have taken preparedness measures, preparedness

levels vary across the community and opportunities exist to strengthen household planning, education, and readiness.

Section 5: Communication and Information

This section explored community awareness of emergency communication systems, experiences receiving information during emergencies, preferred types of emergency updates, and community perspectives on what constitutes a culturally safe emergency response.

Awareness of the Unama'ki Emergency Alert System

Respondents were asked whether they are signed up for the Unama'ki Emergency Alert System.

Response Responses

Yes	32
No	21

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they are signed up for the Unama'ki Emergency Alert System.
- A significant number of respondents reported they are not enrolled in the system.
- The results suggest there may be opportunities to increase registration and awareness of the alert system within the community.

Perceptions of Emergency Communication

Respondents were asked whether emergency communication has been clear during past emergency events.

Response Responses

Yes	27
No	25

Key Observations

- Responses were nearly evenly divided between those who felt emergency communication has been clear and those who did not.
- Nearly half of respondents indicated communication could be improved during emergency events.

Feeling Informed During Emergencies

Respondents were asked whether they have ever felt uninformed during an emergency.

Response Responses

Yes	35
No	19

Key Observations

- Most respondents reported having felt uninformed during an emergency at some point.
- Fewer respondents indicated they had always felt adequately informed.
- The results suggest there may be opportunities to improve the frequency, consistency, or accessibility of emergency information.

Information Respondents Would Like to Receive More Frequently

Respondents were asked what types of emergency-related updates they would like to receive more frequently.

Update Type	Responses
Power Outage Information	46
Preparedness Tips for Households	43
Equipment and Resource Updates	43
Emergency Warming Centre Information	39
Training and Workshop Announcements	38
Wildfire Risk Updates	35
Flood Risk Updates	26

Key Observations

- Power outage information was the most frequently requested type of update.
- Preparedness tips and information regarding available equipment and resources were also highly requested.
- Respondents expressed interest in receiving more information before emergencies occur, including preparedness guidance and training opportunities.
- Interest in warming centre information, wildfire updates, and flood updates suggests community members value hazard-specific information and available support services.

Perspectives on a Culturally Safe Emergency Response

Respondents were asked what a culturally safe emergency response would look like in the community.

Common Themes Identified

Respect for Mi'kmaq Culture, Language, and Leadership

- Respondents emphasized the importance of respecting Mi'kmaq traditions, values, language, and community leadership during emergencies.
- Many respondents identified collaboration with Elders, Chief and Council, and community members as essential.

Clear and Accessible Communication

- Respondents frequently highlighted the importance of timely, clear, and accessible communication.
- Several respondents emphasized the value of providing information in both English and Mi'kmaq and ensuring language barriers do not prevent people from receiving important information.

Community Support and Neighbour Helping Neighbour

- Many responses focused on community members checking on one another, particularly Elders, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable households.
- Respondents described a culturally safe response as one where community members work together and support each other during emergencies.

Support for Vulnerable Community Members

- Common suggestions included transportation assistance, wellness checks, generator support, and ensuring access to comfort centres and emergency resources.
- Several respondents emphasized the importance of prioritizing assistance for Elders, persons with disabilities, and those requiring additional support.

Community-Based Emergency Response Teams

- Respondents expressed interest in having trained local teams that are familiar with the community and its members.
- Suggestions included emergency response teams, generator support teams, community navigators, and individuals capable of assisting households during emergencies.

Preparedness, Planning, and Community Resources

- Respondents highlighted the need for increased preparedness planning, community training, and emergency resources.
- Suggestions included community storage facilities, expanded comfort centre services, distribution of emergency supplies, and improved emergency response planning.

Key Observations

- Responses consistently emphasized the importance of community-based approaches to emergency management.
- Respect for Mi'kmaq culture, language, traditions, and leadership was identified as an important priority.

- Communication, support for vulnerable residents, and neighbour-to-neighbour assistance were repeatedly identified as key elements of a culturally safe emergency response.
- Many respondents highlighted the importance of preparedness, planning, and accessible emergency resources within the community.

Section Summary

Survey results indicate that while most respondents are registered for the Unama'ki Emergency Alert System, many have experienced situations where they felt uninformed during an emergency. Responses regarding the clarity of past emergency communications were nearly evenly divided, suggesting varying perceptions of how effectively information has been shared during emergency events.

The most frequently requested information updates were related to power outages, household preparedness, available equipment and resources, and warming centre information. When describing a culturally safe emergency response, respondents consistently emphasized the importance of respecting Mi'kmaq culture and leadership, providing clear and accessible communication, supporting vulnerable community members, and fostering community-based approaches where neighbours, families, and local response teams work together to support one another during emergencies.

Section 6: Vulnerable Populations and Community Support

This section explored community perceptions regarding which groups may require additional support during emergencies, the types of supports that are most needed, and opportunities to better protect vulnerable community members before, during, and after emergencies.

Groups That May Require Additional Support During Emergencies

Respondents were asked which groups they believe may require additional support during emergencies.

Group	Responses
Elders	54
Persons with Disabilities	54
Individuals Requiring Medical Equipment	49
Individuals with Chronic Medical Conditions	47
Children and Youth	46
Individuals Experiencing Mental Health Challenges	44
Households Without Vehicles	42
Single-Parent Households	40
Individuals Living Alone	40
Other	4

Additional groups identified by respondents included:

- Individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Pet owners.
- Families with both parents.
- All community members, regardless of circumstance.

Key Observations

- All respondents identified Elders and persons with disabilities as groups requiring additional support during emergencies.
- Individuals requiring medical equipment, those with chronic medical conditions, and children and youth were also frequently identified as needing additional assistance.
- Responses indicate a broad understanding that vulnerability extends beyond age and disability and can include transportation challenges, mental health considerations, family circumstances, and social isolation.

Awareness of Community Members Requiring Additional Assistance

Respondents were asked whether they know someone in the community who may require additional assistance during an evacuation.

Response	Responses
Yes	29
No	10
Prefer Not to Say	15

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they know someone in the community who may require additional assistance during an evacuation.
- The results suggest that many community members are aware of vulnerable individuals within their neighbourhoods and families.

Supports Needed for Elders and Persons with Disabilities

Respondents were asked what supports are most needed for Elders and persons with disabilities during emergencies.

Support	Responses
Backup Power for Medical Equipment	47
Door-to-Door Wellness Checks	46
Priority Evacuation Assistance	41
Accessible Transportation	41
Ongoing Check-Ins During Recovery	38

Support	Responses
Space for Ceremony, Prayer, or Spiritual Support	24
Access to Traditional Foods	23
Other	1

Additional comments identified the need for increased social supports and opportunities for isolated Elders to connect with others.

Key Observations

- Backup power for medical equipment and door-to-door wellness checks were identified as the most needed supports.
- Priority evacuation assistance and accessible transportation were also identified as significant needs.
- Respondents recognized that support needs extend beyond immediate response activities and include recovery supports, spiritual needs, and access to culturally important resources.

Inclusion of Community Voices in Planning

Respondents were asked whether they feel community voices are included in emergency planning.

Response Responses

Yes	31
No	21

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they feel community voices are included in planning activities.
- The results suggest opportunities to continue strengthening community engagement and participation in emergency planning processes.

Protecting Vulnerable Community Members During Emergencies

Respondents were asked what the community could do better to protect vulnerable members during emergencies.

Common Themes Identified

Wellness Checks and Neighbour Support

- The most common recommendation was checking on vulnerable individuals, particularly Elders, persons with disabilities, children, and those living alone.
- Many respondents emphasized neighbour-to-neighbour support and regular wellness checks during emergencies.

Improved Communication

- Respondents frequently highlighted the need for better communication, updates, and information sharing.
- Several respondents noted that not everyone uses social media and suggested multiple methods of communication.

Transportation and Access to Services

- Respondents identified transportation assistance as an important need, particularly for those requiring evacuation or access to comfort centres and services.

Emergency Supplies and Resources

- Suggestions included providing generators, emergency kits, battery banks, and other essential resources to vulnerable households.

Community Response Teams and Volunteers

- Many respondents recommended establishing teams of volunteers or designated community members to assist vulnerable residents and conduct check-ins.

Planning and Identification of Needs

- Respondents suggested developing plans, maintaining lists of vulnerable individuals, identifying household needs in advance, and ensuring procedures are in place before emergencies occur.

Safe Spaces and Specialized Supports

- Respondents recommended creating safe spaces and ensuring supports are available for individuals with specific needs, including children with autism and those requiring quiet or enclosed environments.

Key Observations

- Responses consistently emphasized the importance of checking on vulnerable community members and ensuring they receive support during emergencies.
- Communication, transportation, and emergency supplies were repeatedly identified as key areas requiring attention.
- Respondents expressed strong support for community-based approaches, including volunteers, neighbourhood support, and local response teams.
- The importance of planning, preparedness, and identifying vulnerable individuals before emergencies occur was a recurring theme throughout the responses.

Section Summary

Survey results indicate that respondents perceive Elders, persons with disabilities, individuals requiring medical equipment, and those with chronic medical conditions as the groups most likely to require additional support during emergencies. Most respondents also indicated they know someone within the community who may need additional assistance during an evacuation.

The most frequently identified support needs included backup power for medical equipment, door-to-door wellness checks, priority evacuation assistance, and accessible transportation. While most respondents felt community voices are included in emergency planning, a significant number indicated they do not.

When asked how the community could better protect vulnerable members, respondents consistently emphasized the importance of wellness checks, improved communication, transportation assistance, emergency supplies, community response teams, and proactive planning to identify and address the needs of vulnerable residents before emergencies occur. Overall, the findings demonstrate a strong community desire for proactive, community-based approaches that prioritize the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable residents throughout all phases of an emergency.

Section 7: Expectations of the Emergency Management Program

This section explored community expectations regarding future emergency management initiatives, emergency preparedness education, lessons learned from past emergencies, perceptions of community preparedness, and whether emergency decisions reflect community values.

Emergency Management Initiatives to Develop or Expand

Respondents were asked what emergency management initiatives they would like to see developed or expanded in the community.

Initiative	Responses
Household 72-Hour Emergency Kit Program	49
Emergency Volunteer Team	47
Emergency Preparedness Information Packages for Households	45
Land-Based Safety Training	37
Voluntary Vulnerable Persons Registry	34
Mental Health and Wellness Supports	34
Annual Community Emergency Preparedness Day	31
Other	1

Additional suggestions included:

- A community van schedule to provide transportation for Elders and persons with disabilities.

Key Observations

- A Household 72-Hour Emergency Kit Program was the most frequently selected initiative.
- Respondents also showed strong interest in developing an Emergency Volunteer Team and receiving household preparedness information packages.
- There was notable support for initiatives focused on vulnerable populations, mental health and wellness, and land-based safety training.
- The results suggest that respondents value both practical preparedness measures and community-based support initiatives.

Emergency Preparedness Education in Schools

Respondents were asked whether emergency preparedness should be taught in schools.

Response Responses

Yes	48
No	2

Key Observations

- Nearly all respondents indicated that emergency preparedness should be taught in schools.
- The results suggest strong support for introducing preparedness education at an early age and building emergency awareness among youth.

Learning from Past Emergencies

Respondents were asked whether they feel the community learns from past emergencies.

Response Responses

Yes	42
No	11

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated they believe the community learns from past emergencies.

Perceptions of Community Preparedness

Respondents were asked how they would rate the community's overall preparedness.

Response	Responses
Very Prepared	2
Prepared	10
Somewhat Prepared	27
Not Very Prepared	11

Response	Responses
Unsure	1

Key Observations

- The largest number of respondents rated the community as somewhat prepared.
- A notable number of respondents indicated the community is not very prepared, suggesting opportunities to further strengthen preparedness efforts.

Emergency Decisions and Community Values

Respondents were asked whether they feel emergency decisions respect community values.

Response Responses

Yes	41
No	8

Key Observations

- Most respondents indicated that emergency decisions generally respect community values.
- A smaller number of respondents indicated they do not feel emergency decisions always reflect community values and expectations.

Common Themes from Respondents Who Answered "No"

Communication and Transparency

- Respondents expressed a desire for greater transparency and communication regarding emergency decisions and planning processes.
- Some indicated that they often become aware of decisions only after they have already been made.

Safety and Security Concerns

- Respondents referenced concerns following the gunman incident in the community and expressed a need for improved planning and response procedures during similar events.
- Some respondents indicated that more consideration should be given to community members' feelings of safety following traumatic events.

Mental Health and Recovery Supports

- Respondents emphasized the need for emotional and mental health supports following emergencies and traumatic incidents.
- Some noted that additional time and support should be provided to allow community members and staff to recover from significant events.

Community Resources

- Suggestions included increasing community emergency resources, including additional generators and supports for community facilities.

Section Summary

Survey results indicate strong support for expanding emergency preparedness initiatives within the community, particularly those that provide practical resources to households, strengthen volunteer capacity, and improve access to emergency preparedness information. Respondents also expressed interest in initiatives that support vulnerable populations, mental health and wellness, and land-based safety education.

There was overwhelming support for teaching emergency preparedness in schools, demonstrating the importance respondents place on building preparedness knowledge and skills among youth. Most respondents also felt that the community learns from past emergencies and uses those experiences to improve future preparedness and response efforts.

When asked to assess the community's overall preparedness, respondents most commonly viewed the community as being somewhat prepared, suggesting that while progress has been made, there are still opportunities to strengthen preparedness and resilience.

Most respondents felt that emergency decisions generally respect community values. However, some respondents identified opportunities for improvement, particularly related to communication and transparency, planning for complex emergencies, providing mental health and recovery supports following traumatic events, and ensuring adequate resources are available to support the community during emergencies. Overall, the findings suggest a strong desire for continued growth and investment in community emergency management programs and services.

Overall Survey Conclusions

The survey results demonstrate strong community support for emergency management and a desire to strengthen preparedness, communication, and support for vulnerable populations. Residents recognize the importance of emergency preparedness and expect a collaborative approach involving community leadership, emergency services, and individual households.

The findings indicate several strengths, including:

- Strong interest in preparedness training and education.
- Broad recognition of community risks.
- High levels of support for vulnerable populations.
- Strong support for community-based emergency initiatives.

The survey also identified several opportunities for improvement:

- Increasing awareness of emergency plans and information sources.
- Improving emergency communications and information sharing.
- Enhancing household preparedness and evacuation knowledge.
- Expanding support for vulnerable populations.
- Strengthening volunteer capacity and community response capabilities.

Overall, the results suggest that the community has a solid foundation for emergency management but is seeking greater preparedness, improved communication, and more practical programs that help households become more resilient. The survey provides clear direction for future emergency management priorities and supports continued investment in community-based preparedness initiatives that reflect local values, culture, and community needs.