October 4, 2017



**TO:** Eliza Van Bibber School

**FROM:** Bill Bennett

**RE: Radon monitoring results for Yukon schools**

Last school year, we placed equipment in schools to monitor radon levels. Radon levels can fluctuate even over the course of one day, so it takes months of monitoring to get a reading of long-term radon levels in a given space.

The results for all schools are now posted on the Department of Education’s website at [education.gov.yk.ca/radon-monitoring.html](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Chmfraser%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CTP846OPH%5Ceducation.gov.yk.ca%5Cradon-monitoring.html). The results of the monitoring in spring 2017 show radon levels at your school is within the Health Canada’s acceptable range for radon.

**Next steps**

The Government of Yukon has developed standard practices for radon testing, monitoring and, where necessary, remediation in all government buildings, including schools. We will follow these practices to test radon levels in schools, and will remediate schools as needed to ensure radon levels are within the range recommended by Health Canada.

It is also important to check the radon levels in your home. You can either purchase a do-it-yourself radon test kit from a hardware store or online, or you can hire a certified radon measurement professional. Yukon has a number of specialists who have been certified by the Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program. You can find a listing of certified professionals in Yukon at [www.takeactiononradon.ca](file:///%5C%5Cgates%5Cedu-data%5CCommunications%5C___Post-election%5COperations%20-%20Health%20and%20Safety%5CRadon%5CLetters%20to%20schools%5Cwww.takeactiononradon.ca).

Radon testing should occur during the colder months (October through April). A minimum 3-month test is recommended.

**About radon**

Radon is a colourless, odorless, naturally occurring gas in Yukon. It does not pose an immediate danger to health and is only a concern if there is prolonged exposure to high concentrations over many years. More information is available from Yukon Housing Corporation at [www.housing.yk.ca/radon.html](http://www.housing.yk.ca/radon.html).

If you have difficulty accessing your school’s results online, please contact your school office.

Sincerely,

Bill Bennett

Area Superintendent, Department of Education