

Regional Centres of Expertise

on education for sustainable development

RCE GREATER SUDBURY

The region

The City of Greater Sudbury with a population of 157,857 encompasses more than 3,600 square kilometres of land and water, making it one of the largest municipalities in Canada.

Over half the city's population lives within the urban centre while numerous smaller settlements and the rural areas host the remainder of the population. The region possesses a valuable resource base that includes minerals, forestry and agriculture.

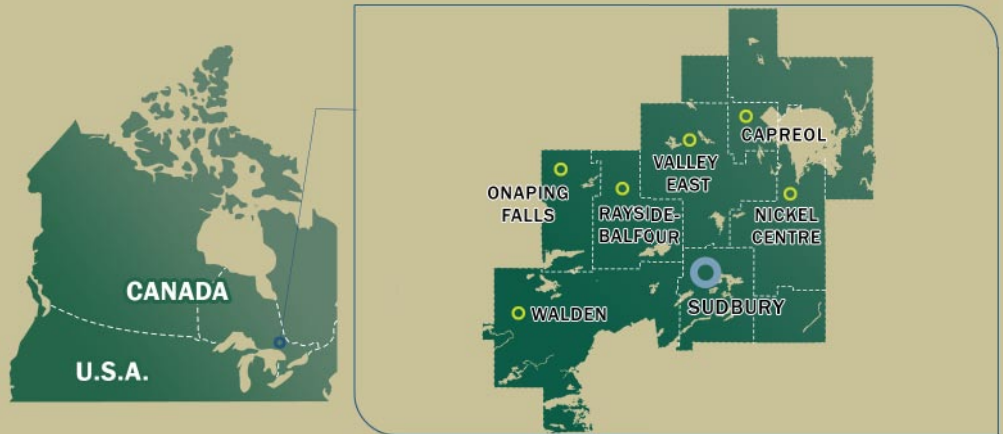
For the past century mining has been the most important part of the region's local economy. Today, while mining remains a major influence, the city has also established itself as a major centre of financial and business services, tourism, health care, research, government and education.

Regional role

The RCE Greater Sudbury will enhance and form partnerships to create synergies in the implementation of education for sustainable development (ESD). Such ESD initiatives will advance economic, environmental and social factors to improve human health and community sustainability.

Organizations involved

Organizations involved with RCE Greater Sudbury include a wide range of representatives from both the public, private and not for profit sectors. Lead agencies addressing identified challenges are: Sudbury District Health Unit for Active Living / Healthy Lifestyle, EarthCare for the Natural Environment, the Social Planning Council for Civic Engagement / Social Capital, and the Greater Sudbury Development Corporation for Economic Growth.



Regional challenges

Four major challenges identified in the region are:

1. Active Living / Healthy Lifestyle
 - Individual health status
 - Community safety
 - Outdated facilities
2. Natural Environment
 - Impaired ecosystems due to mining
 - Problems related to lake water quality from industrial pollution, storm water runoff, wetland destruction, and waste disposal
3. Civic Engagement / Social Capital
 - Homelessness
 - Family poverty
 - Educational attainment
4. Economic Growth
 - Out-migration
 - Unemployment
 - Limited arts and culture sector
 - Need for additional investments in infrastructure

Goals of the RCE

1. Active Living / Healthy Lifestyle

A community that

- encourages individuals to take ownership of their health and well-being.
- supports individual and family wellness and safety programs.
- assigns appropriate resources to build capacity and equitable access for all.

2. Natural Environment

A community that

- takes pride in its neighbourhoods.
- practices, protects, and preserves its natural assets for future generations.
- regulates and enforces further environmental protection initiatives.

3. Civic Engagement / Social Capital

A community that

- celebrates and encourages individual and group contributions.
- adds economic, environmental and social value through collective and corporate social responsibility.
- is responsive and open to individual and neighbourhood diversity and supports safe communities.

4. Economic Growth

A community that

- supports and promotes what it has to offer.
- fosters local employment, skill development and investment in new business ventures.
- provides resources to encourage and promote existing and new business opportunities.

Activities

In the short term, the RCE Greater Sudbury will focus on:

- a mapping exercise of existing formal and non-formal education strategies aimed at sustainable development in the City of Greater Sudbury,
- defining new and possible modifications to existing projects and activities to meet overall objectives of the Healthy Community Charter, and
- identifying formal, non formal and informal educational opportunities for sustainable development.

AERIAL VIEW OF THE CITY



Decision-making structure

The members of the Healthy Community Cabinet and the organizations they represent form the basis of the governance structure for the RCE Greater Sudbury. For coordination of day-to-day activities in Phase 1 (2007-2012), a Greater Sudbury RCE working group will be created under the direction of the Broad Implementation Team of the Healthy Community Cabinet.

The RCE working group is a resource and a facilitator for lead agencies and other stakeholders. The RCE working group is expected to help implement actions associated with the concept of ESD in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Greater Sudbury Community



For more information

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