



100 Radon Test Kit Challenge: Central York, NB

“Empowering Communities, Saving Lives”





Project Overview:

- The *100 Radon Test Kit Challenge* program provides 100 radon test kits (or more), free of charge, to communities, to distribute to their citizens.
- “Turn-key program” provides tools and resources for each step of the process.
- No cost to participating communities: requires only staff time for organizing, distributing, and collecting test kits.



Program Goals

1) Distribute radon test kits to communities where there is a risk of elevated radon levels, and where testing has thus far been limited.

- 100 test kits distributed for 100 days

2) Raise local radon awareness

*- community members with a personal report
- community champions receive a summary report*

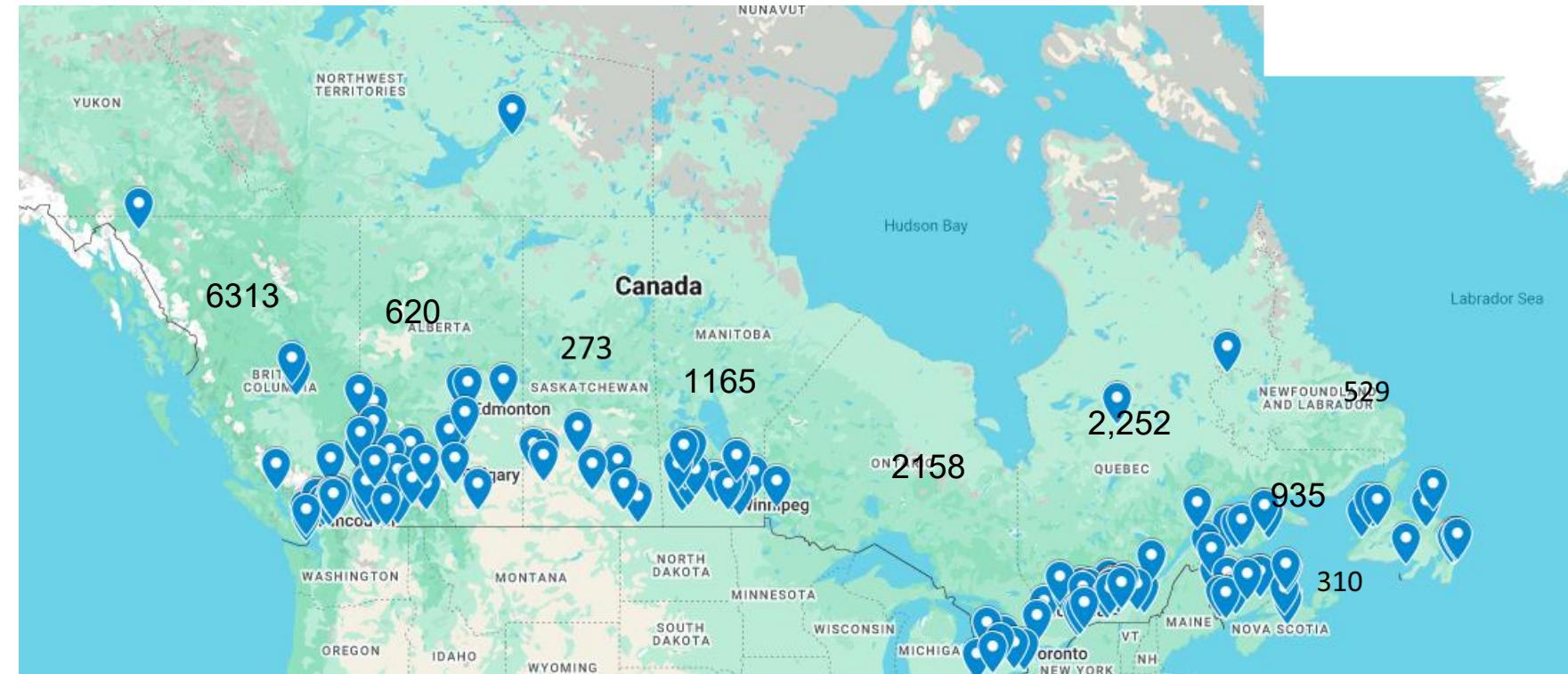
3) Generate data in under-tested urban and rural regions of the country

4) Inspire legacy radon programming in participating communities



Impact to date

*Over 160 Communities
-11 Provinces/Territories
-over 10 First Nations
-2 Métis groups*



*Over 30 000 detectors distributed
with an average of 74% return rate:
more than 21 000 homes tested*

*More than 30% of those who've tested over
200 Bq/m³ have
Mitigated their homes already!*



100 Test Kit Challenge communities, by year

2018-19

(9)

Moncton, NB
Salmon Arm, BC
Winnipeg, MB
Spruce Grove, AB
Golden, BC
Souris, MB
Port Colborne, ON
Baden, ON
Wabana, NL

2019 – 2020 (15)

Halifax, NS
Sherbrooke, QC
Brandon, MB
Dauphin, MB
Greater Madawaska
Region, ON
Summerland, BC
Valemount, BC
Coquitlam, BC
Abbotsford, BC
McBride, BC
Vaudreuil-Dorion, QC
Pembroke, ON
Harrison Park, MB
North Grenville, ON

2020 – 2021 (20)

Sicamous, BC
Peachland, BC
West Bank First Nation, BC
West Kelowna, BC
Kelowna, BC
Vernon, BC
Sundre, AB
Black Diamond, AB
Eston, SK
Silver Harbour, MB
Lakeshore, MB
Chatham-Kent, ON
Leeds & Thousand Islands, ON
Carleton-sur-mer, QC
Saint-Joseph du-Lac, QC
Lorraine, QC
Candiac, QC
Madawaska, NB
Mount Pearl, NL
Stephenville, NL

2021 – 2022 (30)

Barriere, BC
Peachland, BC
West Bank First Nation, BC
West Kelowna, BC
Kelowna, BC
Vavenby, BC
Clearwater, BC
Blue River, BC
Grand Forks, BC
Revelstoke, BC
Eatonia, SK
Weyburn, SK
Clarence-Rockland, ON
Ottawa, ON
Waterloo, ON
Mallorytown, ON
Candiac, QC
Percé, QC
Deux-Montagnes, QC
Saint-Augustin-des-Desmaures, QC
Grand Falls, NB
Gander, NL
Harbour Breton, NL
Fogo Island, NL
7 Nations Communities, NB
Treaty 3 Communities, ON

2022 – 2023 (25)

Kimberley, BC
Kelowna, BC
West Kelowna, BC
Lake Country, BC
Peachland, BC
West Bank First Nation, BC
Salt Spring Island, BC
Chilliwack, BC
Mission, BC
Cultus Lake, BC
Hope, BC
Harrison and Kent, BC
Estevan, SK
Whitecap Dakota First Nation, SK
Edenwold, SK
East St. Paul, MB
RM of Hanover, MB
Cavan Monaghan, ON
Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, QC
Prévost, QC
Cantley, QC
Gaspé, QC
Beloeil, QC
Woodstock First Nation, NB
Riverview, NB

100 Test Kit Challenge communities, by year



2023 – 2024



BC Cancer – Victoria, BC

Fort St. James, BC

Lumby, BC

Lillooet, BC

Keremeos, BC

Radium Hot Springs BC

Invermere, BC

Enderby, BC

Edmonton, AB

Innisfail, AB

Lacombe County, AB

RM of Miry Creek, SK (Abbey, SK)

Neepawa, MB

Dauphin, MB

Portage la Prairie, MB

Pinawa, MB

Augusta, ON

Woodstock and St. Thomas, ON

Pessamit, QC

Sainte-Julie, QC

Sainte-Marthe-sur-le-Lac, QC

Pincourt, QC

Maria, QC

Conception Bay South, NL

Logy Bay-Middle Cove-Outer Cover, NL

Gillams, NL

Pasadena, NL

Repeating in:

Regional District of Central Okanagan, BC

Woodstock First Nation, NB

Kimberley, BC

Fraser Valley Regional District, BC

100 Test Kit Challenge communities, 2024-2025



City of Rossland, BC
Oliver, BC
Atlin, BC
Strathcona Regional District, BC
Village of Nakusp, BC
Village of Kaslo, BC
RDCO, BC
Rock Creek, BC
Fraser Valley, BC
Lethbridge, AB
Village of Myrnam, AB
Village of Caronport, SK
RM of Macdonald, MB
RM of Yellowhead, MB
Haldimand-Norfolk Health & Social Services, ON
Kenora, ON
Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, ON
Valcourt, QC
Boisbriand, QC
Saint-Barbe, QC
Saint-Charles-sur-Richelieu, QC
Saint-Antoine-sur-Richelieu, QC
Beloeil, QC
Gaspe, QC
Listiqui, QC
Gesgapegiag, QC
Matimekush, QC
Pessamit, QC

Central York Rural Community, NB
Grand Bay, NB
Municipal District of St Stephen, NB
Municipality of Eastern Charlotte, NB
Butternut Valley, NB
Millbrook First Nation, NS
Charlottetown (North of Euston and area), PEI
Steady Brook, NL
Mount Pearl, NL
Conception Bay South, NL
St. Johns, NL

Radon Basics – Health Effects

Radon is the leading cause of Lung Cancer in non-smokers.

Radon greatly increases smoker's risk of getting lung cancer.

Health Canada estimates over **3,000** Canadians per year die of radon-related lung cancer.



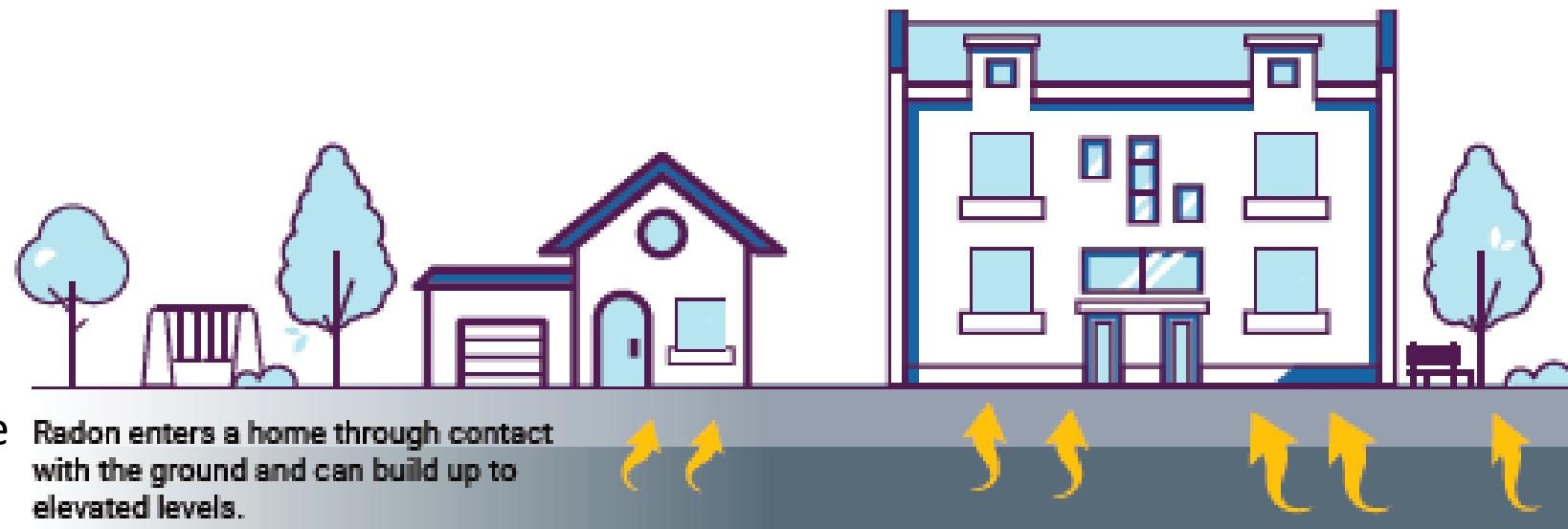
From Health Canada's Radon Gas:It's in your home.
https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/migration/hc-sc/ewh-semt/alt_formats/hecs-sesc/pdf/pubs/radiation/radon_brochure/radon-brochure-eng.pdf

Radon Basics - Source

Radon is a radioactive gas which comes from the soil.

Enters all buildings which have contact with the ground and can move throughout the building, including upper levels.

Typically highest levels are found in the basement or first floor.

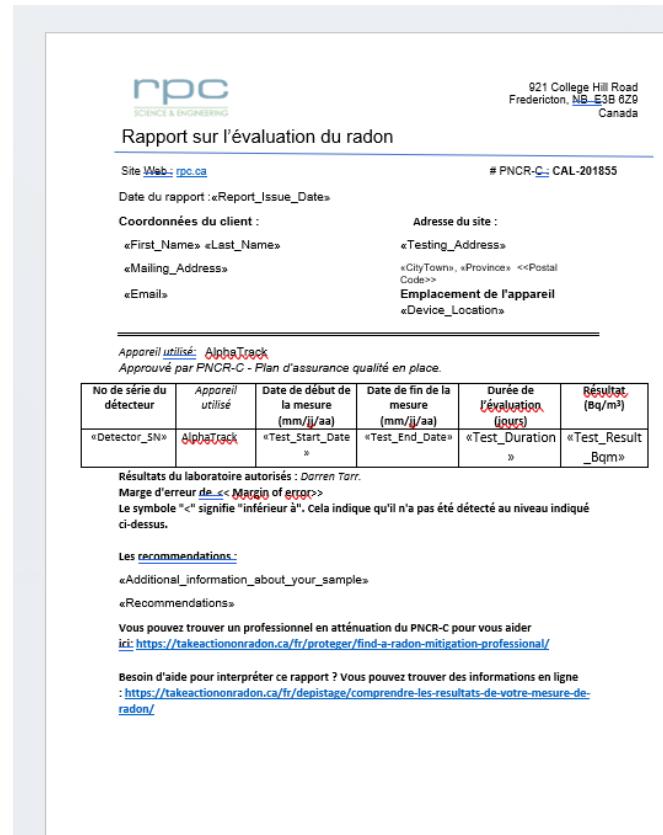


Health Canada recommends all buildings be tested using a 3-month test during the heating season and any homes found with levels above 200 Bq/m³ be reduced.

Community Participant Stats

Detectors distributed	Start Surveys Completed	Kits Returned to Lab	Reports Issued	Return Rate
72	55	49	47	65 %

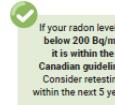
By now, each community member should have received an individual confidential report.



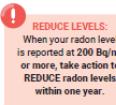
Understanding your RADON TEST RESULTS

When you get your radon test report

Look for your radon level in order to make a decision of what you should do next. The radon level will be reported in Bq/m³. This is a measurement of radioactivity because radon is a radioactive gas.



If your radon level is below 200 Bq/m³, it is within the Canadian guideline. Consider retesting within the next 3 years.



REDUCE LEVELS: When your radon level is reported at 200 Bq/m³ or more, take action to REDUCE radon levels within one year.

The Canadian guideline for radon in indoor air is 200 Bq/m³

If you've tested your home, and the radon concentration is above the Canadian guideline of 200 Bq/m³, Health Canada recommends that you take action to lower the concentrations.

The higher the radon concentrations, the sooner action should be taken to reduce levels to as low as practically possible. While the health risk from radon exposure below the Canadian guideline is small, there is no level that is considered risk free. It is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept.

RADON LEVEL	LIFETIME RISK OF LUNG CANCER	LIFETIME RISK OF LUNG CANCER IF YOU SMOKE
Under 100 Bq/m³	1%	12%
100-199 Bq/m³	1.5%	15%
200-599 Bq/m³	2%	17%
600 Bq/m³ and over	4%	26%

Now that you have tested your home, encourage your friends and family to test too! They can find a radon test kit provider online: <https://takeactiononradon.ca/test-for-radon/radon-test-kits/#buykit>

HOW TO FIND A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL
takeactiononradon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional
Certified radon mitigation professionals are trained to properly assess your home, and design systems to efficiently and effectively reduce your radon level.



Radon Mitigation System

A radon mitigation system is the most effective method of reducing radon levels. Research shows that certified radon professionals can reduce levels by over 90%. Other steps, such as increasing ventilation and sealing cracks, can help in the short-term but are less effective.

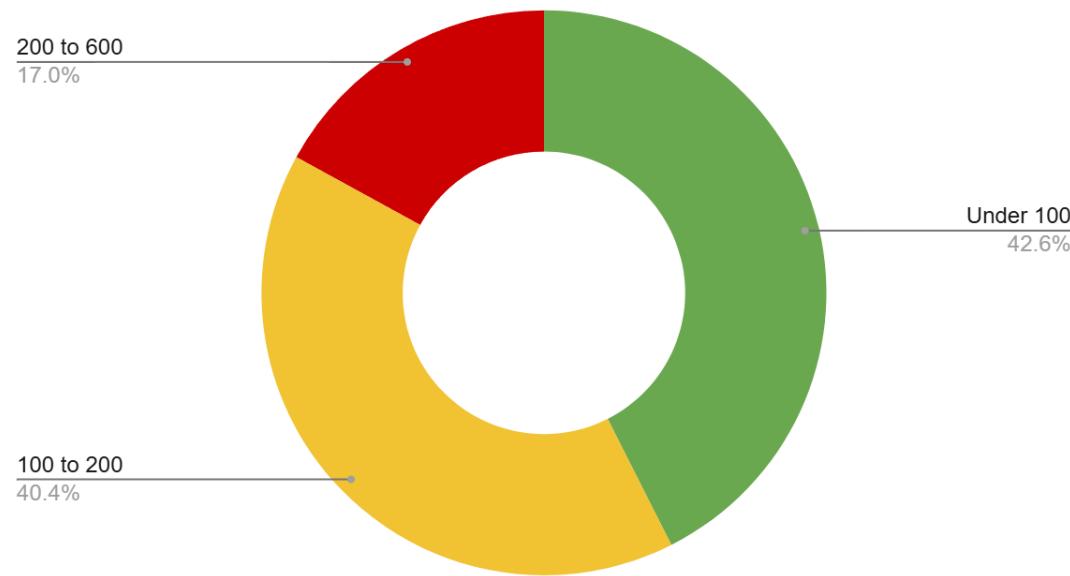
Find more information on radon reduction:

The Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program has a list of certified professionals to help with reducing radon levels.
Find more information on radon reduction at: www.c-nppp.ca



Find information from Health Canada, including Radon Reduction Guide for Canadians at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health-reports-publications/radiation/radon-reduction-guide-canadians-health-canada.html>

Central York Results 2024-25



17 % tested over 200 Bq/m³
47 Households Completed the testing

47	Total
0	0 % Above 1000
00	0 % Between 600 and 1000
8	17.0 % Between 200 and 600
19	40.4 % Between 100 and 200
20	42.6% Less than 100



Type of Home

Type of Home	< 200	> 200	Total
Single detached home	24	4	28
			28

Owner or Renter

	< 200	> 200	Total
Own	23	4	27
Rent	1	1	2
			29

Intention to Mitigate if required

	< 200	> 200	Total
I am very likely to take action to reduce my radon level.	6	2	8
I am quite likely to take action to reduce my radon level.	13	2	15
I am undecided.	7	3	10
I am unlikely to take action to reduce my radon level.	2	0	2
			35

The renter who tested high felt they were very likely to mitigate if required.

Have you previously tested for radon?

	< 200	> 200	Total
Yes	5	1	6
No	27	7	34
			40

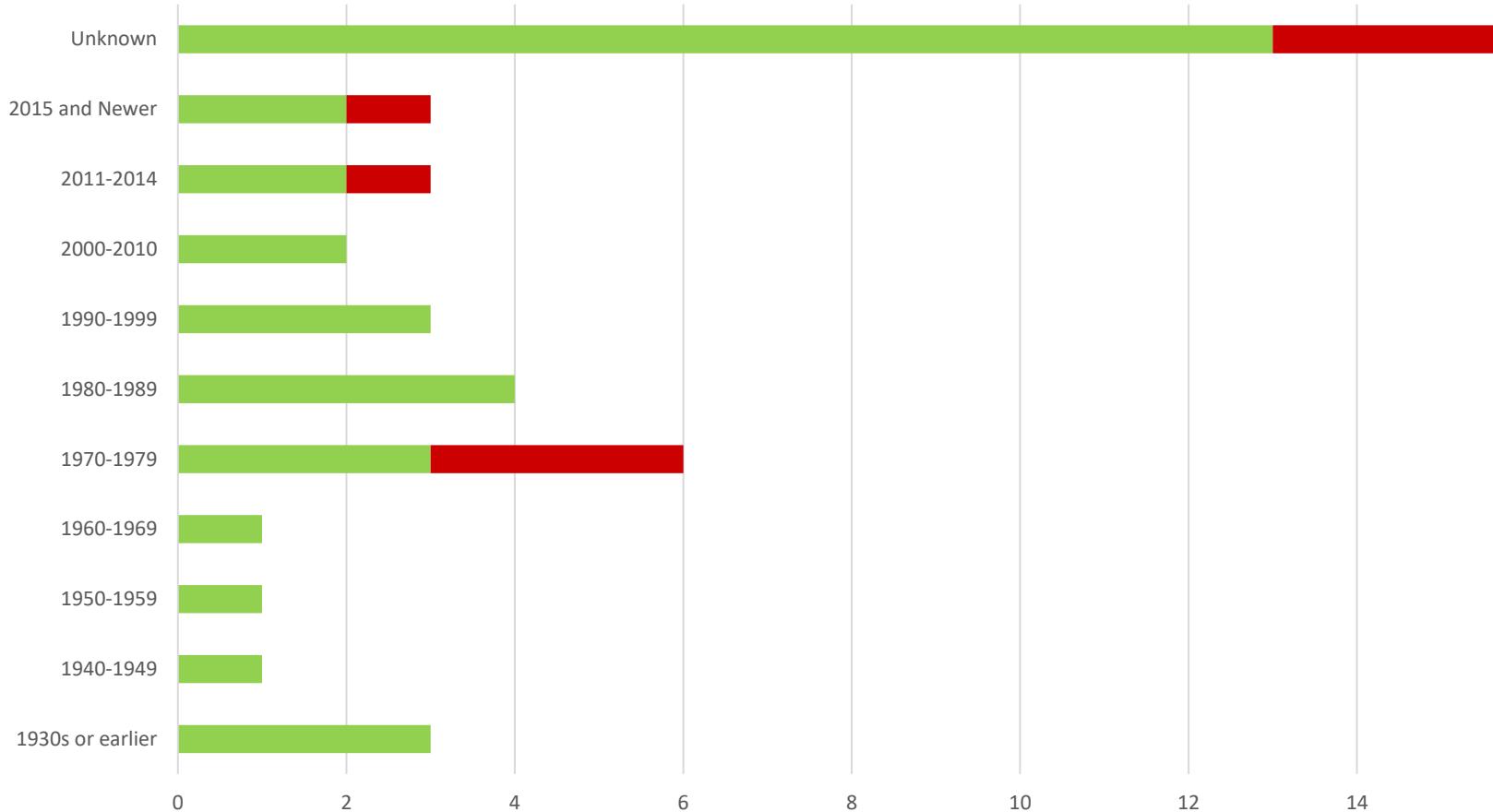


The person who tested above 200 can't recall their past test result.

Existing radon system?

	< 200	> 200	Total
No	30	7	37
I don't know	1	1	2
Radon rough-in	0	0	0
Passive stack	0	0	0
Full system with fan	1	0	1
			40

Results by Year of Construction - Central York



Community Report



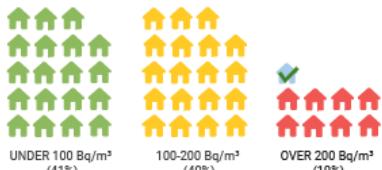
100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

47 homes participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2024-2025 using 91-day alpha track tests. This represents approximately 0.1% of the community dwellings.

19%

of homes tested above
Health Canada's
guideline of 200 Bq/m³

✓ Mitigated to below 200 Bq/m³(1%)



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.



Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.

Levels can vary between neighbouring houses.

The only way to know your radon level is to test.



When you get your radon test report

Look for your radon level in order to make a decision of what you should do next.

The radon level will be reported in Bq/m³. This is a measurement of radioactivity because radon is a radioactive gas.



If your radon level is below 200 Bq/m³, it is within the Canadian guideline. Consider retesting within the next 5 years.



REDUCE LEVELS: When your radon level is 200 Bq/m³ or more, take action to REDUCE radon levels within one year.

The Canadian guideline for radon in indoor air is 200 Bq/m³

If you've tested your home, and the radon level is above the Canadian guideline of 200 Bq/m³, Health Canada recommends that you take action to lower the level.

The higher the radon level, the sooner action should be taken to reduce the level to as low as practically possible. While the health risk from radon exposure below the Canadian guideline is small, there is no level that is considered risk free. It is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept.

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Now that you have tested your home, encourage your friends and family to test too! They can find a radon test kit provider online: takeactiononradon.ca/test-for-radon/radon-test-kits/#buykit

Need to reduce your radon?

There may be financial programs available to help you. You can find information about radon grants or radon warranties on our website at:

www.takeactiononradon.ca/protect

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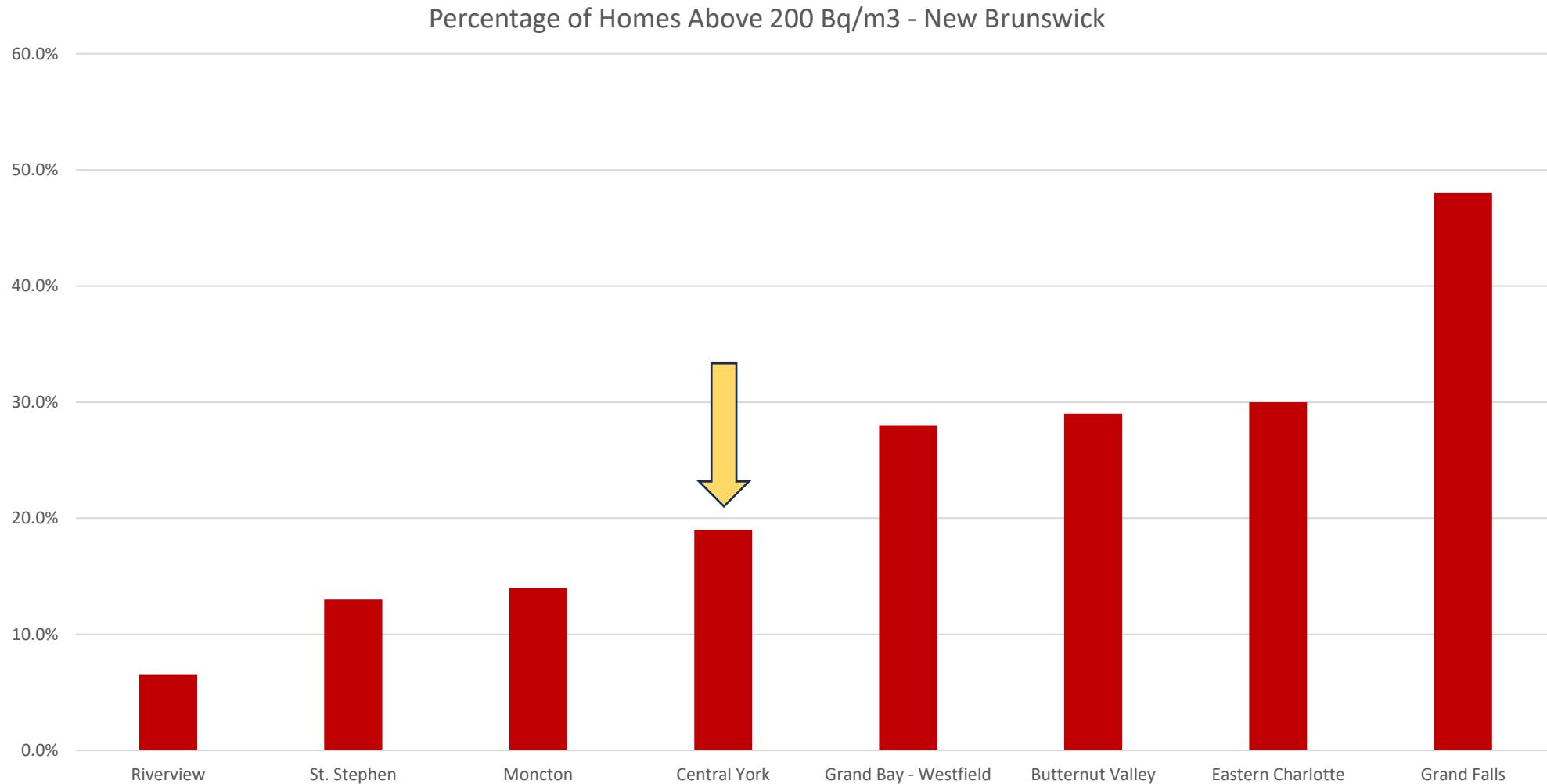
Construction of New Homes

Depending on the year of construction of a home, the New Brunswick building code requires installation of a radon stub pipe through the foundation of the house. This is not a radon mitigation system, but simply a rough-in.

Every home needs to be tested for radon for at least 91 days, during the heating season to determine if a mitigation system is required.

Find information from Health Canada, including the Radon Reduction Guide for Canadians at: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/radiation/radon-reduction-guide-canadians-health-canada.html

How does your community compare?



C-NRPP Professionals

- Certified Mitigation Professionals course in both Measurement and Mitigation
- C-NRPP Mitigation Professionals are required to have insurance

List of professionals available at www.c-nrpp.ca/find-a-professional/

 Q

Home Homeowners Professionals Trainer

DON'T DELAY

Protect Your Family from Radon. Contact a Professional.

Radon exposure increases lung cancer risk over time – early testing and mitigation saves lives. Use our search tool to find certified C-NRPP professionals in your area today



Why a C-NRPP Professional Matters

Certified Expertise

C-NRPP Professionals are trained on the CGSB standard and will follow proper protocols to install the most efficient system for your home or building.

Proven Track Record

Certified professionals have successfully helped thousands of Canadian families reduce radon exposure. Research shows a radon mitigation system installed by a C-NRPP professional are more effective than uncertified counterparts.

Ongoing Support

Backed by a certification program which provides support for customer and professional in ensuring quality level services.

Find a professional to help you:

Search for: Residential Mitigation

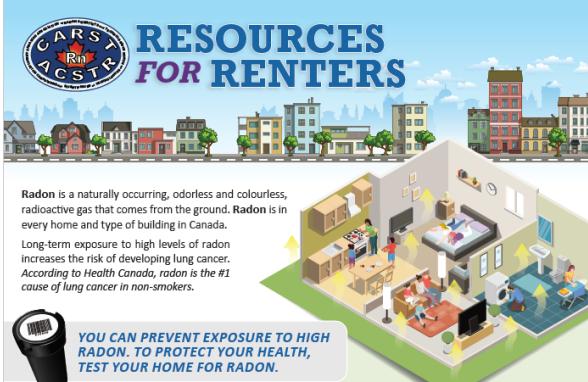
Search By Postal Code Postal Code: Distance: 50 KM

Search By Province Province: Alberta

Search By Service Area No service areas selected

Q, Search





RESOURCES FOR RENTERS

Radon is a naturally occurring, odorless and colourless, radioactive gas that comes from the ground. Radon is in every home and type of building in Canada. Long-term exposure to high levels of radon increases the risk of developing lung cancer. According to Health Canada, radon is the #1 cause of lung cancer in non-smokers.

YOU CAN PREVENT EXPOSURE TO HIGH RADON. TO PROTECT YOUR HEALTH, TEST YOUR HOME FOR RADON.

TESTING FOR RADON

Testing for radon is simple and affordable: takeactiononradon.ca/test

- You can easily test your living space for radon with a DIY test kit (~\$60), or request your landlord to hire a professional to test
- Testing is recommended for 3 months (or 91 days) during the winter season or when doors and windows are typically closed
- Test kits are placed in your main living space, then mailed to a lab for analysis. The results are returned directly to you

REDUCING HIGH RADON LEVELS

Mitigating or reducing high radon levels can be quick and relatively inexpensive: carst.ca/Mitigation-Systems

- The health risk from radon is long-term exposure. Canada recommends lowering high levels to 1-2 years
- A temporary fix to lower high levels is to open windows to increase air flow through the home
- A C-NRPP certified professional should be hired to lower high radon levels – all homes can be mitigated
- Health Canada recommends fixing homes with levels above 200 Bq/m³

LANDLORDS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT RADON

Radon is a naturally occurring, odorless and colourless, radioactive gas that enters buildings through regular gaps in floors, pipes, and side walls. Long-term exposure to high levels of radon increases the risk of developing lung cancer. Similar to having smoke-detectors, testing and reducing high radon is part of providing a safe space for tenants. Reduce your liability and test your rentals for radon.

ALL HOMES AND COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN CANADA HAVE SOME LEVEL OF RADON!

NEED TO KNOW:

- Testing for radon is simple with DIY or professional options.
- To test large commercial buildings with HVAC systems, consult a C-NRPP certified professional.
- All buildings with high levels can be lowered with mitigation.
- Mitigation systems can be installed quickly. Work should only be completed in consult by professionals with official C-NRPP certification.

RESOURCES

CARST: Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists	Hire a registered professional to test your building and mitigate high radon. carst.ca/Mitigation-Systems
C-NRPP: Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program	Canada's certifying program for radon. Find a local certified professional to get certified. c-nrpp.ca
TAOR: Take Action on Radon	Public health education campaign led by Health Canada, CARST, CAREX, the Canadian Cancer Society, and supported by health authorities and groups nationwide. Find a DIY test kit, learn about radon health effects, join community testing campaigns, or enter contests including rebates for mitigation. takeactiononradon.ca
Government of Canada Health Canada	Access videos, factsheets, materials to share, and a list of additional resources. canada.ca/What-you-need-to-know
CELA: Canadian Environmental Law Association	Find reports of radon law and policy, as well as advocacy campaigns for policy changes and homeowner rebates. cela.ca/radon
WHO: World Health Organization	Learn about the WHO recommendations for policies to prevent and mitigate residential radon exposure. who.int/ionizing_radiation/env/radon

Infographic for Landlords and Tenants

<https://carst.ca/rentals>

**LUNGS MATTER**

Financial support for home radon mitigation

Radon is the second-leading cause of lung cancer in Canada...it can also be

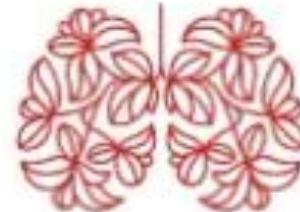
The Canadian Lung Association has recently launched a new grant program to help people across Canada afford radon mitigation services.

The Lungs Matter Grant Program aims to provide financial support to individuals who have been diagnosed with lung cancer and individuals considered a low-moderate income households with priority given to the low-income households.

<https://www.lung.ca/lungs-matter-radon-mitigation-support>

Lungs Matter

Home Radon Mitigation Grant Program



B R E A T H E
the lung association

In Partnership with



Tax Credit for Radon Measurements

Those working from home can claim the expense of testing their workspace for radon!

Learn more on our website.

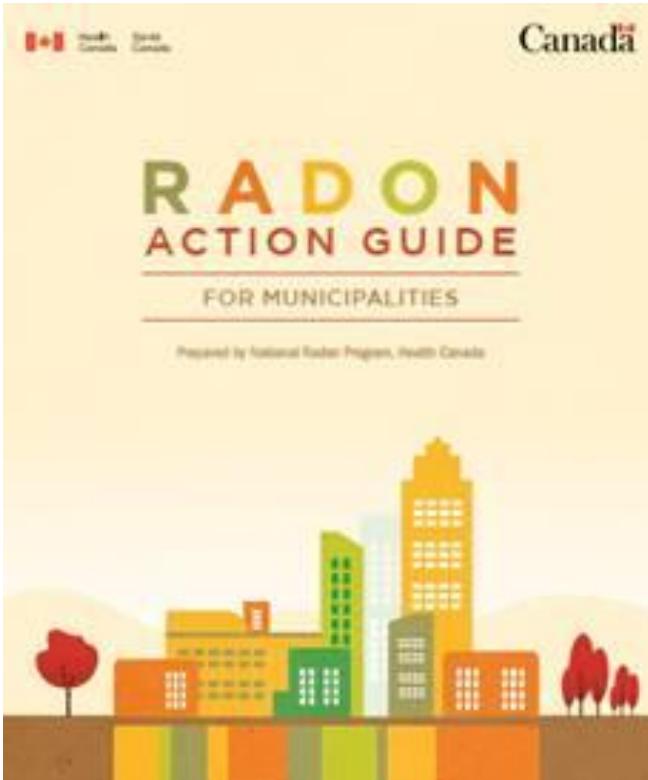
www.carst.ca/HomeownerHealth#CRA



Radon Action Examples in Canada:

Across Canada, some actions taken by governments and other institutions include:

- Radon reduction requirements in building codes,
- Promoting radon awareness and testing on websites,
- Testing of public buildings: government offices, schools, daycares, and social housing,
- Inclusion of radon in real estate Property Disclosure Statements and guidance on professional obligations for real estate agents to treat radon as a latent defect,
- Coverage for elevated radon in New Home Warranty claims,
- Requirement of radon mitigation in rental properties by some tribunals for landlord-tenant disputes; and,
- Clarifying guidelines for radon in the workplace.



<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/health-risks-safety/radiation/radon/action-guides/municipalities.html>

Radon Action Guides - Health Canada

Health Canada's National Radon Program has developed Radon Action Guides designed to help provinces, territories, and municipalities across Canada develop programs and policies to address radon.

The Radon Action Guide for Municipalities describes:

- why municipalities should take action
- how to create radon action strategies
- important steps to take to reduce radon-induced lung cancer in communities

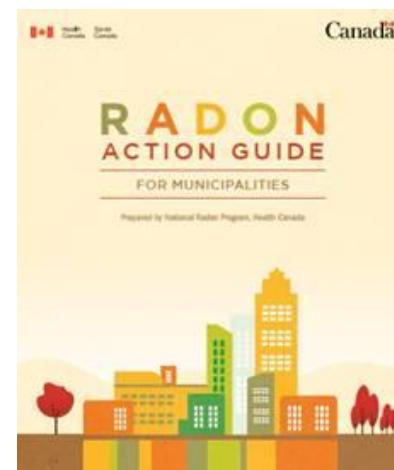
Municipalities can become leaders in advancing radon action through:

- policy development
- education and awareness
- creating databases and maps
- supporting community testing
- enforcing radon provisions in Building Codes

Radon Action Guide:

How to create radon action strategies?

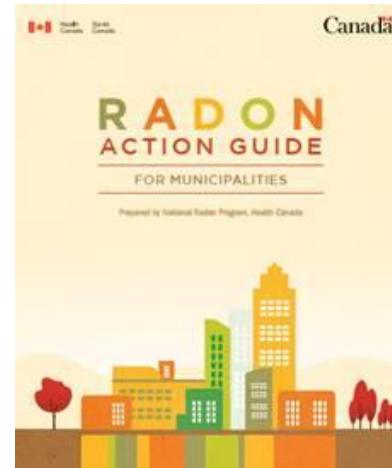
Every good strategy, starts with a plan.



- Develop RADON PLANS and include collaboration, consultation, partnerships, and independent organizations that have a strong presence at the local level and can play an important role concerning radon.

Core features of a Radon Action Plan, include:

- Delivering annual public education and awareness campaigns during November, Radon Action Month in Canada.
- Conducting community testing to gain better understanding of local radon levels.
- Adopting goals of reducing indoor radon exposure in the community.
- Establishing specific bylaws and operating policies covering building code enforcement, rental accommodation, municipal owned buildings, and publicly accessible places.
- Consider selling test kits as a way to increase testing, provide low cost options and collect radon data in their communities.
- Consider setting up a radon monitor lending program



Radon Action Guide continued:

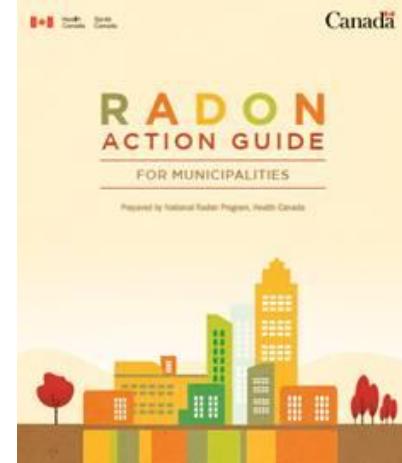
Important steps to take to reduce radon-induced lung cancer in communities

Risk management: Municipalities are employers, building owners and operators and at times landlords - general duties to ensure spaces are safe. Municipalities are also subject to a duty of care when inspecting buildings.

- Municipality owned/occupied buildings for radon and reduce high levels
- Provide training to building officials on updated building codes with respect to radon
- Addressing radon in social housing is an ethical and socially responsible action for municipalities to take. In some cases, municipalities may also control schools, daycares, and other facilities for which radon action is also important.

Increasing value of building stock: Certified mitigators can reduce radon levels to safe levels, which can become a selling feature because it assures users and owners that radon has been dealt with, increasing the value of the home or business.

- Support local business development and encourage local companies to become C-NRPP certified
- Provide financial support through grants/subsidies to support the cost of radon mitigation



Radon Action Guide continued:

Legal Powers: Most provinces' municipal legislation mentions protecting health and safety as part of the general purposes of a municipality or allows for bylaws concerning health.

Municipalities enforce areas which make up core components of radon policy, including:

- building codes
- construction permits
- standards of maintenance for rental accommodation
- air quality in indoor public spaces (as is currently done for smoking)



Thank you for your participation in this program!

www.takeactiononradon.ca

@actiononradon

