

WELCOME POLL

- Do you work in a role that is primarily:
 - Public health associated?
 - Library associated?
 - Other?





DECEMBER 7TH, 2022

AIR QUALITY SENSOR LIBRARIES: BRINGING HOME PUBLIC HEALTH

WALTER ZICHA, NORTH VANCOUVER
CITY LIBRARY

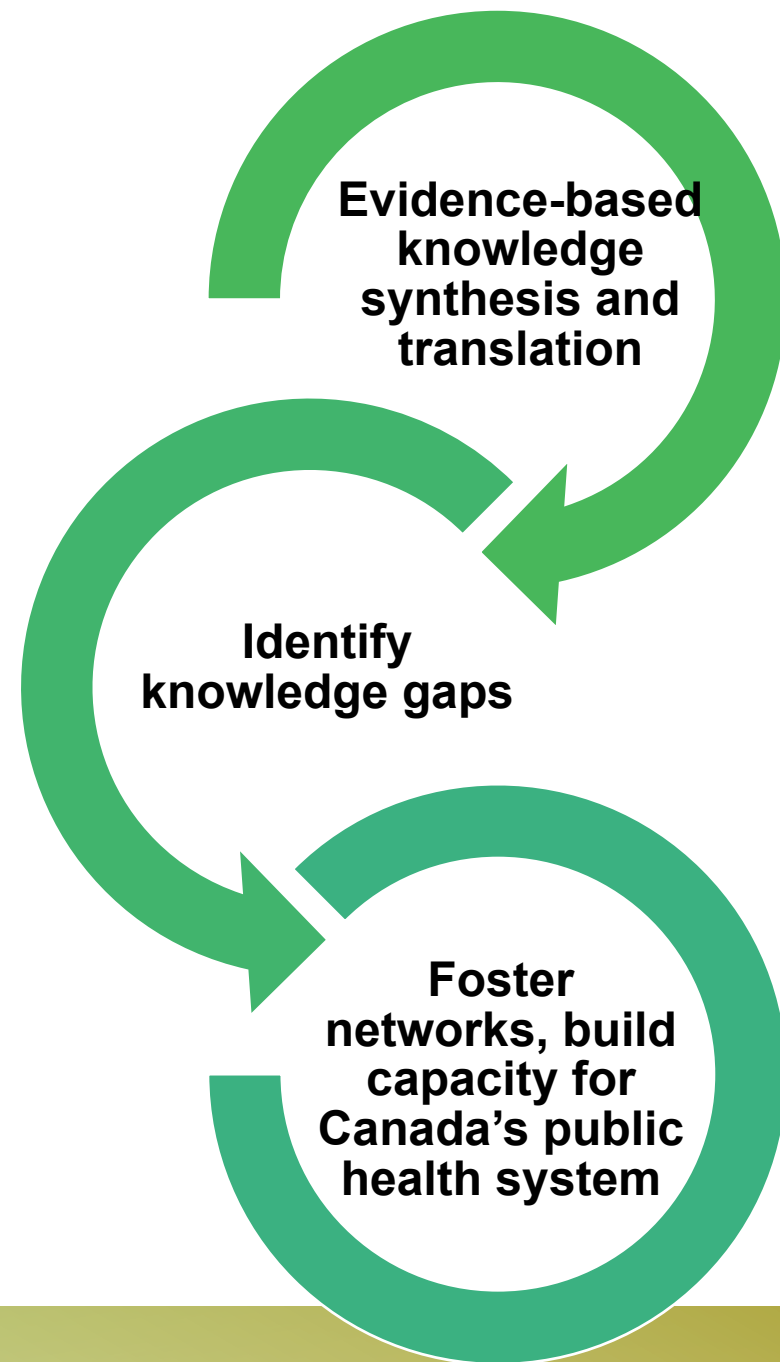
ANNE-MARIE NICOL, SIMON FRASER
UNIVERSITY & NCCEH

ANGELA EYKELBOSH, NCCEH





Established by the Public Health Agency of Canada in 2005 to promote evidence-informed public policy.



OVERVIEW

Why are libraries excellent public health (PH) partners?

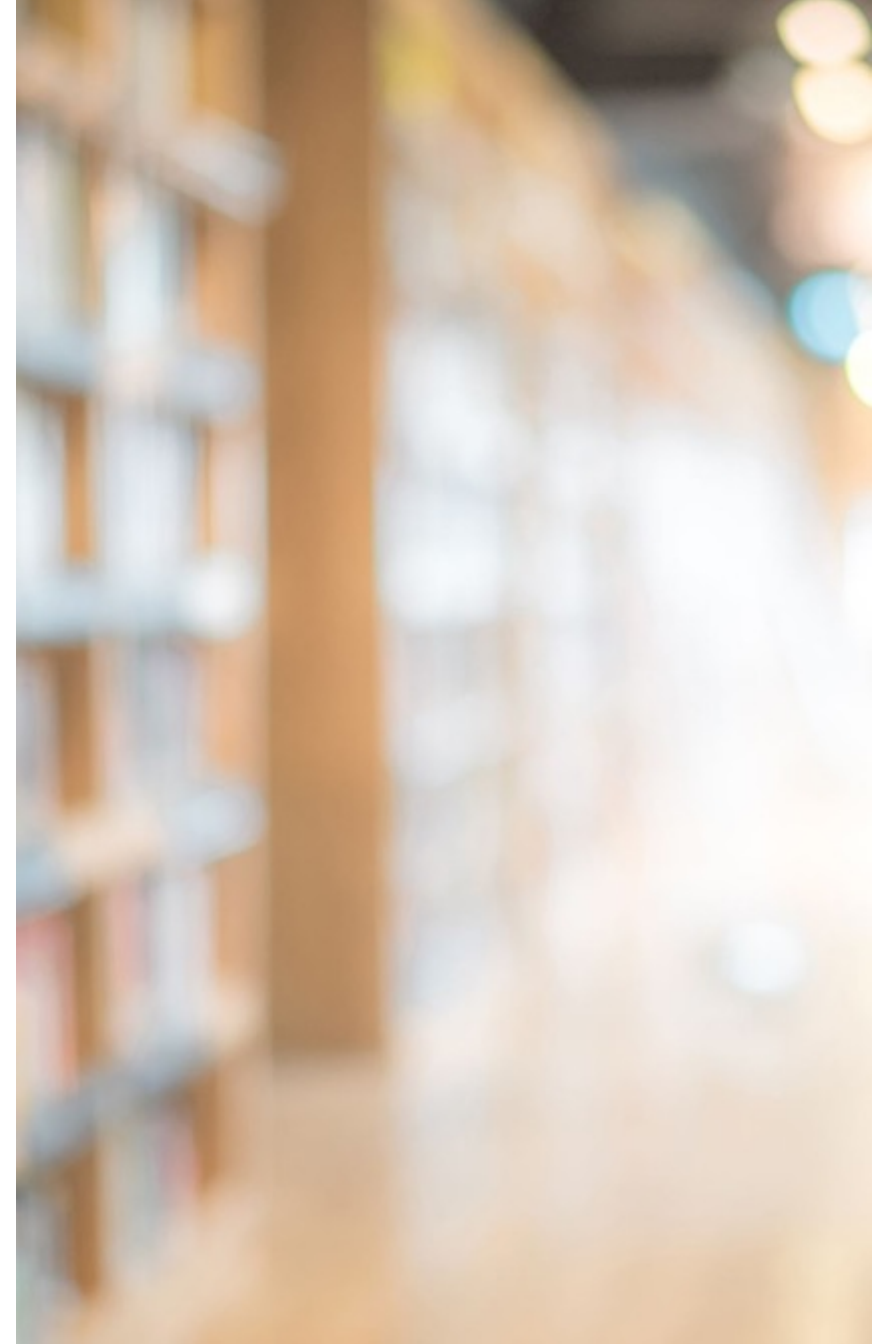
How are public libraries (PL) already engaging?

Radon gas as an example of PH-PL

- What is radon?
- North Van Central Library project

How can we ignite more PH–PL collaborations?

Upcoming: paper to be published January 2023 in [Environmental Health Reviews](#)



BOWEN ISLAND

LIBRARY

books & beyond...

Catalogue

Website

Home

Find Books & More

Online Resources

Using the Library

News & Events

Kids & Teens

Med Shed

- [Search our catalogue](#) for medical equipment and place a hold.
- You may also call (604-947-9788) or [email](#) the library with your requests.

What is the Med Shed?

The Med Shed is a service for lending medical equipment to Bowen Island residents for free. All equipment is lent in as-is condition for a 6 week period, free of charge. The loan period may be extended upon request and if available. No fines, fees or penalties are imposed for borrowing equipment.

Returning Medical Equipment

- Please sanitize Med Shed items before returning them.
- Please return Med Shed items to the front desk during the Library's open hours.

What equipment is available?

Examples of the types of equipment we lend include:

WHY ARE WE INTERESTED IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES?

Most communities have one!

Trusted- specialized in disseminating information

Visited by a broad cross section of people

Promote equitable access to information

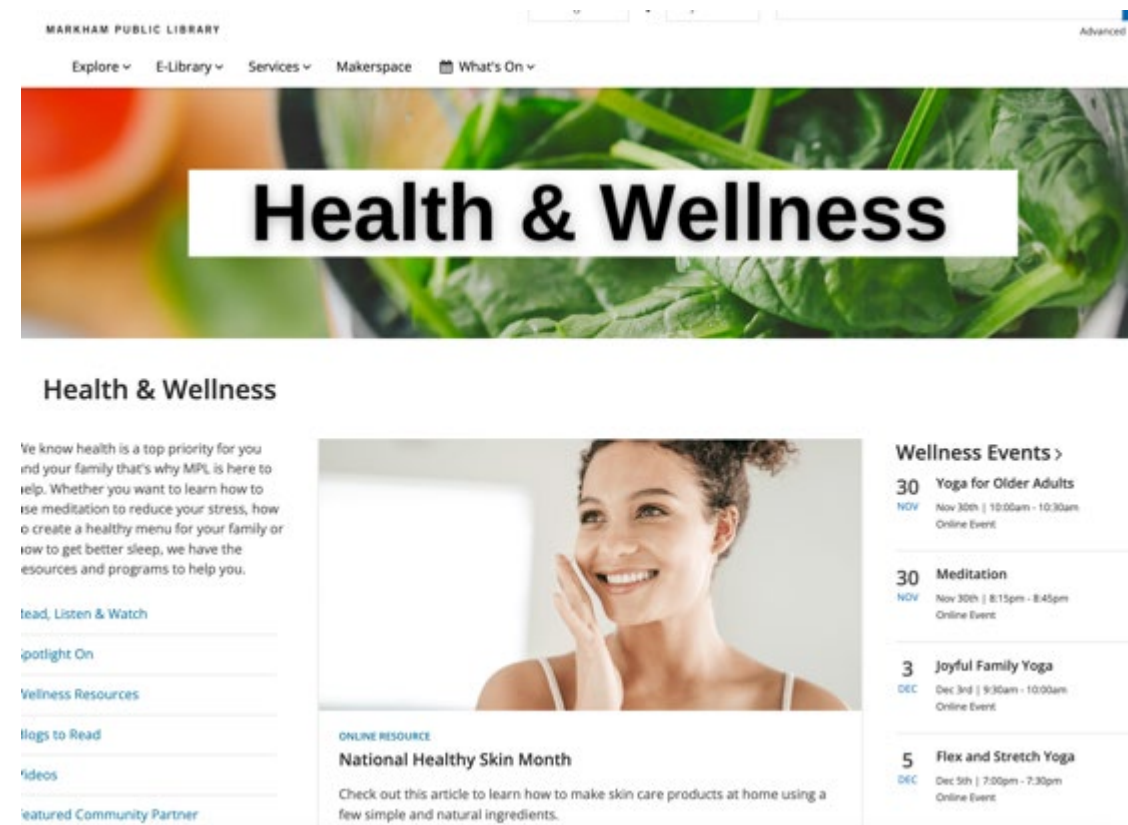
- books, music, the internet, help

PH-PL goals over-lap: improve well-being, reduce disparity

LIBRARIES DOING PUBLIC HEALTH

Library have expanded from traditional (like books) to services, activities to libraries of things that loan out kits or devices.

Offerings often based on the needs and interests of the community



The screenshot shows the Markham Public Library website. At the top, the navigation bar includes "MARKHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY" and links for "Explore", "E-Library", "Services", "Makerspace", and "What's On". A large banner image of fresh green vegetables is at the top, with the text "Health & Wellness" overlaid in a white box. Below the banner, the page is titled "Health & Wellness". On the left, there is a sidebar with links: "Read, Listen & Watch", "Spotlight On", "Wellness Resources", "Books to Read", "Videos", and "Featured Community Partner". The main content area features a large image of a smiling woman. Below the image, there is a section titled "ONLINE RESOURCE" for "National Healthy Skin Month", with a brief description. To the right of the main content, there is a "Wellness Events" section listing several events:

Month	Event	Date	Time	Format
NOV	Yoga for Older Adults	Nov 30th	10:00am - 10:30am	Online Event
NOV	Meditation	Nov 30th	8:15pm - 8:45pm	Online Event
DEC	Joyful Family Yoga	Dec 3rd	9:30am - 10:00am	Online Event
DEC	Flex and Stretch Yoga	Dec 5th	7:00pm - 7:30pm	Online Event

SWITCHING GEARS: RADON GAS

Colorless, odorless radioactive soil gas

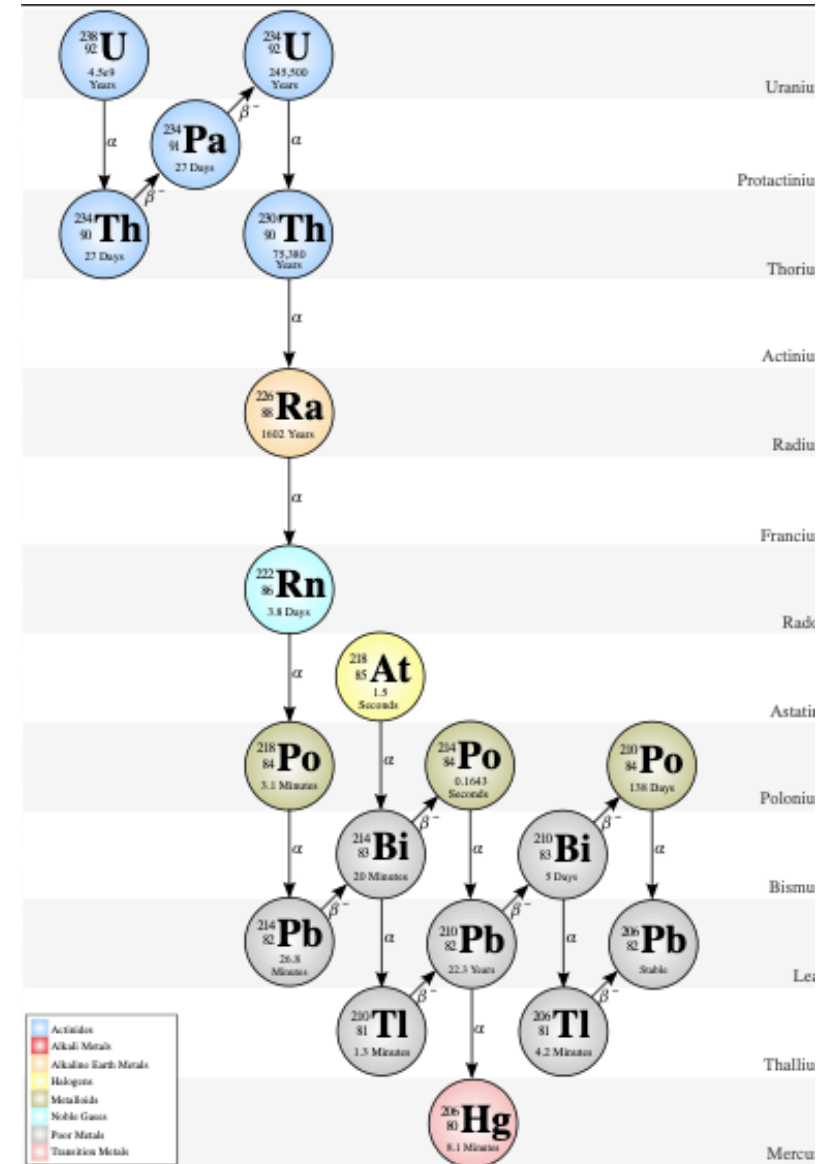
Second leading cause of lung cancer

- after tobacco
- over 3000 deaths per years

Accumulates in indoor environments

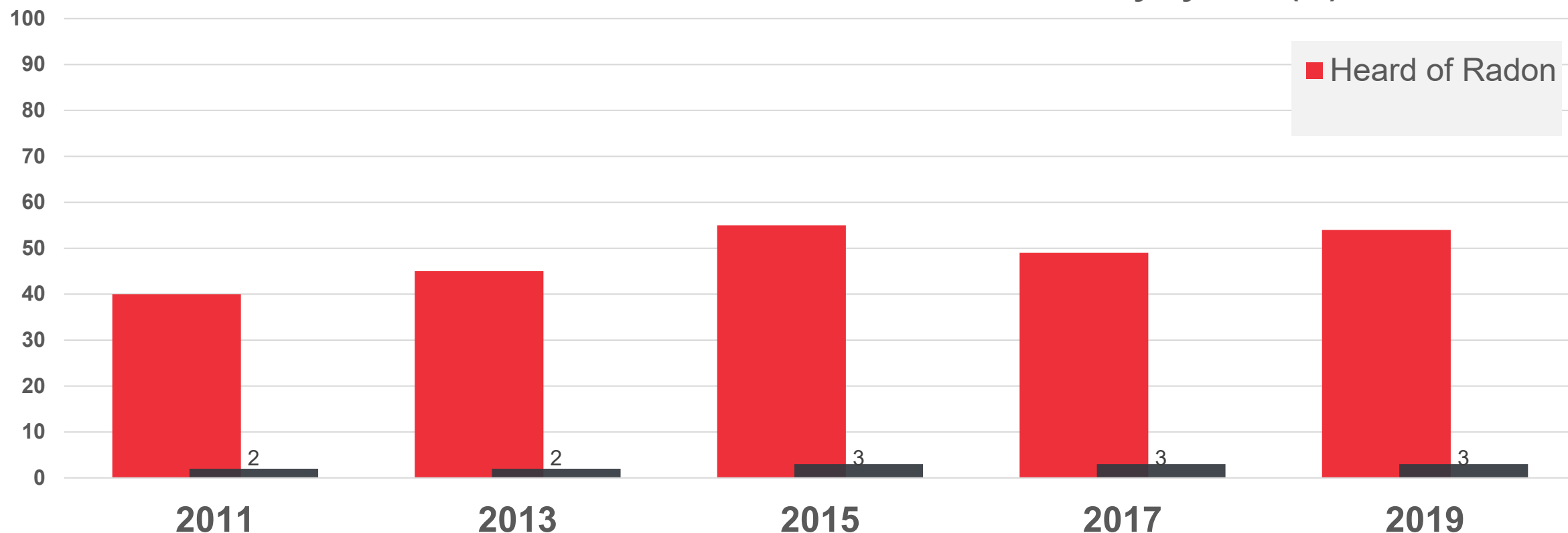
Requires testing to know level

- reduce if above 200 Bq/m³



RADON AWARENESS IS GROWING; TESTING REMAINS LOW

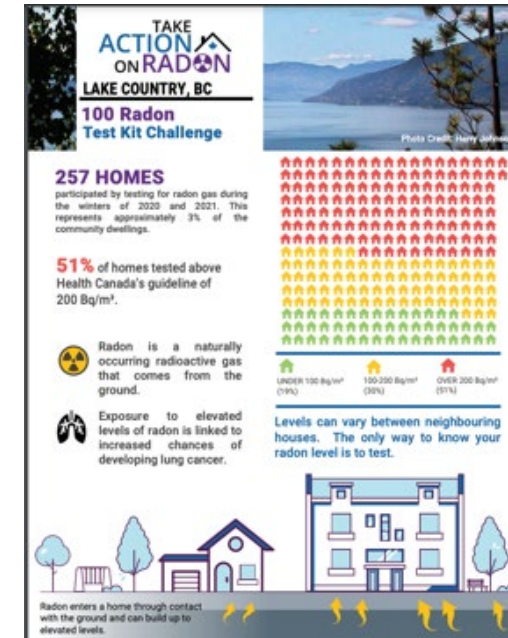
Statistics Canada: Household and Environments Survey by Year (%)



Statistics
Canada

12/8/2022

% homes testing for radon – Statistics
Canada



PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE

Some regions have a high proportion of homes above guidelines

Lack of testing hampers lung cancer prevention

HOW TO ENCOURAGE TESTING?

New interactive map estimates local health risk due to indoor radon levels in BC

November 04, 2021

British Columbians have a new interactive tool to help them better understand the health risks of indoor radon.



The interactive map developed by the BC Centre for Disease Control displays radon levels recorded in homes across the province, and also estimates the increase in lung cancer risk for the whole population and for smokers.

MAPS

The image shows a screenshot of the '100 Radon Test Kit Challenge' website. The header features the 'TAKE ACTION ON RADON' logo and navigation links: 'Test', 'Protect', 'Learn', 'Resources', and a 'GET STARTED' button. Below the header is a large image of a row of houses. The main heading is '100 Radon Test Kit Challenge'. Below this, there are three buttons: 'START TEST', 'END TEST', and 'DOWNLOAD'. To the right of these buttons, there is a text block that reads: 'We are challenging municipalities across Canada to take part in the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge. The 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge targets municipalities across Canada where radon testing has thus far been limited, but where there is a potential for homes to have elevated radon levels. The program will provide up to 100 test kits to each participating municipality, to be distributed to citizens for free. Each community needs to have a Community Liaison to take on this project in their community and provide local support. Do you want your community to participate in the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge? The program is full for the fall of 2022, but if you are representing a municipality that's interested in participating, you may [Apply for the fall of 2023 here.](#)

FREE TEST
KITS

The image shows a screenshot of the Government of Canada website. The header includes the Canadian flag, the text 'Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada', and a search bar. Below the header is a 'MENU' button. The main heading is 'Radon gas survey in homes built after 2000: Halifax region'. Below this heading is a table titled 'Table 1. Radon levels in homes built in 2001 to 2010 and 2012 to 2021'. The table has four columns: 'Radon level (Bq/m³)', 'Home construction period', '2001 to 2010', and '2012 to 2021'. The 'Home construction period' column is further divided into 'Number of homes' and 'Percentage (%)'. The table shows data for three radon levels: 'under 200', '200 to 600', and 'over 600'. The 'Total' row shows 126 homes in 2001 to 2010 and 90 homes in 2012 to 2021. Below the table, there is a text block that reads: 'Radon tests took place between November 2021 and April 2022. The average test took 95 days. All radon tests were analyzed by July 4, 2022.' Below this text is a 'Conclusion' section that reads: 'The results of this survey show that radon levels in homes built following the 2010 National Building Code have not decreased. In fact, more homes built in 2012 to 2021 (67%) are above the 200 Bq/m³ level than homes built in 2001 to 2010 (56%).'

ON-GOING
RESEARCH

CONCEPT OF A RADON LIBRARY LENDING PROGRAM

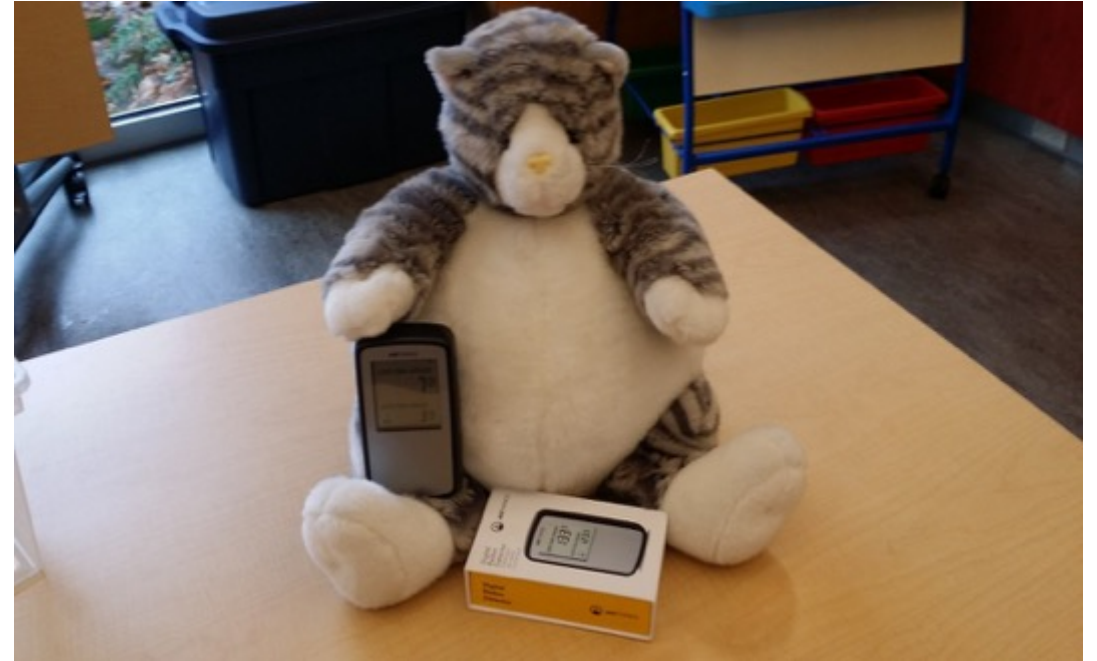
Norway project presented at an international conference

- Pippa Boothman (Corentium/AirThings)

Halifax Library was starting a similar program

Worked with NVCL to determine type of detectors and “tubs”

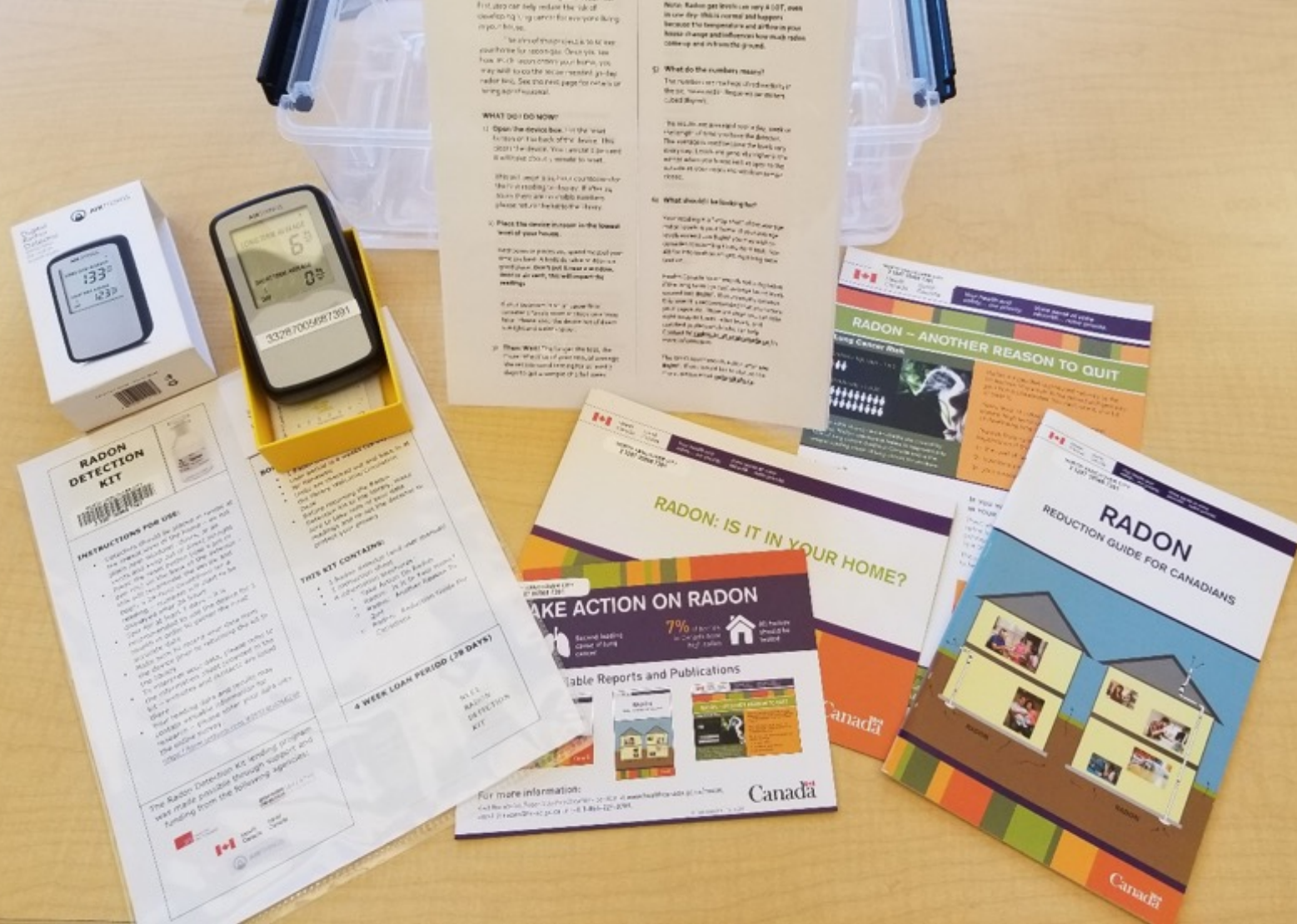
BC Lung created a patron survey



AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAM

The Radon Detection Kit lending program was made possible through support and funding from the following agencies:





Anne-Marie Nicol handing out radon test kits Monday, Feb. 26, from 4 North Vancouver City Library

Bridgette Watson · CBC News · Posted: Feb 20, 2018 5:39 PM PT | Last Updated: February 2



Public health researcher, Anne-Marie Nicol, holds a radon test kit similar to the ones she is handing out to residents. She is gathering evidence in homes along the Sea-to-Sky corridor and in North and West Vancouver to convince the B.C. government to change the B.C. Building Code to include the region as a high-risk radon area. (Simon Fraser University)

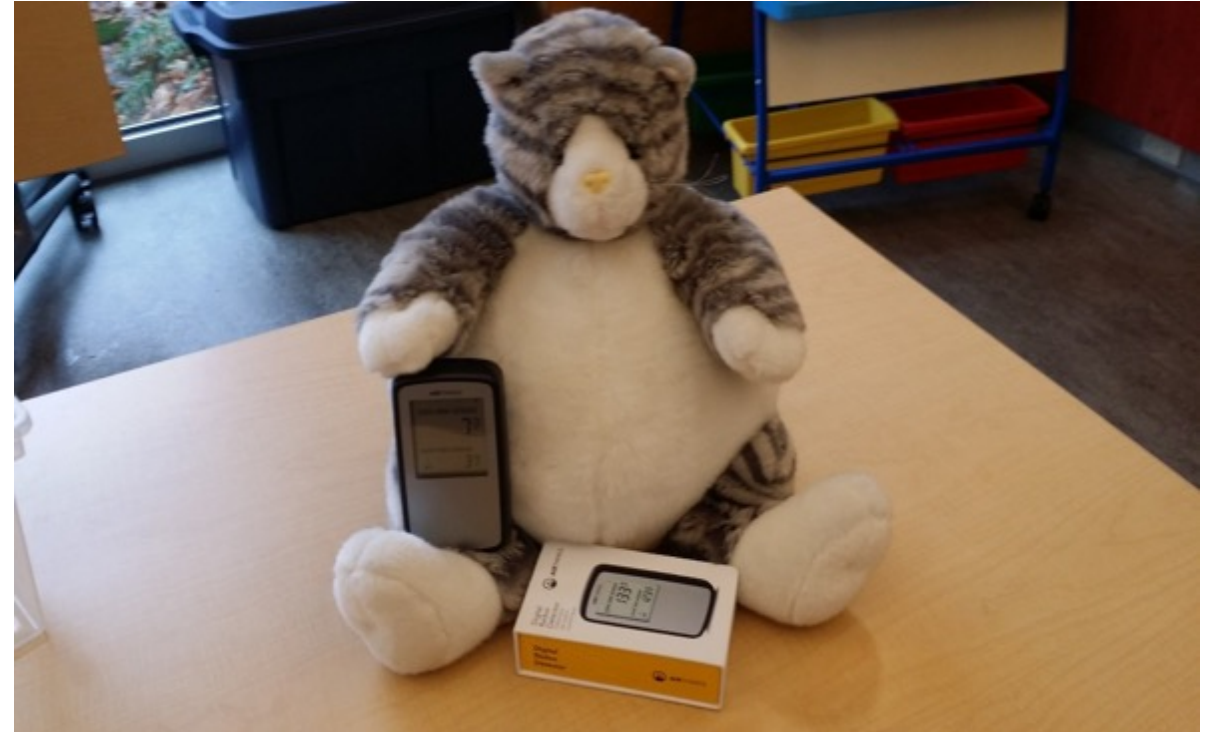
A public health researcher says radon exposure on Vancouver's North Shore and Sea-to-Sky corridor is a potential health hazard and she wants the B.C. government to change provincial building codes to reflect the risk.

RADON TUBS AND PROMOTION

RADON KITS INCLUDE

Each kit contains:

- 1 Radon detector (and user manual)
- 1 Instruction sheet
- 4 Government information brochures:
 - Take Action On Radon
 - Radon: Is It In Your Home?
 - Radon: Another Reason To Quit
 - Radon: Reduction Guide For Canadians



LIBRARIES INVOLVED IN PILOT

NORTH SHORE LIBRARIES

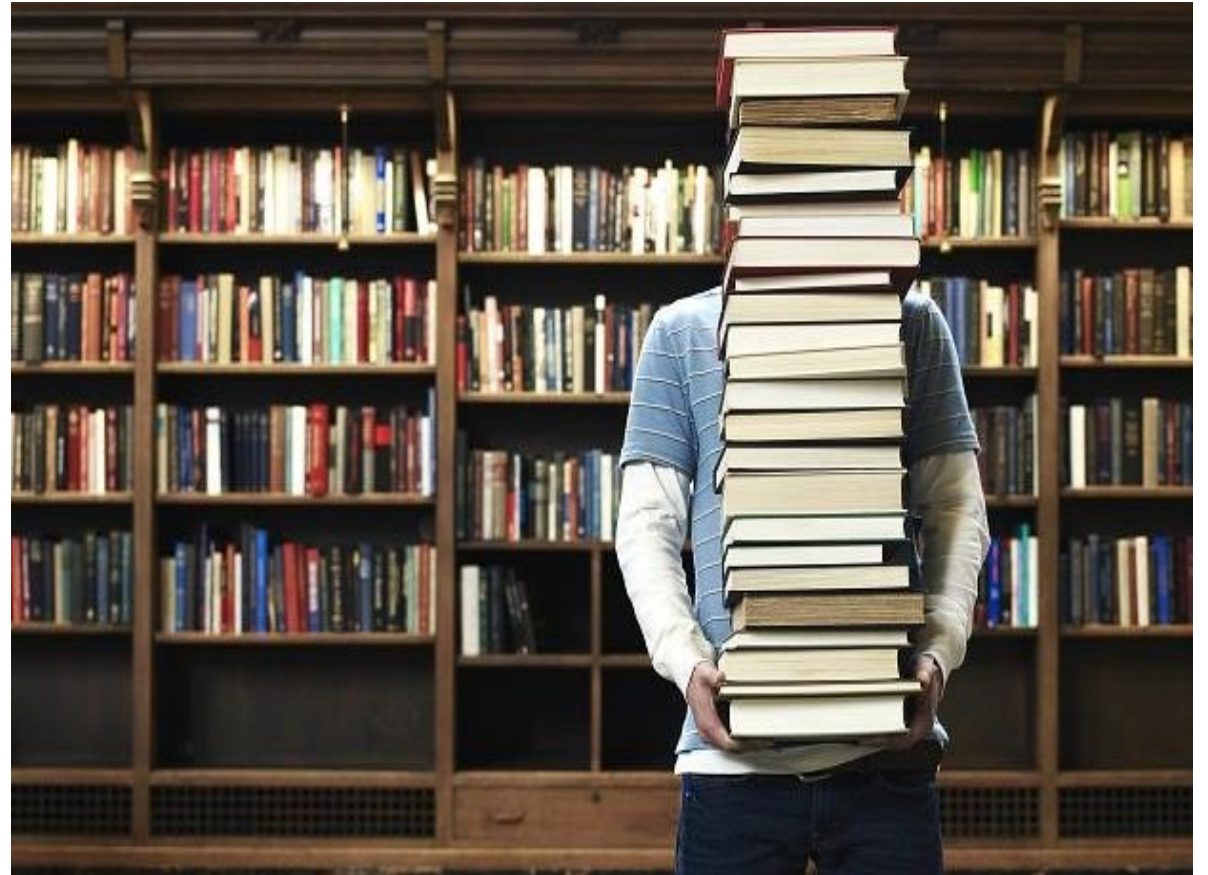
- West Vancouver Memorial Library – 6 kits
- North Vancouver District Public Library – 7 kits
- North Vancouver City Library – 6 kits

SUNSHINE COAST

- Bowen Island Public Library – 2 kits
- Gibsons & District Public Library – 3 kits
- Sechelt Library – 3 kits
- Powell River Public Library – 3 kits

SEA-TO-SKY CORRIDOR

- Pemberton & District Public Library – 3 kits
- Squamish Public Library – 3 kits
- Whistler Public Library – 5 kits



PILOT PROJECT SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

Successes:

- Coordinating through one library helped to streamline the program
- All libraries involved were very receptive and promoted them within their communities
- Amazing public response and usage statistics in all libraries
- Funding easy to access

Challenges:

- A very tight project timeframe
- Cataloguing, processing, and promotion varied a bit
- Patron survey not well used

LIBRARY LENDING PROGRAM EXPANSION- JUST BC!

**Lillooet Public Library
(Dec 2018)**

**Thompson-Nicola
Regional Library (Feb
2019)**

- Ashcroft
- Barriere
- Blue River
- Cache Creek
- Chase
- Clearwater
- Clinton
- Kamloops
- Logan Lake
- Lytton
- Merritt
- Savona



**Kootenay Library
Federation (Aug 2019)**

- Beaver Valley
- Castlegar
- Cranbrook
- Creston Valley
- Elkford
- Fernie
- Grand Forks
- Greenwood
- Invermere
- Kaslo
- Kimberley
- Midway
- Nakusp
- Nelson
- Penticton
- Radium Hot Springs
- Rossland
- Salmo
- Sparwood
- Trail

OTHER EXAMPLES: HAPPY LIGHTS (SAD LAMPS)



MEMORY CARE (DEMENTIA) KITS




HEART RATE SENSOR KITS



CO₂ MONITOR KITS



FOOD SOVERIGNTY



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and more...

Seed Library

Looking for information on a specific collection?
Follow the links below:

- [Books on CD](#)
- [Book Club in a Bag](#)
- [Braille](#)
- [eBooks & eAudiobooks](#)
- [Fiction](#)
- [Genealogical Resources](#)
- [Graphic Novels](#)
- [Indigenous](#)
- [Legal Information](#)
- [Magazines & Newspapers](#)
- [Movies](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Non-Fiction](#)

The **Prince Albert Seed Library** is a collaborative effort between **Prince Albert Parkland Permaculture Guild** and **John M. Cuelenaere Public Library**

What is a Seed Library?

A seed library is a library that lends seeds instead of books. The concept is that one would take out seeds in the spring with the intention of saving seeds and returning some of their saved seeds in the fall. Gardeners grow the plants in their garden and at the end of the season, they let a few plants 'go to seed.' From those plants, they collect seeds to return to the Library to replenish its inventory. Seed savers are also encouraged to gift their own varieties to the seed library for other people to try. The seeds that are available will be ones that can be grown locally, and are acclimatized to our local growing conditions

CANADA

New community garden takes root behind Strathmore Public Library



By John Watson, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter Strathmore Times

▲ Tue., July 6, 2021 | 2 min. read



READ THE CONVERSATION

Thanks to a collaboration between Strathmore Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) and several community-oriented organizations, a new communal garden is ready for planting behind the Strathmore Public Library.

Dubbed the Station Community Garden, FCSS Community Support Coordinator Melissa Masse said the aim of the project is to offer a space for community groups and organizations to offer outdoor programming, as well as to be a space for horticulture-based learning.

"It will support opportunities for intergenerational learning, cultural knowledge sharing, connections to nature, sustainable food initiatives, and physical and mental wellness," she said.

Chair of Communities in Bloom, Rob Pirie, added the name is a callback to the CP rail stations that once brought settlers out to the area, which often boasted similar gardens as a way of advertising what could be grown in the area.

"What we're trying to do is capture that history with this.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES AND RESOURCE CENTRES



Anything troubling you? We can help.

Access free mental health and addictions support, health information, and referral to services by calling or texting with a mental health professional.

This free service is available by calling 403.299.9699 (8 am – 11 pm) or texting 587.315.5000 (9 am – 10 pm).

Central Library Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
Thursday: 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Friday: 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Central Library Wellness Desk is located in room 3-19A.

Crowfoot Library Hours

Calgary

Calgary library's new wellness desk offers free drop-in mental health services



Pilot project will be open afternoons and evenings at the Central Library until Dec. 31

[Sarah Rieger](#) · CBC News · Posted: Oct 14, 2020 5:30 AM MT | Last Updated: October 14, 2020



Calgary's Central Library has a new desk that offers drop-in, free mental health services. (Michael Grimm)

VPL VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY

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Hours & Locations Borrowing Digital Library Booking & Facilities Programs & Events Ask Us

SEARCH THE Catalogue FOR


SUN LIFE FINANCIAL
MUSICAL INSTRUMENT
LENDING LIBRARY

Musical Instruments

The Musical Instrument Lending Library at VPL is a collection of instruments that you may borrow using your Vancouver Public Library card. The collection is located at the Central Library. Ask staff for assistance retrieving the instrument you want to borrow. The instruments can be found by searching the [library catalogue](#).

Instructions and training material can be found in our [Musical Instrument guide](#).

For answers to other instrument lending questions, please see our [FAQ page](#).



Acoustic Bass Guitar

Learn how to play the bass guitar using [these resources](#) selected by VPL staff.

See how to care for it by watching [this video](#).

Dimensions
The length is approximately 127 cm.

Use of pickup requires a 9 volt battery; battery not included.

Find this

Search Catalogue
Search our catalogue for all our musical instruments.
[SEE CATALOGUE →](#)

Musical Instrument FAQ
Find quick answers to frequently asked questions about our musical instrument lending library.
[READ MORE →](#)

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Federation of
ONTARIO
PUBLIC
LIBRARIES

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Upcoming Events Board & Governance Working Groups & Project Teams Advocacy Archive Resources

Free Internet Connectivity Kits from the Library provide vital connection for some of Toronto's most vulnerable residents

by FOPLD | May 27, 2020 | FOPL News | 2 comments

Free Internet Connectivity Kits from the Library provide vital connection for some of Toronto's most vulnerable residents.

This event has already occurred.

Summer Starts at EPL: Over the Rainbow Storytime with Drag Queen, Felicia Bonée!

Saturday, August 6, 2022

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Stanley A. Milner (Downtown)

Description



Participate in a fabulous storytime this summer with local drag queen Felicia Bonée!* This family-friendly program will showcase stories that explore diversity and inclusion, song performances and maybe even a little glitter.

This event is unregistered.

Not feeling well? Please stay home. Visit our [FAQs](#) for more information.

Program: [Summer Starts Here](#)

Suitable for: Child (6 - 8)
Child (9 - 12)
Family
Preschooler

Type: [Early Literacy Storytime](#)

Language: English

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Stay cool at the library



When it's hot out there... come in here! Your local library branch offers air-conditioned comfort—and there's a lot more to offer. When Halton Region issues a heat warning, all open library branches are designated official cooling centres, where patrons and community members can cool off.

Heat warnings are issued when very high temperature or humidity conditions could pose a serious risk of heat-related illness or exhaustion.

LOCAL : NEWS

Ajax and Pickering libraries are helping homeless people get out of the cold

Ajax Library acts as an overnight warming centres when extreme weather alert issued



By **Kristen Calis** Reporter

Thu., Feb. 3, 2022 | 3 min. read

[Set Oshawa as My Local news](#)

Article was updated Feb. 08, 2022

HOW CAN WE STRENGTHEN PH-PL COLLABORATIONS?

Poll: Are you already engaged in a PH-PL collaboration? Of what nature?



LIBRARIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH



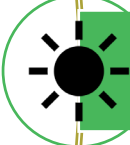
Accessing medical care and supplies: MEDSHED, hosting, telehealth visits for remote communities, training librarians to administer naloxone



Food safety, food security and nutrition: seeds banks; healthy cooking classes; composting and gardening workshops; home canning workshops



I-Equity, diversity and inclusion: drag queen story hour; senior reading buddies; Indigenous storytelling



Emergency response: warming and cooling shelters during extreme events



Early childhood development: mom and baby groups, babies and music; instrument lending



Mental Health: partnerships with care providers

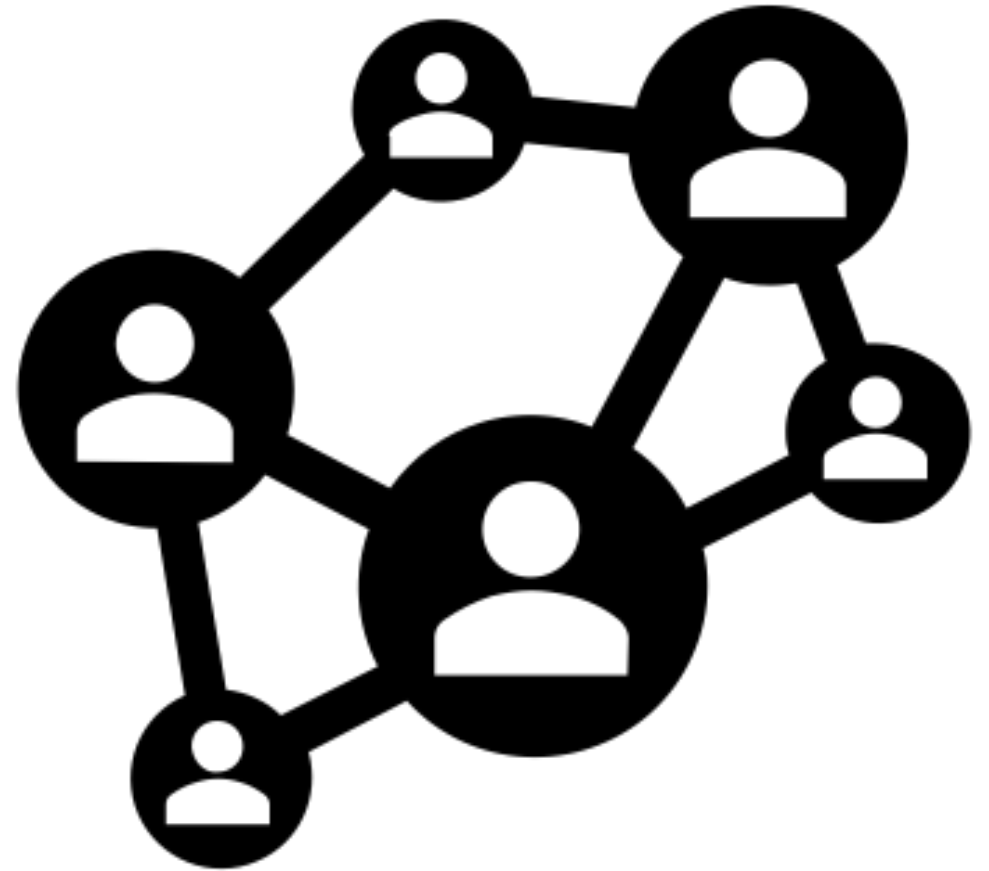


Indoor air quality: lending air sensors, wood moisture meters, DIY air filter workshops

HOW CAN WE STRENGTHEN PH-PL COLLABORATIONS?

Let's discuss!

- 1) What types of new public health-oriented programs are you planning or interested in?
- 2) What challenges do you see for PH-PL projects?



Reach out to us for more discussion on PHPL partnerships:

- Anne-Marie.Nicol@bccdc.ca
- Angela.Eykelbosh@bccdc.ca
- wzicha@nvcl.ca

Join our mailing list at www.ncceh.ca

This work was made possible by a financial contribution from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

THANK YOU!

Upcoming: paper to be published January 2023 in [Environmental Health Reviews](#)

**LIBRARIES
AND
PUBLIC
HEALTH**



Accessing medical care and supplies



Food safety, food security and nutrition



I-Equity, diversity and inclusion



Emergency response



Early childhood development

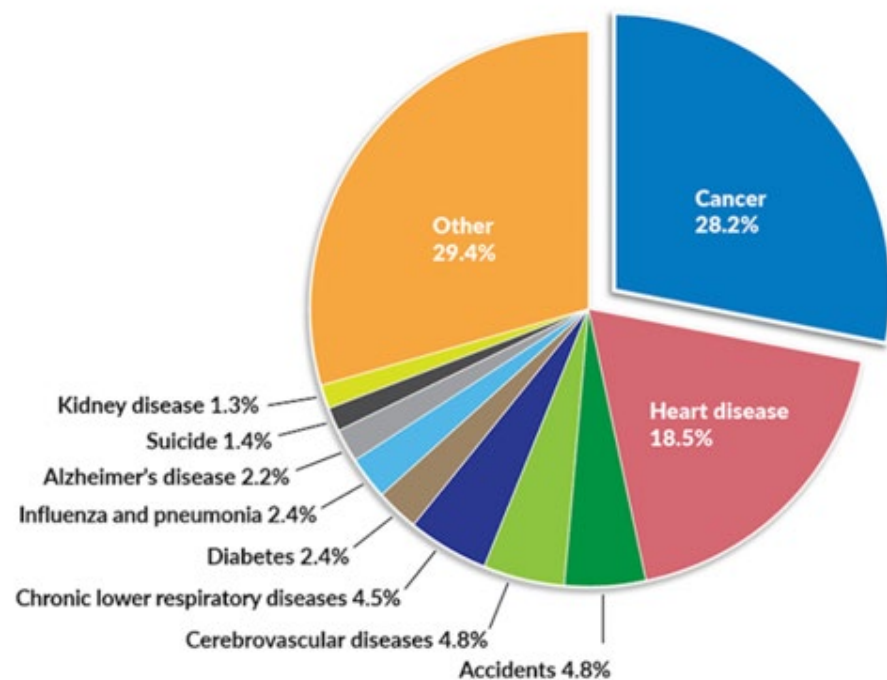


Mental Health



Indoor air quality

Proportion of Deaths Due to Cancer and Other Causes,
Canada, 2019



Canadian
Cancer
Society



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Cancer-specific stats 2022

Snapshot of incidence, mortality and survival estimates by cancer type*

Both sexes combined	Incidence			Mortality			Survival
	Rank	Cases	Trend	Rank	Deaths	Trend	5-year (%)
All cancers	—	233,900	↓	—	85,100	↓	64
Lung and bronchus	1	30,000	↓	1	20,700	↓	22
Breast	2	28,900	↓	4	5,500	↓	89
Prostate	3	24,600	↓	5	4,600	↓	91
Colorectal	4	24,300	↓	2	9,400	↓	67
Bladder	5	13,300	→	8,9	2,500	→	77
Non-Hodgkin lymphoma	6	11,400	→	7	3,000	↓	69
Melanoma	7	9,000	↑	18	1,200	↓	89
Uterus (body, NOS)	8,9	8,100	→	17	1,500	↑	82
Kidney and renal pelvis	8,9	8,100	→	13,14	1,950	↓	73
Head and neck	10	7,500	↑	11	2,100	→	64
Pancreas	11	6,900	→	3	5,700	→	10
Leukemia	12,13	6,700	↓	6	2,100	↓	61