

Staff Report



DATE: November 15, 2016 (Regular)
TO: Board of Education
FROM: Ray Velestuk, Secretary-Treasurer
RE: **Lead in Drinking Water-Update**

This report is being presented for the Board's information.

BACKGROUND:

In the Summer, 2016 the District undertook water testing for lead content in the thirty-six Abbotsford School District sites built prior to 1990 to ensure water quality in our facilities. The district sites tested were those built prior to changes in the BC Plumbing Code in 1989 to restrict the use of lead (solder) in domestic drinking water lines.

Using the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines as the standard measurement, active drinking stations (i.e. fountains, teaching kitchens, staff rooms) were targeted. As reported previously, initial results although not conclusive, were great cause for concern and staff immediately implemented a plan of action. This included communication with parents and staff, provision of bottled water at all affected sites, turning off of water at source, using signage etc.

Since that time, more comprehensive water testing was conducted by Pinchin West Consulting Group. The results are as follow and the groupings are listed on the next page.

TEST RESULT GROUPING:

Group A	Clear, site safe for drinking water
Group B	Testing close to the water supply resulting safe but failed at a branch line/fixture requiring repairs
Group C	Testing close to the water supply resulting in a fail concluding a repair to be done then certify a pass. More testing to be done once that stage is complete

With these test results in mind, a remedial plan was identified and the District applied for funding through the "School Enhancement Program" to repair pipes/fixtures at the failed sites. Funding of \$840,000 was recently approved by the Ministry. This work is to be completed by March 31, 2016.

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C
Alexander	Aberdeen	Abby Arts
Barrowtown	CORE	Abby Virtual
Blue Jay	Mt Lehman	Aboriginal Centre
Bradner	School Board Office	Bakerview
Clearbrook	Ten Broeck	Centennial Park
Dormick Park	Terry Fox	Chief Dan George
Facilities	W. A. Fraser	John MacLure
Godson		North Poplar
START (McCallum)		Upper Sumas
King		W. J. Mouat
Matsqui		
Margaret Stenerson		
McMillian		
Prince Charles		
Ross		
Sandy Hill		
South Poplar		
Dr. T. A. Swift		
Yale		

SCOPE OF WORK:

GROUP B Schools-In areas where tests failed, replacement of branch lines/connections including components inside fountains; entire fountains; sink bubblers; taps; installation of new bottle filling stations and repair to walls. Once complete retesting will be done to ensure safe reading is achieved

GROUP C Schools-Repairs from the water entry source to the closest area where the test failed. This includes replacement of pipes/components; (depending on what the test area was); components inside the fountain; entire fountain; sink bubbler; taps. Once complete retesting will be done to rule out water entry source and to target other areas of the school.