

**Air Quality in School District No. 57 (Prince George) Schools**  
**2017-18 - Volunteer Radon Gas Screening**

Update September 14, 2017:

Members of the public may recall that results of the initial, fall 2016, long-term measurement of radon gas present in School District No. 57 schools were encouraging. The majority of School District sites tested below Health Canada's acceptable levels of 200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>, with 39 of the 46 locations screened reporting 0 Bq/m<sup>3</sup> readings of radon gas. A few results were, however, above Health Canada's recommended threshold and further examination into air quality was warranted.

Further radon screening was conducted in the seven schools where some level of radon gas was detected. Results in these sites confirmed that existing building ventilation systems affect radon levels accordingly with the amount of fresh air supplied to areas. Fully operational ventilation systems reduced the levels of radon gas detected to within Health Canada threshold guidelines. The amount of ventilation required at Edgewood Elementary to mitigate the presence of radon gas, however, concluded with a decision to install an active soil depressurization system at Edgewood Elementary.

Rocky Point Engineering was hired to do the engineering and detail work on what was required for the Edgewood Elementary School radon mitigation strategy. Detailed plans for the project were received on July 29, 2017. Crossroads Construction was subsequently hired to oversee the work and to provide for the installation of four radon active soil depressurization systems. Fans and alarm monitoring systems were ordered in mid-August. Coring of holes through the floors has been completed and subsequent roofing and potential installation of the piping is expected to be completed by the end of September. Alarms are being built to specification and specialty fans sourced. Completion of the project is expected by early October 2017.

Central Interior Building Consultants Inc. will be hired directly to act as a third party source in providing testing services to School District No. 57 regarding the success of these mitigation efforts at Edgewood Elementary. School District No. 57 (Prince George) remains committed to safe environments for students and staff.