

03

MAPPING NEIGHBOURHOOD RESILIENCE



BACKGROUND

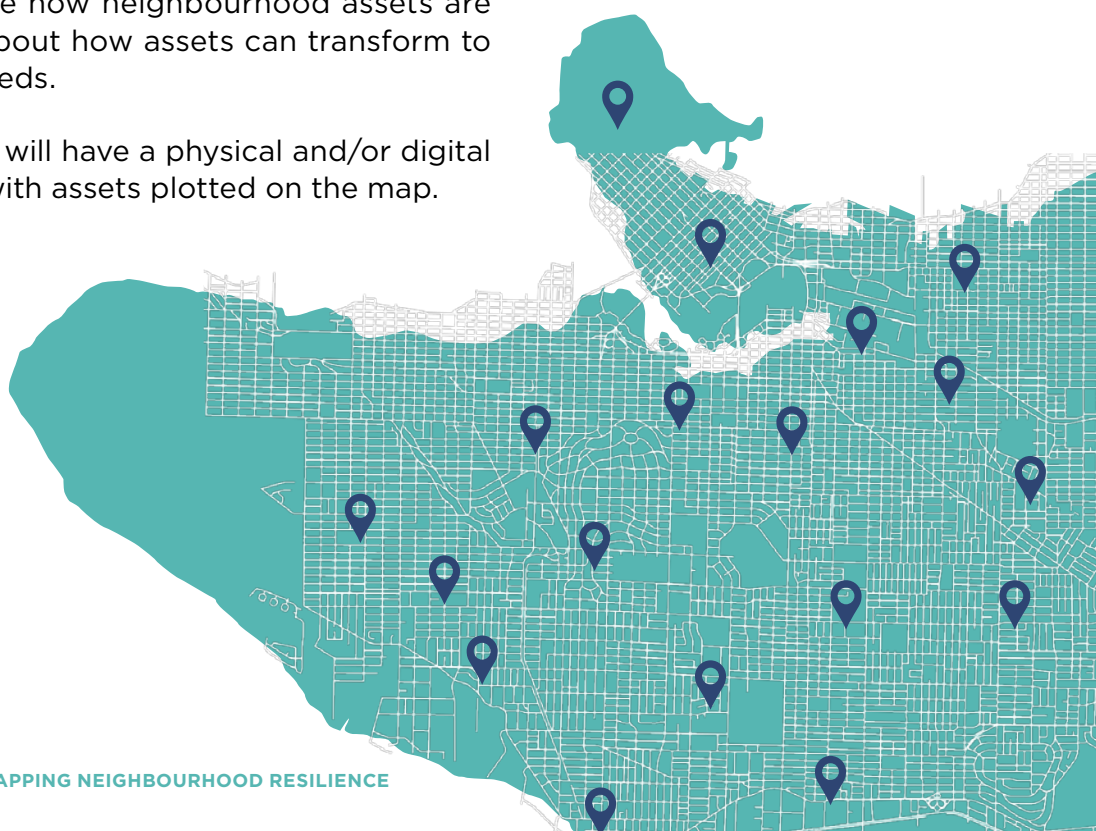
Our neighbourhoods are home to incredible social and physical assets, local knowledge and lived experience. Neighbourhood asset mapping can serve many purposes. It can identify individuals, organizations, programs and services, and other unique physical characteristics of a neighbourhood. It can foster communication, collaboration and connection between individuals and groups. It can serve as an exercise that helps people problem-solve as a group, no matter what the problem might be.

The following activities use emergency situations to help identify the assets that we need and use every day, and understand where those assets are located in the neighbourhood. While resilience isn't only about disasters and emergencies, these types of scenarios can help illustrate how neighbourhood assets are related and facilitate dialog about how assets can transform to meet changing community needs.

At the end of this activity you will have a physical and/or digital map of your neighbourhood with assets plotted on the map.

TOOLS AND TEMPLATES FOR MODULE 3

1. Asset Icons
2. Neighbourhood Map (Printed)





PREPARING FOR A WORKSHOP

Neighbourhood resilience depends on physical as well as social assets. By hosting a workshop you can:

- Identify physical assets such as objects, buildings, parks, natural environment and infrastructure
- Identify social assets such as people with skills and/or knowledge, community groups, programs and services
- Support and advance neighbourhood planning efforts
- Connect to volunteers and other organizations
- Ensure that your asset maps are up to date
- Facilitate community-led emergency response and recovery efforts
- Foster collaboration and group problem-solving

WORKSHOP PLANNING

Events can be hosted in formal workshop settings with invited participants, at community events or at a neighbourhood resident's home. It is best to do these activities in groups, with people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives. A workshop requires a coordinator who is dedicated to delivering the workshop and ensuring that changes to the digital asset map are documented following the workshop.

Event Organization

- ☐ Determine your target audience and how many participants you'd like to have. If you plan to have a large number of participants, make sure you have one facilitator per group.
- ☐ Set a date and secure a venue. Depending on the size of your group you'll want to allocate +/- 3hrs to complete all of the asset mapping activities.
- ☐ If you have a large group, look for volunteer facilitators and confirm their availability and attendance.
- ☐ Send out invitations. Ensure you give your participants sufficient time to RSVP after sending out the invitation.
- ☐ Create a welcoming atmosphere by organizing food and refreshments. You may choose to have a caterer, a potluck or something else!
- ☐ Determine how to make the workshop accessible for all people. You may need to offer transit stipends, translation services and ensure the space is physically accessible for mobility aids.

Materials Needed

- ☐ One printed neighbourhood map per group - using a neighbourhood map with civic buildings marked may be helpful
- ☐ One printed set of pages 6-12 per group
- ☐ Pens and pencils
- ☐ Notepad
- ☐ Felt-tip markers
- ☐ Double-sided tape or glue
- ☐ Printed sheets of asset icons

Workshop Follow Up

- ☐ As a group, create a plan for distributing and regularly updating your map. It can be helpful to identify one or a few map stewards to lead this process



WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS

Asset maps collect information about local shelter, food and water, transportation, communication hubs, waste disposal, medical care and both people who can offer help, and people who may need help. Maps are a helpful way to think through the unique skills, resources and knowledge organizations and community members can contribute in their neighbourhood can contribute in your neighbourhood.

This section contains instructions and materials for conducting an Asset Mapping Workshop. It's designed to be like a game so think creatively, respect all ideas and have fun!

We begin with mapping workshop instructions. The instructions guide you through the four different workshop activities. They will help your group develop an asset map for your neighbourhood. You may choose to complete each activity independently or sequentially.

Note that the instructions are suitable for both small and large workshops. An asterix* indicates what instructions are specifically for large workshops with several small groups.

The instruction sheet is followed by the game materials required for each of the four activities. After you complete the four activities, you will have a list of neighbourhood assets, a map with asset locations, experience working through a neighbourhood response to a shock, and reflect on where your neighbourhood could build resilience.





Mapping Workshop Instructions

Start Here

Begin by printing your neighbourhood map. We suggest using VanMap for your initial map as you will easily be able to show civic buildings, road and parks and print to your desired scale. Once you create a digital version of your map, you may choose to print that copy.

Chose an appropriate scale to show the boundaries of your map. A group from a larger community may have larger extents than a group from a smaller community.

Next, draw your neighbourhood boundary to determine the area that your asset map will address.

1. Assign Roles

Choose one person on your team to act as the **Record Keeper**.

The **Record Keeper** will be responsible for recording ideas and for *reporting back to the broad group at the end of the activity.

3. Plot Your Assets

Tape or glue location-based assets on to the Neighbourhood Map using the asset icons. Number each map icon to match the icon number on the Neighbourhood Response sheet.

Consider the following questions and have the **Record Keeper**, track the discussions that follows.

Are there any gaps in your neighbourhood?
Are there places that you need more information about?
Who do you need to talk to in order to access these assets?

Materials Needed

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asset icon sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> Felt-tip markers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Double-sided tape or glue | <input type="checkbox"/> Notepad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourhood Map | <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil |

4. Create a Neighbourhood Response

These activities use shocks (emergency situations) as a way to understand daily needs, and build an understanding of how assets can transform to meet changing needs.

Record Keeper, take notes on the Neighbourhood Response sheet and Neighbourhood Map as you create your response.

Materials Needed

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create a Neighbourhood Response activity guide (pg. 9) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourhood Map |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighbourhood Response Sheet (pg. 10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil |

2. List Your Assets

Come to a shared definition of asset. Brainstorm what physical and social assets you have in your neighbourhood. Think creatively. Assets can range from First Aid training to a spare sofa-bed.

Record Keeper, list and number the assets on the Asset Inventory worksheet.

Tape or glue the asset icons on to the Asset Inventory worksheet to categorize your assets. This will become a legend for your asset map.

* **Record Keeper**, share how the group defines assets with the large group.

Materials Needed

- | |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asset icons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Double-sided tape or glue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> List your Assets worksheet (pg. 8) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Notepad |

5. Reflect

Use the Post-shock Debrief Card to summarize the lessons learned about your community's ability to respond to a shock.

* **Record Keeper**, share the findings with the larger group.

Materials Needed

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Post-shock Debrief Card |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pen or pencil |

* For large workshops with small groups

List Your Assets

Asset Inventory



Print as many of these sheets as needed. List your assets on this sheet. Glue or tape asset icon(s) beside each asset to label what it provides, and then number your assets.

Icon Key:

-  Shelter
-  Water
-  Food
-  Transport
-  Communication
-  Health and Wellness
-  People
-  Waste Disposal
-  Other

Example:

#



Britannia Community Secondary School has a large gymnasium which could provide overnight shelter for about 150 people. They have a large kitchen and bottled water in the cafeteria. The principal would need to be involved.

Create a Neighbourhood Response

1. Choose a shock & read it aloud



POWER OUTAGE & BLIZZARD

Vancouver is experiencing a record-breaking winter snowfall and power is out across the city. Extreme cold and icy conditions have limited mobility. Homeless people are especially at risk. Many homes in your neighbourhood are now without heat. The City is working to clear snow and reconnect electricity, but your neighbourhood is expected to be without power for an indeterminate amount of time. In the meantime, 45% of homes are without electricity including heat and people who cannot navigate icy, snow-covered roads and sidewalks are unable to travel outdoors.



HEATWAVE, DROUGHT & AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

A month long heat-wave is now causing water restrictions in Vancouver. Afternoon temperatures are reaching 35°C and evening temperatures are remaining as high as 25°C. Forest fires in the interior are causing a significant deterioration in air quality. Authorities are recommending that people stay indoors and seek shelter in air-conditioned spaces. Homeless people, seniors, children, and people with chronic health conditions are especially vulnerable to heat related illness and respiratory challenges.



EARTHQUAKE

A 7.3 magnitude Georgia Strait earthquake has struck Vancouver. Bridges, roads and telecommunications systems are impacted. Fires have broken out across the city and some buildings have collapsed. Downed power lines and broken gas lines have left hazards in streets. Every other street is blocked by debris, limiting travel. 40% of residential units are no longer safe to occupy. 11% of buildings are no longer usable. Families are trying to reunite but cellular communication is unreliable. People are unable to access city water and have limited food supplies.

2. Meet some of your neighbours

Everyone has different functional needs that must be met day-to-day, and during emergencies. Think about yourself and your neighbours. In the event of a disaster, what might you need help with? What might your neighbours need help with?

Brainstorm with your group who might need additional help or support during an emergency, and how they might be impacted by the particular scenario you have chosen.



Elaine lives alone in her home. Her kids still live in Vancouver, but on the other side of the city. She has mobility challenges and is supported by a walker to get around.



Aubree and Thomas just had baby Ben. Their family lives in a rental apartment. Their landlord doesn't live in Vancouver.



Selena just moved to Vancouver to take an English course. English is not her first language. She lives alone in a micro-apartment.



3. Solve the shock challenges

You will need to rely on your neighbourhood's social and physical assets in the event of a shock. There will be a number of challenges that you will have to consider to find shelter, food and water, medical care, transportation, skilled people, waste disposal and up-to-date communications. Use your assets to create a neighbourhood response to the shock challenges.

- ☐ Work as a team and use the prompts to solve these shock challenges
- ☐ Fill in the blank spaces with a numbers that are manageable for your group
- ☐ Record your conversation on the Neighbourhood Response sheet and annotate your Neighbourhood Map with any insights

Stay on track! Don't get distracted by details that aren't related to the scenario. Use the information you have to the best of your ability.



SHELTER

Provide shelter for ##_ people for length of time.

Example: Provide shelter for 100 people for 72 hours.



WATER

Provide drinking water for ##_ people for length of time.



FOOD

Provide hot meals for ##_ people for length of time.



TRANSPORT

Provide transportation solutions to help ##_ people connect with their loved ones and find shelter over the next length of time.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Provide health and wellness services to ##_ people. This may include medical aid, pharmaceuticals, spiritual counseling, and/or mental health support.



WASTE & DEBRIS

Develop a waste disposal system for garbage, human waste and/or debris for the next length of time.



PEOPLE

Identify people with skills and/or knowledge that you would rely upon in a shock. Everyone has skills and knowledge to offer.



COMMUNICATION

Develop information and communication hubs for the community to serve as central information centres for volunteering and finding people.



OTHER

What other resources might you need? Keep track of them here.

Neighbourhood Response Sheet



SHELTER

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



WATER

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



FOOD

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



TRANSPORT

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



HEALTH & WELLNESS

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



WASTE DISPOSAL

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



SKILLED PEOPLE

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



COMMUNICATION

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?



OTHER

What do you need?

Where will you get it?

Who do you need to talk to?

Reflect

Post-Shock Debrief

**Where is your community well resourced?
What assets are your greatest strength?**

**How could you build greater neighbourhood resilience?
Are there any assets that you want to add or build upon?**

What might you need or want to know more about?

AFTER THE WORKSHOP

MAINTAINING YOUR ASSET MAP

Follow-up events can be hosted in formal workshop settings where participants are invited and RSVP, or at community events (such as Car-Free-Day). A workshop requires a coordinator who is dedicated to delivering the workshop and ensuring that changes to the digital asset map are documented following the workshop. The instructions below provide guidance for maintaining physical and digital copies of your map.

Your Physical Map

Following the workshop you will have a physical copy of an asset map. Identify a steward to be responsible for sending scans or images of the map to workshop participants and for future updates.

- ☐ **Scan or take photos of your map and legend.** Try to ensure that your images are a high resolution for easy interpretation after the workshop.
- ☐ **Share your map.** Send images of the map to workshop participants.
- ☐ **Display in prominent location.** If you represent a neighbourhood organization, ensure that your map is displayed in a location that is highly visible to your community. We suggest having hard-copies readily available for folks who may want to have a copy on hand. Ensure that the date is included on the map.
- ☐ **Update regularly.** Consider incorporating a mapping workshop with an annual event to make sure that your assets are up to date with present-day conditions.

Your Digital Map

Digitizing your map on-line makes it easier to share, update and view. Identify a steward to be responsible for inputting the assets to your map and incorporating future updates.

- ☐ **Choose your mapping platform.** We suggest [Google MyMaps](#) as a free, accessible and shareable mapping tool. Other mapping platforms include [UMap](#) and [ArcGIS Online](#). We recommend that you consider cost, user-friendliness and the ability to share and download your maps when you choose your mapping tool.
- ☐ **Import your assets.** Google MyMaps gives two options for inputting your map markers. You can either import an excel file where you have listed, categorized and specified the location of your assets, or you can manually input each marker on the map. If you are able, we recommend using an excel file to keep track of your assets. Doing so will make it significantly easier to update your map in the future.
- ☐ **Download, share and print your map.** Share your map with your neighbours and encourage everyone to have a printed copy. It is important to have a printed copy of your map in the state of an emergency.

TOOLS AND TEMPLATES FOR MODULE 3



ASSET ICONS