



Municipal Report

Subject: UPDATE Carbon Monoxide PJYCC February 1. 2020
Meeting: Council in Committee - 04 Feb 2020
Prepared For: Council in Committee
Staff Contact: Sue Klatt, CAO/Clerk

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On Saturday February 1, 2020 high carbon monoxide levels in the Paul J Yakabuski Community Centre caused for participants and patrons to have side effects of carbon monoxide exposure and approximately 40 individuals(children and some parents) attended local hospitals(Arnrior, Barry's Bay, Deep River, Pembroke) for assessment. Three(3) municipal staff were also encouraged to attend the hospital for assessment.

The main cause of the high levels of carbon monoxide were found to be the Olympic Ice Resurfacers but other deficiencies may have also contributed.

As of February 3, 2020 TSSA and the Chief Fire Official have cleared the building for occupation and use.

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS:

A tournament started at 7:00a.m. and last participants left by 6:15p.m. and an ice rental followed ending at 7:30p.m.

5:30 Facilities Manager was called to address a complaint/concern that some children had nausea and one had vomited. Upon his arrival, one child remained and most of the teams had left.

The facilities manager arrived to the building approximately 5:45p.m. to address a report of symptoms of vomiting and nausea. He did a walk around the facility and did not smell propane or get more information from parents as the tournament had ended. An incident report was filled out by the Facilities attendant to log the concern.

6:00pm Recreation Community Development Coordinator(RCDC) received a call and advised an incident report was filled out.

8:25pm a voice mail was received from Arnrior Hockey Team advising some children were lightheaded, vomiting and some parents had reported some propane smells but this message was not heard until staff was leaving approximately 9:30p.m.

9:42pm RCDC received a call from Barry's Bay Minor Hockey President advising multiple kids and parents attended hospitals for assessment with symptoms of nausea and headaches.

RCDC initiated calling the Fire Chief, Chief Building Official, Facilities Manager to report the incident to have the Fire Department attend the site due to reported carbon monoxide to test the levels.

10:00pm Barry's Bay Minor Hockey posted the notice to all participants of the tournament to advise to seek assessment at hospital if symptoms exist.

10:30pm Mayor was notified of the incident and the CAO/Clerk was contacted. St. Francis Memorial Hospital Emergency Doctor contacted for messaging for the notice which went out approximately 2:00a.m.

Levels of carbon monoxide throughout the building were determined by 11:30p.m. Chief Fire Official determined the levels throughout the building ranged from 35-121 depending on location.

11:30p.m. the Chief Fire Official reported the levels to all hospitals in the event they had individuals seeking assessment for the symptoms.

12:30a.m. CAO/Clerk-Mayor-RCDC attended St. Francis Memorial to speak to the Emergency Doctor for assistance on public messaging and update on cases reported and calls received. Deputy Clerk posted messaging on social media around 2:00a.m.

In the morning, the Spill action centre was called to activate the Technical Safety Standard Authority(TSSA) to attend on site; TSSA was there by 10:00a.m. with the Chief Fire Official, the Chief Building Official, arena staff, CAO/Clerk and RCDC.

Throughout the day, focus was on 3 areas:

1. Propane Lines and heaters:

One propane radiant heater on the ceiling was not firing properly and caused improper combustion. This deficiency has been prioritized and technician attending to repair.

A propane technician on Monday along with TSSA did a complete assessment of all other propane equipment including propane stoves and heaters.

2. Ventilation:

As part of the ventilation assessment, a contractor went on the roof to inspect for snow and a technician found that snow was not the issue but that a drive belt was damaged. It has been repaired and replaced;

Side Vents were found to be operational.

3. Olympic Ice Resurficer This was deemed to be the main cause of the high levels of carbon monoxide;

Resurfice Corporation technician was also in attendance on Sunday to assess the Olympic Ice Resurficer and to calibrate the equipment and found there was a propane fuel system issues. The mixer(carburator) was replaced and issue has been corrected. It was determined the equipment has been well maintained for the year of the unit; a yearly maintenance program has been implemented with Resurfice Corporation.

A report which is attached was forwarded to the PEOC (Provincial Emergency Operations Centre)

By 1:00p.m. on Monday February 3, 2020 TSSA representative cleared the building and the Chief Fire Official released the scene deeming the building safe for continued operation.

The building will reopen Wednesday February 5, 2020

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

Implement yearly calibration for Olympic Resurfacer(2) scheduled every fall

Implement all compliance recommendations from TSSA resulting from this review

Implement and adopt a standard practice for notification (ie hospitals/groups/staff)

Post the TSSA findings and recommendations once received

Carbon Monoxide detectors have been placed throughout the building and technicians are quoting on hardwired carbon monoxide options.

ATTACHED:

[PEOC REPORTING EVENT PJYCC](#)

From: "PEOC DO 01 (SOLGEN)" <PEOCDO01@ontario.ca>

Date: February 2, 2020 at 2:07:36 PM EST

Subject: HEADS UP // Madawaska Valley (Township) // 2020-02-01 // CO Release in Hockey Arena

Initial Information

Current Situation:

- At 11:11 the MEMC/Fire Chief from Madawaska Valley FD called the OFMEM line to inform us about an event during a hockey tournament at the Madawaska Valley Arena, 65 Arena Road, Barry's Bay, ON K0J 1B0
- Last night 2020-02-01 beginning at 17:15, 42 children were taken to a number of regional hospital's and health centres feeling extremely ill with what is suspected as carbon monoxide poisoning
- At 22:25 last night the Madawaska Valley FD was called out who then contacted a local worker for the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) that lived nearby to investigate
- Fire service found readings of Carbon Monoxide as high as 121 ppm. As the arena is supplied with propane, that was believed to be the cause. All units were serviced in the last 6 months but are awaiting the investigation as to what happened.
- Everyone was released from hospital and none were admitted
- No requests for PEOC/OFMEM support at this time

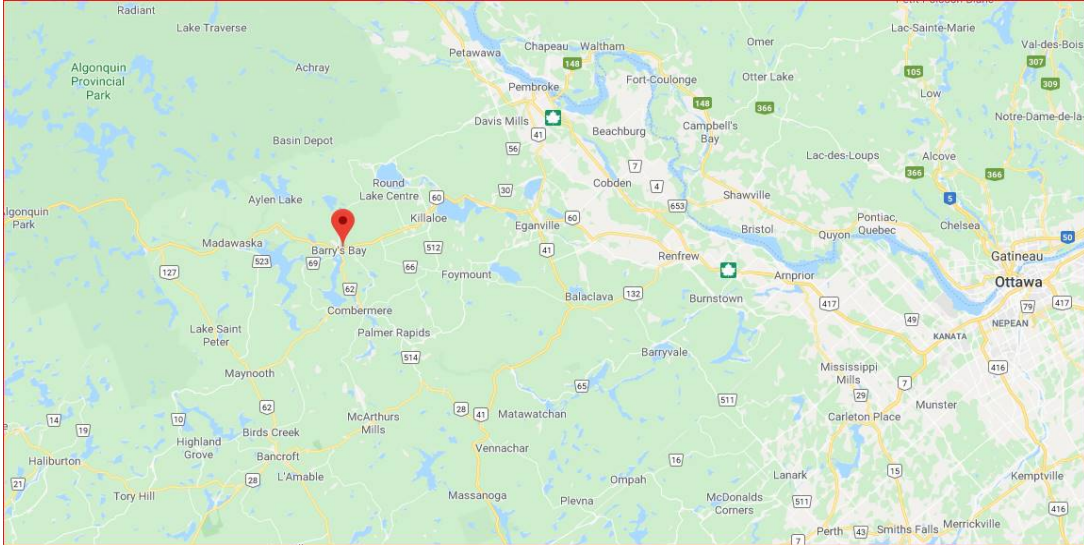
Current Actions:

- Presently the TSSA inspector is in the arena and investigating what had happened

Future Actions:

- The PEOC is maintaining situational awareness of the incident
- The PEOC will contact TSSA directly for periodic updates
- The PEOC will provide further updates if necessary

**Madawaska Valley
Arena**



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