Climate change adaptations for northern First Nation communities & individuals INFRASTRUCTURE Impacts on roads Impacts on homes Impacts on drinking water systems climate change impacts on energy & buildings & wastewater lagoons severe heavy wet more changes to severe storms heavy freezing rain snow loads rain rain & snow storms wet snow heavy & ice storms Warmer wastewater lagoon rains waters leakage Drinking Water Systems poor drinking water quality flooding building damage heavy rain outages **1** changing contaminated drinking damage flooding water levels water source Plan for Monitor wastewater snow load lagoons Assess vulnerability & make a plan Community Centre Make sure Create a plan for infrastructure is ready for Produce renewable power outages climate change community-wide & energy in households Build/retrofit for Monitor Rely less on diesel climate change generators, provide drinking water back-up power quality Drinking Water Homes, community Maintain good Treatment Plant buildings, energy infrastructure & Have an community

drainage

treatment plants

emergency plan

to supply water if needed

JP NORTH ON CLIMATE
Climate Change Impact and Adaptation
Study for the North of Ontario

freeze-thaw

cycles

road

damage

Design roads

to let water

run off

Include ditches &

culverts and keep them maintained



Produce renewable energy



- · Communities can use renewable sources. like wind, solar or micro hydro, to produce energy.
- · Renewable energy can reduce dependence on diesel generators or the provincial grid.
- · Renewable energy can also provide backup power if the larger electrical grid goes down.

Good community drainage



- · Good drainage can help keep water from settling on roads and keep it out of basements and crawlspaces.
- Drainage systems should have:
 - an appropriate slope
 - water holding areas (like wetlands)
 - culverts that are the right size and not damaged
 - clear ditches

Snow load



- · Snow load is the weight of snow and ice on the roof of a home or building.
- · Know the warning signs of snow load problems for homes/buildings.
- · Measure snow amounts and have a plan for snow removal.

Vulnerability assessment



- · Climate change will bring many challenges to energy infrastructure, community roads, water systems, homes and buildings. A vulnerability assessment can help identify how these parts of the community are at risk.
- · Make a plan to get vulnerable infrastructure ready for climate change.

Build or retrofit for climate change



- · Keep climate change (extreme heat, severe storms, flooding, etc.) in mind when planning new projects or repairing/upgrading existing homes, buildings and services.
- · Improve community homes with things like insulation, drainage, sump pumps, energy efficient windows, etc.
- · Structural changes or improvements might also be needed.

Monitor drinking water quality



- Monitor drinking water sources for potential climate change impacts (lower water levels, water quality changes, problems with intake pipes, etc.).
- · Have a community plan if tap water is not safe to drink.

Plan for power outages 1



- · A community plan for power outages could include: an emergency centre (warming in winter, cooling in summer), support for community members, community alerts, etc.
- · Having a source of emergency power will be an important part of community planning.
- · Households can prepare by: having emergency supplies, knowing how to keep refrigerated foods from spoiling, knowing how to keep pipes from freezing, etc.

Building roads



- · Shape roads to help water drain off (water on roads can create potholes & washouts).
- Include ditches and culverts and keep them maintained.
- Limit erosion on roadside slopes by keeping the grade gentle and letting plants grow.

Monitor wastewater lagoons



· Climate change could bring challenges like more heavy rain events. Monitor lagoons for signs of problems, like leakage, that can contaminate surrounding land.





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