Safety Plan: Buffers Workshop 2026

The purpose of the safety plan is to describe the expectations for workshop attendees, presenters, invited speakers, session moderators, and any other guests. By registering for and attending the workshop, participants agree to abide by the safety plan and expectations of behavior.

Expectations of Behavior

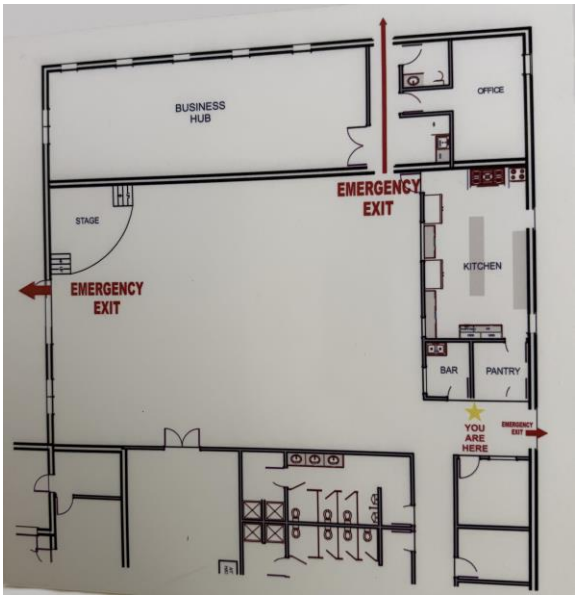
Workshop attendees are expected to treat fellow participants with respect, civility, and fairness, without bias based on race, color, national origin, pregnancy, sex, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation, and political philosophy. Harassment or discrimination against other attendees is prohibited. Attendees are encouraged to listen actively and share their own perspectives on the themes covered at the workshop, valuing the diverse array of perspectives present.

Fire Plan – North Queens Volunteer Fire Hall

In the event of a fire or other emergency requiring evacuation, please remain calm, all guests and participants are asked to make their way to the nearest entrance:
1) The main hall has double doors at the main entrance that lead directly outside.
2) The main hall also has an emergency exit located at the back of the room by the stage.
3) When exiting the hub, there is an emergency exit to the left that leads directly outdoors.

The entrances are all laid out in the floor plan below. Refer to Fire Hall staff/volunteers, MTRI staff, and the posted emergency exit plans for more detail.

Floor Plan



First Aid

General First Aid:

No matter what the situation, if you encounter a person who has been injured at the workshop, it is important to assess the scene before you rush in to provide first aid (if certified with Standard First-Aid Training or equivalent).
Here are a few reminders regarding what you should do to assess the scene:

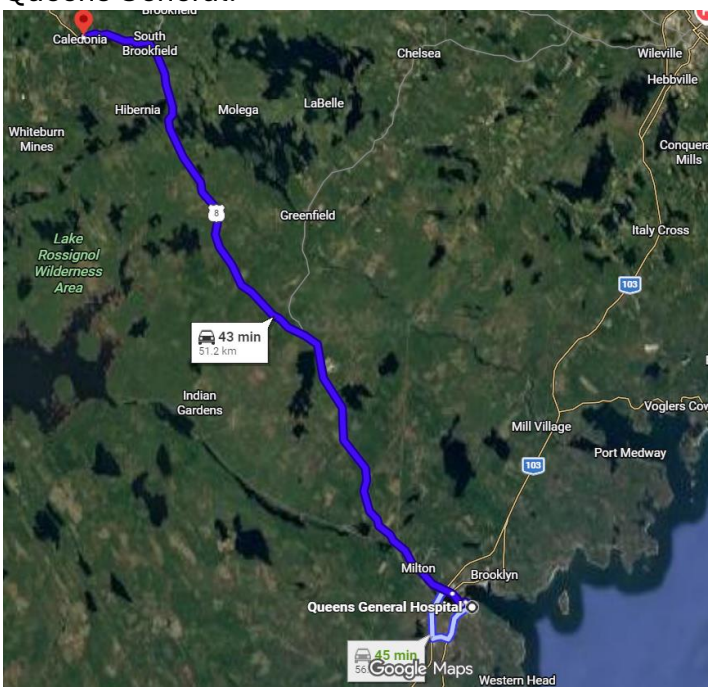
- **Survey the scene for danger.**
- **Look for the cause of the injury.**
- **Do not move the injured person.**
- **Call emergency services or 911.**
- **Administer basic first aid.** *If the scene is safe, you are trained and able to administer basic first aid, you should do so at this time.*

There will be an AED and first aid kit on site.

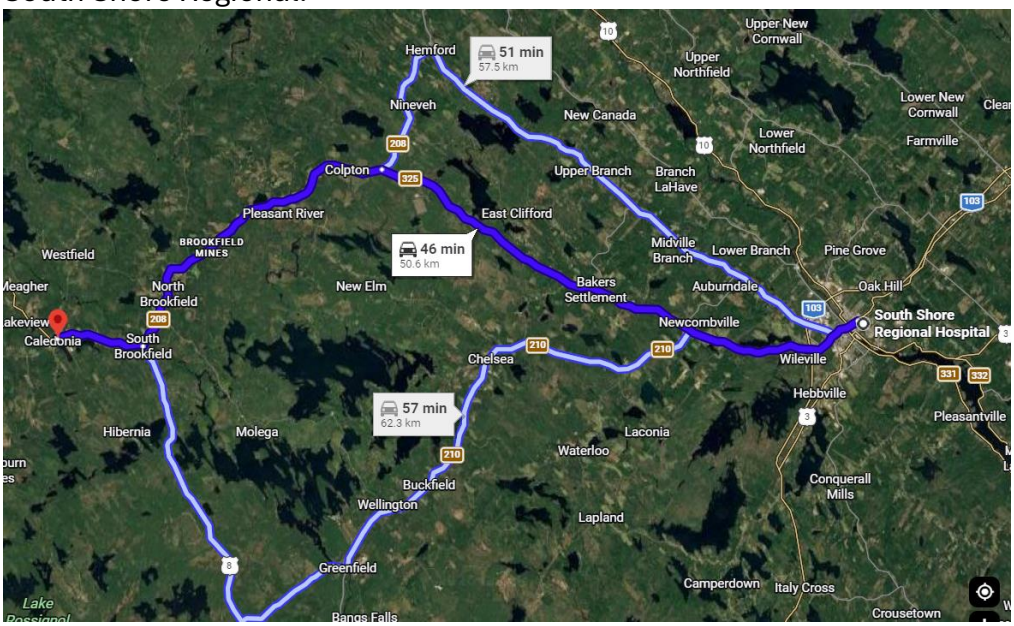
First-Aid Assistance: If you are not able to perform First Aid, look for the nearest person who is trained and able to assist, which could include fire hall first responders or Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute Staff (MTRI). Most, if not all, MTRI staff have Standard First Aid training.

Emergency: Instruct a bystander not actively administering first aid to call 911 to reach first responders. Direct first responders to 9793 Nova Scotia Trunk 8, Caledonia and to the main entrance to the hall. Instruct someone to wait outside of the building to guide first responders to the scene. Nearby **Queens General Hospital** is located a 175 School St, Liverpool. It is 51.2 km away from the fire hall. Almost equidistant, but a few minutes slower drive is the **South Shore Regional Hospital at** 90 Glen Allan Dr, Bridgewater. It is 50.6km away.

Queens General:



South Shore Regional:



Allergies

Participants should inform workshop organizers of any allergies you may have. Food allergies should be communicated to workshop organizers so they can ensure catering staff are aware. Please double check with catering staff if you are unsure of any ingredients or potential cross contamination in food items served.

We ask that participants be mindful of the products they are using while attending the workshop and avoid scented products, such as hair spray and perfume, that may be triggering to those with allergies and sensitivities.

Preventing Respiratory Illness

Workshop participants are encouraged not to attend if they have developed a fever or other sign of serious respiratory illness. If you are unwell and expect to give a poster or oral presentation, please inform us at buffers2026@gmail.com and we can make the necessary arrangements.

Masks are not required, but participants should feel comfortable wearing masks to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses such as Covid-19 and influenza.

Frequent hand washing is recommended.

There are gendered washrooms down a hall to the left of the main entrance. There is also an all-gender single occupancy washroom just outside and to the left of the "hub" doors, close to the emergency exit.