

***This newsletter has been developed to share updates about the on-going environmental work in the Bishop Street Community.***

**Routine Sampling within the Bishop Street Community**

- Routine indoor air monitoring samples continue to be collected within the Bishop Street Community to ensure that levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) remain low and to assist in determining where mitigation may be required.
- Groundwater samples are collected annually and surface samples bi-annually from various locations in the community including roads, boulevards, parklands and the Grand River.

**Changes to Indoor Air Mitigation Assessment Level**

Currently, homes within the Bishop Street Community which have an indoor air concentration of TCE above  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  are assessed for mitigation. Moving forward, homes with an indoor air concentration of TCE above  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  will proactively be assessed for mitigation. The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) expects that this evaluation work will begin in early 2019 and that all required mitigation systems will be installed before the end of 2020.

**Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Update**

• **Remedial Options Evaluation**

The MOECC is proceeding with the next phase of evaluating potential remedial options to address the source area contamination related to the former Northstar site. In order to fully evaluate the remedial options presented by Dillon Consulting Limited, additional field work is required. The MOECC is in the process of procuring a qualified consultant to complete this work. It is anticipated that this work will be initiated in late 2018.

• **Day-to-Day Activities**

The MOECC, through AET Group Inc. (AET), continues to operate and maintain the Ground water Extraction System (GES) located at the former Northstar property while the remedial options are being assessed.

**GE Canada Update**

Since 2007, GE Canada has been undertaking investigations and remedial efforts at 610 Bishop Street North and has shared in mitigation efforts in the Bishop Street Community. GE Canada provides support to both indoor air mitigation and monitoring work conducted by the CIC.

In 2009, GE Canada began treating soil and groundwater in the southwestern portion of the 610 site with potassium permanganate. GE Canada's remedial efforts have been effective in destroying TCE in the soil and groundwater. In 2015, GE Canada, in consultation with the MOECC, began a monitoring program that includes assessing the long-term effects of the remedial effort while discontinuing the use of potassium permanganate. GE Canada expects to continue the monitoring program through 2018 and will take specific actions if trigger concentrations are exceeded. Next steps will be determined in consultation with the MOECC following the monitoring program.

## Region of Waterloo Public Health Update

Mitigation measures in homes have been very successful at reducing levels of TCE in indoor air, and have resulted in the large majority of homes having concentrations of TCE below  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The long-term goal of this program is to bring all homes down to  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  or less. Region of Waterloo Public Health will continue to review the results of the indoor air sampling program, which is carried out by AET and overseen by the MOECC, to ensure these levels remain very low.

Public Health continues to recommend that the MOECC direct resources towards remedial options for indoor air TCE levels that will achieve the long-term goal of less than  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , using the following action levels:

### Action Levels

- \* **Less than  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**  → No further remedial actions are required.
- \* **Between  $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  and  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**  → Continue annual indoor air monitoring. Public Health will work with the MOECC to prioritize homes to receive remedial options.
- \* **Above  $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$**  → Continue to be prioritized for indoor air assessments and remediation. Continue annual indoor air monitoring.

In addition, Public Health has recommended, when choosing between effective options for indoor air mitigation, that consideration should be given to minimizing stress and inconvenience for Bishop Street Community residents. For the Public Health Fact Sheet on TCE or additional information, visit the Public Health website on TCE [www.regionofwaterloo.ca/TCE](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/TCE) or contact Public Health directly at 519-575-4400.

## CIC Update

AET continues to manage the Community Information Centre (CIC) as a one-window access point for the community. All relevant information pertaining to the BSC can still be obtained by contacting the CIC at AET's Cambridge office (see CIC contact information below).

### Indoor Air Monitoring: Winter 2018

CIC staff wish to thank everyone for their cooperation during this winter's air sampling program. From calling us back promptly to shoveling your walkway, we appreciate your help.

### Selling or Renovating your Home?

Please consider letting the CIC know if you are selling your home. We can provide assistance with questions which real estate agents or potential buyers may have about this project. If you are planning a basement renovation (i.e. installing a sump, changing the basement plumbing, adding a bathroom, deepening the basement, etc.) also give us a call to let us know.

### CIC Reminders

- \* HRVs should be on the SUMMER setting 
- \* If your home is on a SVE system, call the CIC before you dig deeper than 2 feet in your front or back yard.
- \* CIC staff continue to monitor mitigation equipment located in backyards throughout the year.

### Contacting the CIC

Call the CIC through AET's Cambridge office at **519-653-0680** or email us at [Jtucker@aet98.com](mailto:Jtucker@aet98.com) to reach Janet, Laurel, Jessica or Ryan.