

To: Safety and Facilities Services Committee

From: Adam Grant, Commissioner,
Safety and Facilities Services Department

Report Number: SF-26-10

Date of Report: March 4, 2026

Date of Meeting: March 9, 2026

Subject: 2026 Emergency Preparedness Week

Ward: All Wards

File: 03-05

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide information about the upcoming Emergency Preparedness week, taking place May 3-9, 2026.

This report outlines the City's proposed public education strategies for 2026, including the annual theme and the platforms to be used for disseminating information to residents.

2.0 Recommendation

That the Safety and Facilities Services Committee recommend to City Council:

That Report SF-26-10 dated March 4, 2026, concerning 2026 Emergency Preparedness Week, be received for information.

3.0 Input From Other Sources

- Fire Services
- Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990,c. E.9, s.2(c)

4.0 Analysis

4.1 Background

Emergency Preparedness Week is a national public awareness initiative that has been observed annually since 1996. The Ministry of Emergency Preparedness and Response has designated May 3-9, 2026, as Emergency Preparedness Week in Ontario. The initiative is a collaborative effort among provincial and territorial emergency management

organizations, undertaken in concert with Public Safety Canada and its partners, with activities delivered at the local level. The theme for 2026 is "Be Prepared Know Your Risks."

In advance of Emergency Preparedness Week, the City of Oshawa's Emergency Management team is working in collaboration with Corporate Communications to develop and distribute preparedness information to residents throughout the week of May 3–9, 2026.

Public education content will include the following topics:

- How to assemble an emergency preparedness kit, and update an existing one;
- Preparation strategies for situations residents may encounter, such as significant weather events or extended power outages;
- How to develop a household emergency plan; and
- An Open House Saturday May 9, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Oshawa Fire Hall 6, 2339 Simcoe St. N.

Details regarding the specific platforms and channels that will be used to communicate with residents will be finalized in coordination with Corporate Communications and will align with the City of Oshawa's established outreach practices.

4.2 Legislative Compliance

The *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.9, s. 2(c), requires all Ontario municipalities to provide public education on risks to public safety and on public preparedness for emergencies. The activities outlined in this report support and fulfill this legislative requirement.

5.0 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications related to this report.

6.0 Relationship to the Oshawa Strategic Plan

This report responds to the Oshawa Strategic Plan Priority Area “Care: Safe and Sustainable Environment” with the goal to enhance emergency preparedness and response, including preparing for potential climate emergencies and significant weather events.



Stephen Barkwell, Fire Chief,
Fire Services



Adam Grant, Commissioner,
Safety and Facilities Services Department