

# IMPACT OF THE WILDFIRE ON THE SOCIAL PROFIT SECTOR

This is the first of 5 surveys to capture the sector's ability to recover from the wildfire of May 2016



FuseSocial's mandate is to support the social profit sector to ensure community well-being based on two pillars: advance the culture of social innovation and support capacity building. Since the wildfire, FuseSocial has: distributed a weekly newsletter containing critical information for the sector; it has gathered the sector to participate in planning; as well as visiting organizations to identify their needs. FuseSocial has been designated by the RMWB as the **Volunteer Centre in Wood Buffalo**.

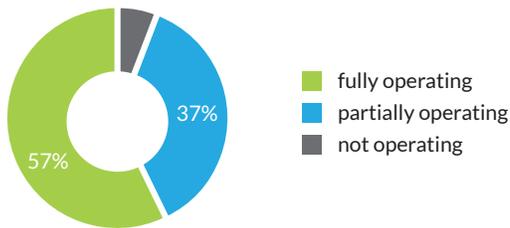
Surveys will occur every 3 months. This survey represents the sector 3 months post-wildfire.

July 2016



## OPERATIONAL CAPACITY

57% of organizations are currently fully operational.



17% ↑

noted their organization had seen an **increase in demand** in the services of health, housing and social sciences

33% ↓

of respondents reported a **decrease in programs and services** typically offered through their organizations



Increased waitlist for services related to Arts, Culture and Recreation. A reason for this is that they are not fully operational and open to the public, despite increase in demand.

## Intentions

58% of respondents intend to increase their services post-wildfire, to meet the increase and differing community needs. This will be achieved through:

- New programs & services
- Increased staff and volunteers
- Partnerships, collaborations & mergers
- Growth of existing programs & services

## Barriers

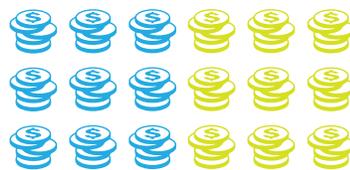
- 12% Organizations entirely displaced or not operating at full capacity. This could include operating from a temporary location in another city or out of their home.
- 25% Organizations experiencing factors or challenges that impact their capacity. For example, obtaining building permits for the necessary supplies to operate as usual.

## SECTORS REPRESENTED

75 responses representing a broad cross section of the sector, provide a good proxy for the Wood Buffalo social profit sector.

- Social service
- Recreation
- Education and Research
- Arts and Culture
- Children and Youth
- Fundraising and Volunteerism
- Business & Professional Services
- Other
- Health
- Housing
- Religion
- Development
- International Supports
- Environmental
- Law, Advocacy and Politics

## FINANCIAL IMPACT



50% of organizations have experienced a **negative net change in revenue**.

The key reasons for these financial impacts were:



### Reduction in Activities

This was the main source of disruption in revenues, as programs that generate income were put on hold during the evacuation.



### Reduced Funding & Donor Withdrawal

Changes in funding present very real challenges for an organization to provide consistent, reliable, quality services to their clients.



### New Income

While this is somewhat positive, new funding often requires a lot of change/planning/redirection.

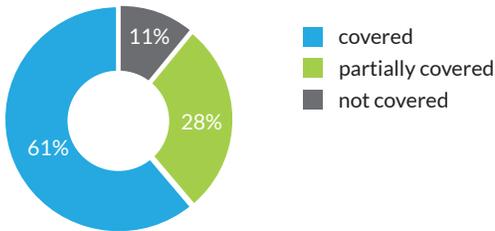
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## FINANCIAL IMPACT

### Insurance coverage



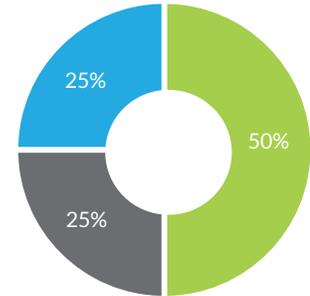
### Capital damage



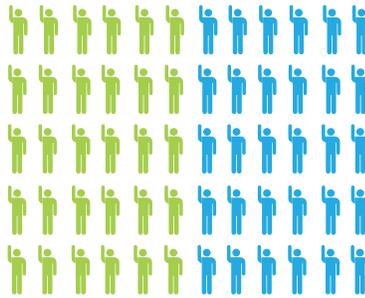
## BOARD, STAFF AND VOLUNTEER IMPACT

75% of organizations remarked that the current reduction in board, staff and volunteers has negatively impacted their ability to operate as usual.

- no impact
- negative impact
- significant negative impact



**50%** of organizations are unsure if their volunteers are returning post-wildfire



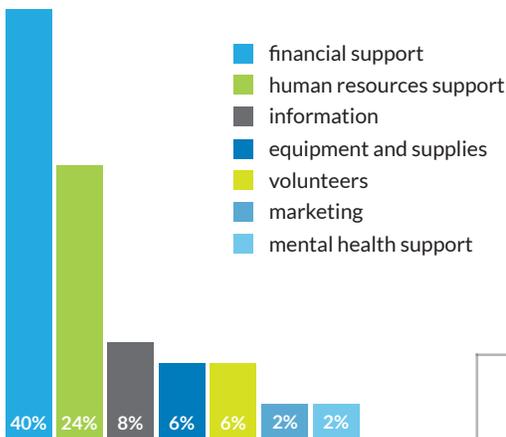
50% of organizations have lost 1 or more staff since the wildfire.

**22%** board vacancies post-wildfire

**1526** volunteer positions in social profit agencies pre-wildfire

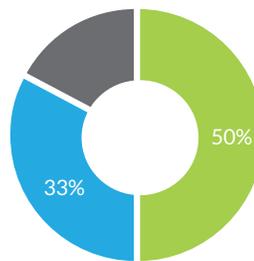
## IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE NEEDS

According to respondents, the organizations greatest current and future needs are financial and human resources.



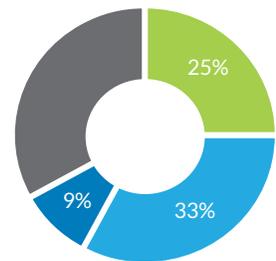
We asked respondents to identify the greatest needs for their organizations:

### in 3 months



- funding
- human resources

### in 6 months



- funding
- human resources
- strategic planning

