

Municipality of East Ferris

Community Safety and Well Being - 2022 Progress Report

In 2021, as recommended by the East Ferris Police Services Board, the Municipality approved a Community Safety and Wellness Plan (CSWBP). The Plan provides direction for East Ferris, highlighting opportunities for greater integration by community organizations to prevent difficult situations from escalating into a safety or health crisis. It focuses on the root causes of social problems to reduce crime and improve well-being. A CSWBP Advisory Committee was formed to monitor the progress of the Plan and to determine if there are emerging social issues of concern. Following is the 2022 Progress Report.

Municipality of East Ferris Community Safety and Well Being Plan			2022 Progress Report
Baseline Overall 84% of East Ferris survey respondents are happy or very happy.			Baseline data to be updated in 2023 as part of the Municipal Strategic Plan Survey.
Health 82% of respondents rate their health as very good or excellent.	Safety 95% of respondents feel safe in their own home at night.	Well-Being 83% of respondents feel a sense of belonging to the community.	Baseline data to be updated in 2023 as part of the Municipal Strategic Plan Survey.
Desired Outcomes			
Healthier East Ferris with everyone supported to reach both physical and mental well-being.	Safer East Ferris with everyone going about their daily activities without risk or fear of harm.	Improved well-being in a vibrant East Ferris with people who are connected and engaged, and enjoy strong social supports.	The desired outcomes remain as identified.
Objectives			
By June 2023 increase the percentage of families who have access to a family physician from 88% to 90% (annual survey).	By December 31st 2022 decrease the number of OPP calls related to Property Crimes in East Ferris from 10 in 2021 to 2 (PSB OPP annual report).	By June 2023, collaborate with DNSSAB and local primary schools to complete a Business Case in support of additional licensed childcare spaces (Municipal record of	- A new East Ferris Medical Centre opened in May 2022 with an additional doctor to serve East Ferris families. - The Municipality and the OPP presented Lock or Lose It educational

	By June 2023, maintain the 95% of residents who feel safe in the house at night (annual survey).	activity).	campaigns. A working committee was formed, with representatives from the Municipality, the DNSSAB, the NBPSDHU, East Ferris primary schools and their related school boards and not-for-profit childcare centres, to develop the Business Case related to childcare spaces in East Ferris. A community survey is being conducted with results to be tabulated by July. Meetings with provincial ministries are scheduled for August to review the Business Case.
By June 2023 decrease the EMS low priority calls from 16 in 2019 to 5 (EMS report).	By June 2023, increase citizens' feeling of personal safety from 68% to 75% (annual survey).	By June 2023 support community organizations / builders in adding 6 affordable housing units in East Ferris (Municipal Building Permits).	Preliminary discussions with Seniors Villas of East Ferris have been held regarding additional affordable housing for the community.
- By June 2023, aim for a top 10 finish in the provincial ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge (ParticipACTION results). - By June 2023 increase the percentage of residents who rate their health as very good or excellent	By December 2021 Council approves the East Ferris Active Transportation Plan (Council record of deliberation).	- By June 2022, in collaboration with Club Action 50+, secure Seniors Active Living Centre Funding (confirmation letter). - By June 2024, in collaboration with Club Action 50+ and Seniors Villa secure Age Friendly Community Accreditation (confirmation letter).	- The Municipality registered East Ferris in the 2022 Community Better Challenge that included the grand opening of three pickleball courts with training activities. - The East Ferris Active Transportation Plan was approved and in June 2022, the shoulders of Lake Nosbonsing Road were paved and a "Slow Down" educational campaign presented.

from 82% to 85% (annual survey).			Funding was confirmed for the community's Seniors Active Living Centre.
	By June 2023 ensure speeds of 50/10 mbps are available to 95% of municipal households (Blue Sky Net report).	By June 2022 Council to approve the East Ferris Recreation Master Plan to include a focus on youth /teen led programming (Record of Council Deliberation).	- Funding to +1,600 East Ferris properties was confirmed to deliver internet fibre to the home. - The development of the East Ferris Facilities and Recreation Master Plan is underway and expected by the fall of 2022.
		- By December 2021, publish the East Ferris community calendar with additional telephone hotlines e.g. mental health 988, road safety 511 and community social services 211 numbers (2022 Calendar). - By June 2023, expand the Municipal website to include the District of Nipissing CSWB Network enabling residents to navigate and access services easier and more effectively (2023 website).	In January 2022, calendars with the added hotline contact information were delivered to all East Ferris homes and businesses.

The CSWBP Advisory Committee has identified 3 new issues for the Municipality to address.

- Safety of children traveling to school by bus
 - Incidents have been reported of motorists not following school bus stop laws. The Advisory Committee concluded that the safety of East Ferris children is paramount when boarding and exiting school buses on local roads. A regional working committee was formed to engage in the "Let's Remember Adam" campaign and the City of North Bay took the lead. Advocacy efforts resulted in the provincial government passing Bill 246, better known as the Safer School Bus Act. This legislation requires all

school buses to be equipped with an eight-light orange-red warning system by July 1, 2022.

- There are concerns about infant and child nutrition in East Ferris.
 - The East Ferris CSWBP survey identified food insecurity issues affecting some families in the community. The concern is how many infants/children are being affected by these incidents of household food insecurity. The Committee heard from an informed citizen who spoke of the need for an "infant food bank" at the new East Ferris Medical Center. The Advisory Committee concluded that more information is needed to better understand the prevalence of the problem in East Ferris. Questions have been added to the community child care survey and responses are expected in July.
- East Ferris has experienced an increase in domestic disturbance calls from 26 calls in 2020 to 45 calls in 2021.
 - East Ferris PSB and the Municipality supported the North Bay OPP detachment in its advocacy that resulted in the addition of a mobile crisis response team as well as the addition of specialized resources to respond to East Ferris domestic conflict and mental health calls for service. The PSB will monitor the situation through an analysis of the ongoing calls for service and consultation with the OPP.