

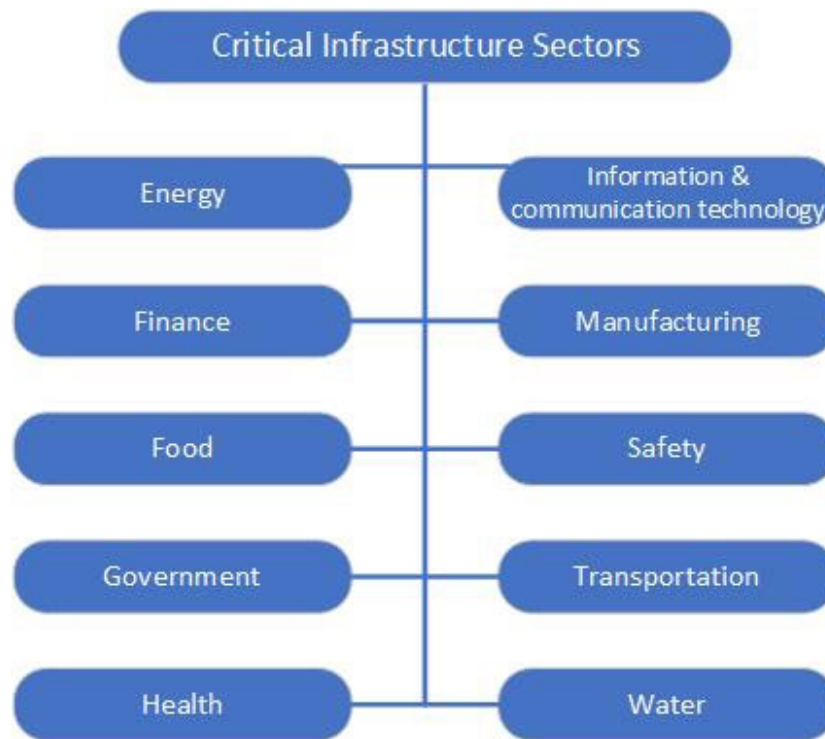
Critical Infrastructure resiliency in Nova Scotia and Canada

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National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure

Public Safety Canada, in collaboration with Provinces and Territories, developed the National Critical Infrastructure Strategy, released in 2009. This strategy identifies ten sectors of critical infrastructure in Canada:



National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure

There are three priority areas of work in the Strategy:

1. Build partnerships
2. Implement an all-hazards risk management approach
3. Share and protect information

National Cross Sector Forum released a three-year action plan for CI in 2021.

Achievements from 2018-2020 are reported on in the document, as well as ongoing work to implement the strategy.

<https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/pblctns/2021-ctn-pln-crtcl-nfrstrctr/2021-ctn-pln-crtcl-nfrstrctr-en.pdf>

National Strategy for Critical Infrastructure

Continuing implementation work includes;

Partnerships: multi-sector meetings, P/T engagement, collaboration with lead federal departments, engaging international forums on CI, and engage public/private sector stakeholders.

All-hazards approach: Support exercises, use & develop assessment tools, enhance security of ICS/cyber, renew strategy, and use tracking mechanism to assess progress of Action Plan activities.

Sharing & protecting info: Modernize CI Info Gateway site, and develop/distribute impact assessment products.

Nova Scotia's Approach to CI Resiliency

- Nova Scotia Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Strategy developed in 2018 and updated it in 2021. It reflects the National CI Strategy, adding more details of how NSEMO operationalizes CI in its activities.
- NSEMO's overarching approach is to:
 - Engage the owners and operators of critical infrastructure in NS (public and private), in a cross-sector provincial program;
 - Focus efforts on the most critical infrastructure with the greatest potential impact to Nova Scotians if disrupted;
 - Support communication and collaboration among sectors, acknowledging interdependencies;
 - Identify and implement best practices as they evolve;
 - Include CI partners in training and exercising opportunities.

Provincial Critical Infrastructure

NSEMO worked with provincial departments to identify provincially owned and operated critical infrastructure. It includes:

- 100-series highways (including NB-NS Border & Canso Causeway)
- Dykes and berms (Agriculture)
- Hospitals & Community Health Centres
- Correctional Centres and Courthouses
- NSEMO Provincial Coordination Centre
- Provincial Computer Networks and Trunked Mobile Radio
- Forest Protection Building and Helicopter Fleet/Hangar – Shubenacadie Radio site

NSEMO's CI Resiliency Program

There are five key activities in NSEMO's approach to critical infrastructure:

- ▶ The Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Cross-Sector Network
- ▶ The Critical Infrastructure Resiliency Committee
- ▶ Individual owner-operator relationships
- ▶ Regional and national engagement
- ▶ Planning support for provincially-owned and operated critical infrastructure

NSEMO CI Activities

- Ongoing situational awareness of critical infrastructure threats and hazards, as well as best practices
- Sharing cyber security information from PSC with CI Network
- CI Technical Specialist assigned to PCC for Level 2/3 activations
- Engaging CI partners in training and exercising opportunities (Nexus Vitalis, Canso Causeway TTX 2021, Nova Alpha, etc.)
- Annual NS Cross-Sector forum and TTX devoted to Critical Infrastructure sector needs (next date: Spring 2023)
- Engagement at FPT table with CI Working Group, Exercises Group, Multi-Sector Networks, Cross Sector Forums & CI Strategy 2.0

Critical Infrastructure and COVID-19

Early lessons learned from COVID-19 are guiding next steps in our CI program.

- Role of volunteers is a significant interdependency to critical social supports and needs to be considered in CI Strategy 2.0 development;
- NS-NB border closure & restrictions drove hundreds of calls and emails from CI partners clarifying the rules and seeking exemptions to travel into Nova Scotia. What is infrastructure and what is critical? Which workers are truly essential?
- Supply chain impacts: PPE, food, fuel, medications, raw materials, etc. Examples of how national and P/T CI programs could support efforts to rectify supply chain issues (e.g. hand sanitizer, medical gowns)

Critical Infrastructure and IEMG

Some questions for IEMG partners:

- Is there a role for IEMG members to work together on Critical Infrastructure / Supply Chain issues to identify capabilities, best practices, and develop HIRAs we can share?
- If so, is there interest in developing a Critical Infrastructure Research Working Group?
- If not, what are other ways we can share lessons learned, best practices, information, and situational awareness with each other?

Questions?

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