



100 Radon Test Kit Challenge:

“Empowering Communities, Saving Lives”



Canadian
Cancer
Society





Project Overview:

- The *100 Radon Test Kit Challenge* program provides 100 radon test kits, free of charge, to communities, to distribute to their citizens.
- “Turn-key program” provides tools and resources for each step of the process.
- No cost to participating communities: requires only staff time for organizing, distributing, and collecting test kits.



Canadian
Cancer
Society





100 Test Kit Challenge communities, by year

2018-19

(9)

Moncton, NB
Salmon Arm, BC
Winnipeg, MB
Spruce Grove, AB
Golden, BC
Souris, MB
Port Colborne, ON
Baden, ON
Wabana, NL

2019 – 2020

(15)

Halifax, NS
Sherbrooke, QC
Brandon, MB
Dauphin, MB
Greater Madawaska
Region, ON
Summerland, BC
Valemount, BC
Coquitlam, BC
Abbotsford, BC
McBride, BC
Vaudreuil-Dorion, QC
Pembroke, ON
Harrison Park, MB
North Grenville, ON

2020 – 2021

(20)

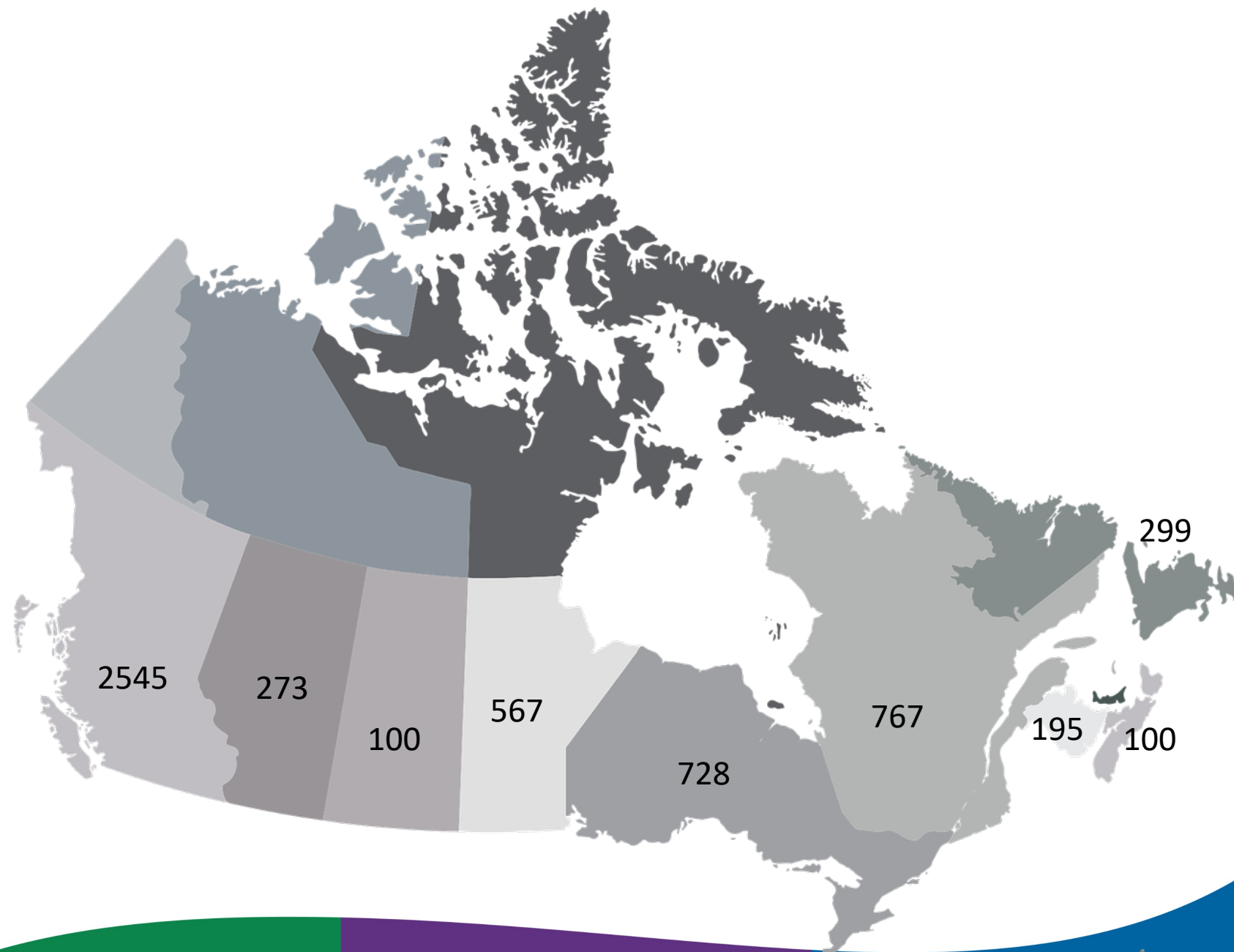
Sicamous, BC
Peachland, BC
Lake Country, BC
West Bank First Nation, BC
West Kelowna, BC
Kelowna, BC
Sundre, AB
Black Diamond, AB
Eston, SK
Silver Harbour, MB
Lakeshore, MB
Chatham-Kent, ON
Leeds & Thousand Islands, ON
Carleton-sur-mer, QC
Saint-Joseph du-Lac, QC
Lorraine, QC
Candiac, QC
Madawaska, NB
Mount Pearl, NL
Stephenville, NL

Impact to date

3 years

40 communities

*Over 5 500 kits
distributed*



Program Goals

1) Distribute radon test kits to communities where there is a risk of elevated radon levels, and where testing has thus far been limited.

- *100 test kits distributed for 100 days*

2) Raise local radon awareness

- *community members with a personal report*
- *community champions receive a summary report*

3) Generate data in under-tested urban and rural regions of the country

4) Inspire legacy radon programming in participating communities





Local media coverage



FOOD & DRINK	BIZ+TECH	TRAVEL & LIFESTYLE	ARTS & CULTURE	NEWS & CITY INFO	AUCTION	#exploreKelowna
BIG WHITE SKI RESORT	REAL ESTATE	CONTESTS	BEST OF THE CITY	MORE	SUBSCRIBE	NEARBY
						COVID-19 UPDAT

Okanagan posted Oct 19, 2020 @ 01:45pm by Megan Trudeau

More free radon test kits available to Central Okanagan residents



Listen to this article now

-01:33



Additional radon test kits are available to Central Okanagan residents, free of charge.

According to the RDCO, residents have overwhelmingly responded to [register for a free radon](#) gas testing kit.

Daybreak South with Chris Walker



▶ Play Episodes

◀ Share Show

Daybreak South is CBC F
Columbia, based in Kelo

Episodes

▶ June 1, 2021: A B.C. art
the city

▶ June 1, 2021: How the

kelownacapnews.com/news/testing-finds-38-per-cent-of-summerland-homes-have-unsafe-radon-levels/



KELOWNA CAPITAL NEWS

Read more below





Environmental Analytical Laboratories
143-111 Research Drive, Saskatoon, SK Canada S7N 3R2
T: 306-933-6932 F: 306-933-7922
Toll-free: 1-800-240-8808
E: analytical@src.sk.ca

C-NRPP ID: CAL-201803

www.src.sk.ca/analytical

Radon Test Report

Report Issue Date: Apr 23, 2021

Customer Contact Information:

Tested Address:

, NB

Device Location:

Test Device Used: AlphaTrack

C-NRPP Listed Device - Quality Assurance Plan in place.

Detector S/N	Detector Type	Test Start Date	Test End Date	Test Duration	Test Result (Bq/m ³)	Margin of Error (Bq/m ³)
AH7640	AlphaTrack	Dec 01 2020	Mar 11 2021	100	30	±20

Results from Lab Section 4 approved by Smith-Windsor, Jenna

Recommendations:

Your radon level is below 200 Bq/m³.

While the health risk from radon exposure below the Canadian Guideline is small, there is no safe level of radon. It is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept. If your radon level is between 100 and 200 Bq/m³, you should consider taking another measurement within the next five years.

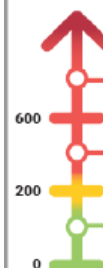
You can find a C-NRPP mitigation professional to help you here: <https://c-nrpp.ca/find-a-professional/>

Need help with interpreting this report? You can find information online: <https://takeactiononradon.ca/understanding-your-radon-test-report/>

The information in this report will be shared with the Take Action on Radon group.

Community Participant Stats

Detectors distributed	Start Surveys Completed	End Surveys Completed	Reports Issued	Return Rate
1200	1156	1084	1,062	89%



FIX NOW When above 600 Bq/m³, take action to REDUCE radon levels within one year.

FIX SOON When between 200 - 600 Bq/m³, REDUCE radon levels within the next 2 years.

If your radon level was below 200 Bq/m³, it is within the Canadian guideline consider retesting within the next 5 years.

If you have not tested your home for radon, visit takeactiononradon.ca/test to find a radon test kit.

Understanding your RADON TEST RESULTS

The Canadian guideline for radon in indoor air is 200 Bq/m³.

If you've tested your home, and the radon concentration is above the Canadian guideline of 200 Bq/m³ Health Canada recommends that you take action to lower the concentrations.

The higher the radon concentrations, the sooner action should be taken to reduce levels to as low as practically possible. While the health risk from radon exposure below the Canadian guideline is small, there is no level that is considered risk free. It is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept.

Health Canada recommends that homeowners consult with a Radon Mitigation Professional certified by the Canadian National Radon Proficiency Program (C-NRPP) to determine the best radon reduction method.

Go to: www.c-nrpp.ca/find-a-professional/ to find a Radon Mitigation Professional near you.



A radon mitigation system is installed with a fan that draws air (and radon) up from beneath the foundation and discharges the radon to the outdoors. This system reduces radon levels by preventing radon from entering your home.

Radon gas levels are reduced the most by installing a radon mitigation system. Research shows that certified radon professionals can reduce levels by over 90%. Other steps, such as increasing ventilation and sealing cracks, can help in the short-term but are less effective.

A certified professional can be found at: www.c-nrpp.ca/find-a-professional/

For more information on radon reduction
See Health Canada's Reduction Guide for Canadian Homeowners.

www.takeactiononradon.ca

By now, each participant who completed the who process, should have received an individual confidential report.

NEXT STEPS – for Participants:

Individual
reports

Email to participants –
re: individual report,
completed

FAQs

Link to FAQs – Resource for
Community Liaisons
Currently available

Community
Report

Email to participants –
re: Community report.
Mid-July

Regional
Webinar

Webinar for BC
participants.
Mid-July

819 participants also filled out additional information in a survey:

Type of Dwelling

		<i>Below 200</i>	<i>Above 200</i>	<i>Total</i>
Single Detached Home		464	248	712
Condo/apartment in basement		11	2	13
Condo/apartment on second floor or above		6	0	6
Semi-attached		56	19	75
Mobile home on the ground or with well-sealed skirting		6	1	7
Mobile home; no ground contact or loose skirting		6	0	6
				819

Own/Rent			
	<i>Below 200</i>	<i>Above 200</i>	<i>Total</i>
Own	521	260	781
Rent	29	9	38
			819

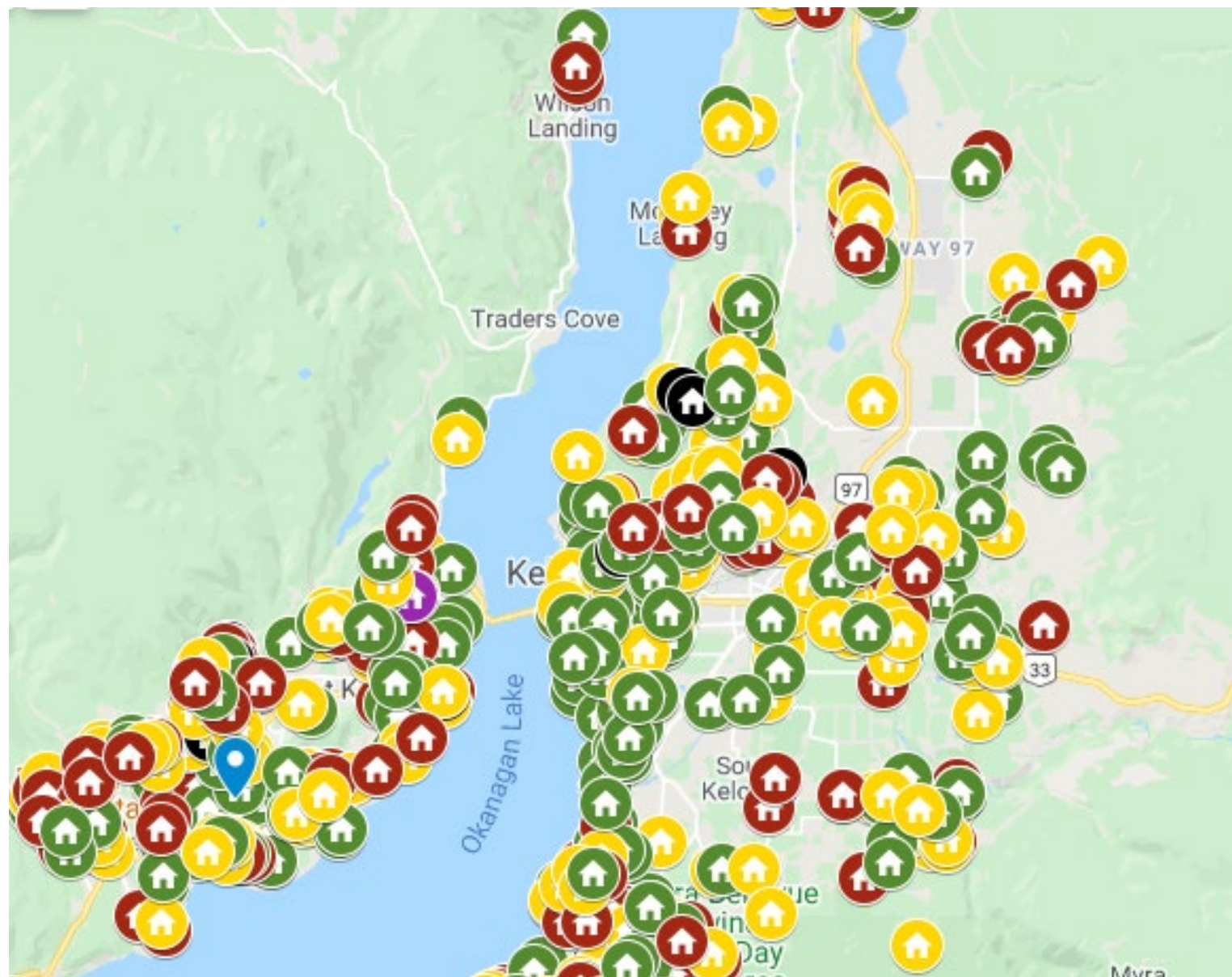
CARST and BC Lung have materials to help renters communicate with their landlords about high levels.

We map the data to identify any trends or concerns.

In most communities this is what we find.

The same street/area can have homes with high levels and lower levels side by side.

Our message is that all homes regardless of AREA need to test.

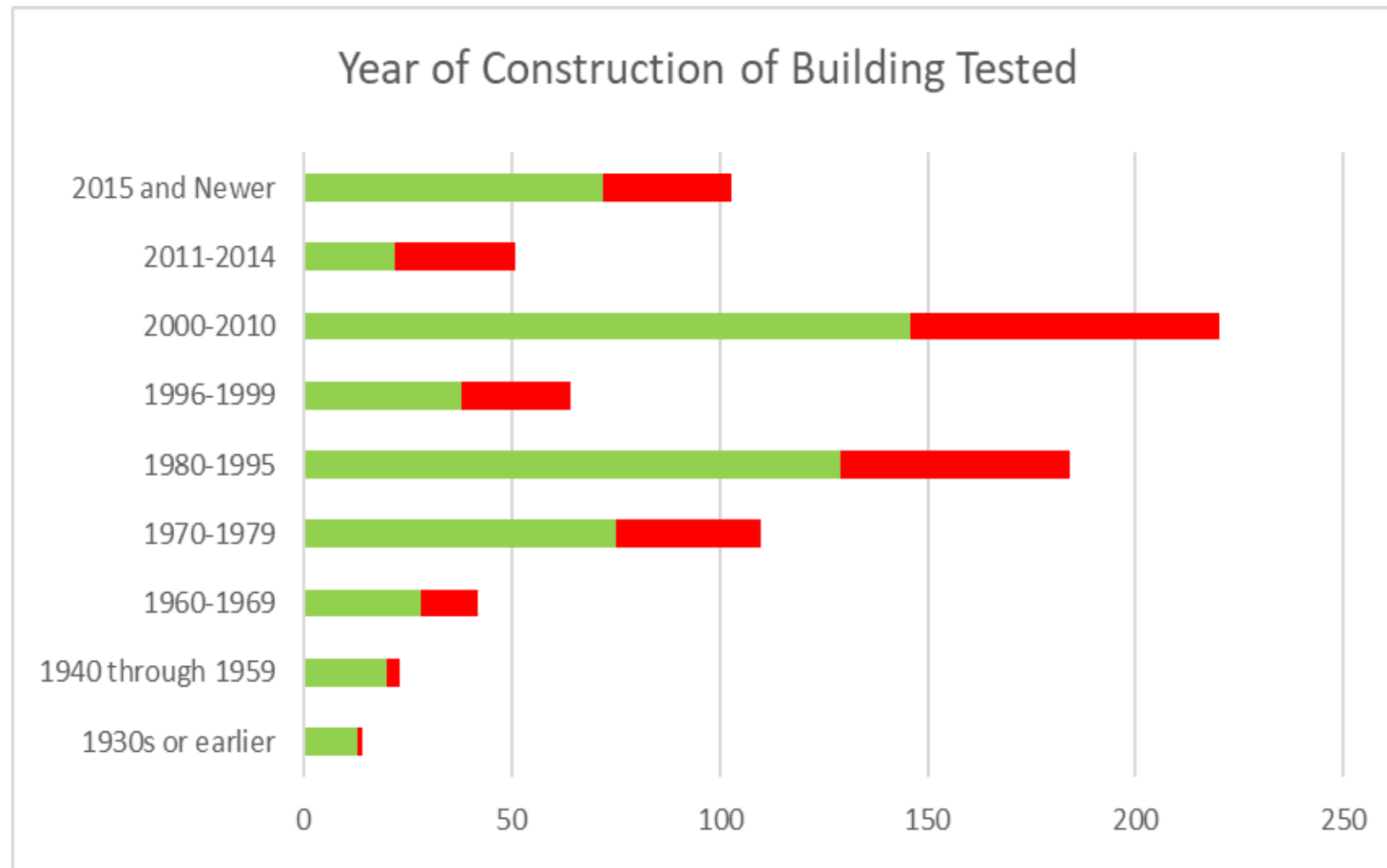


The survey includes a question on age of construction.

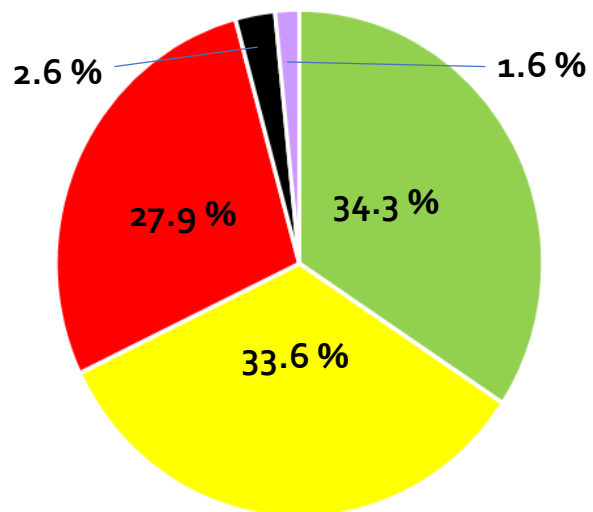
This is a similar trend to what we are seeing across BC and Canada in our communities.

High radon levels are found in all ages of construction.

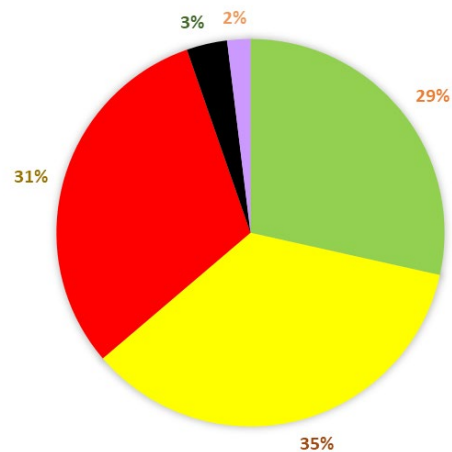
Our message is that all homes regardless of AGE need to test.



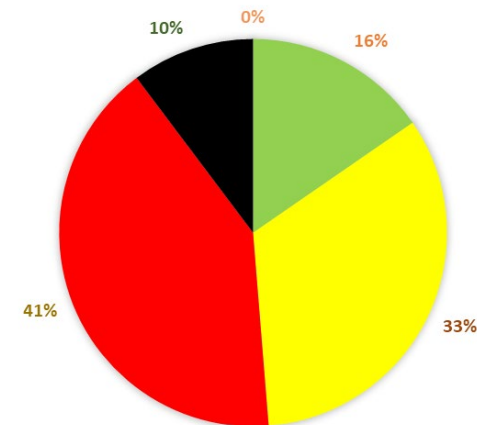
Results for RDCD



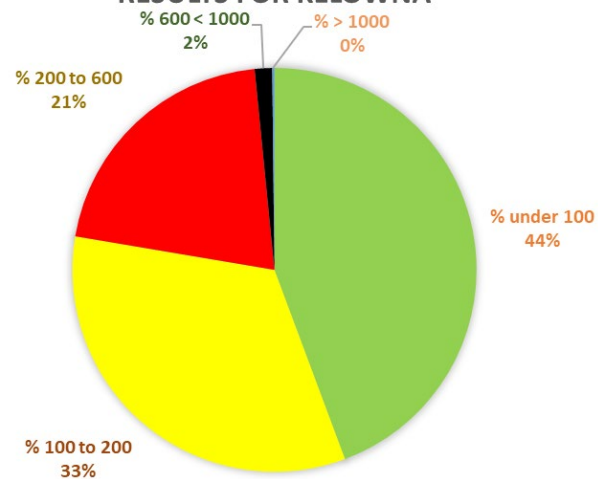
RESULTS FOR WEST KELOWNA



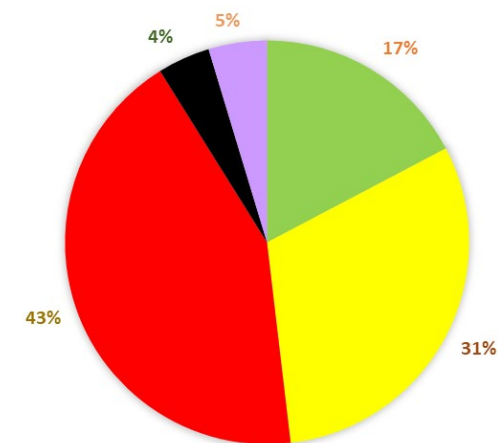
RESULTS FOR PEACHLAND



RESULTS FOR KELOWNA



RESULTS FOR LAKE COUNTRY



■ % under 100
 ■ % 100 to 200
 ■ % 200 to 600
 ■ % 600 < 1000
 ■ % > 1000

Community Reports

TAKE
ACTION
ON RADON

PEACHLAND, BC

100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

39 HOMES

participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2020. This represents approximately 2% of the community dwellings.

51% of homes tested above Health Canada's guideline of 200 Bq/m³.



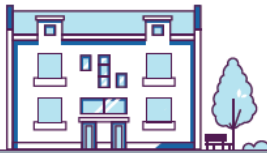
Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.



Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.



Levels can vary between neighbouring houses. The only way to know your radon level is to test.



Radon enters a home through contact with the ground and can build up to elevated levels.



Photo Credit: Harry Johnson

TAKE
ACTION
ON RADON

WEST KELOWNA, BC

100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

207 HOMES

participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2020. This represents approximately 2% of the community dwellings.

36% of homes tested above Health Canada's guideline of 200 Bq/m³.



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.



Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.



Levels can vary between neighbouring houses. The only way to know your radon level is to test.



Radon enters a home through contact with the ground and can build up to elevated levels.

TAKE
ACTION
ON RADON

KELOWNA, BC

100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

573 HOMES

participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2020. This represents approximately 1% of the community dwellings.

23% of homes tested above Health Canada's guideline of 200 Bq/m³.



Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.



Exposure to elevated levels of radon is linked to increased chances of developing lung cancer.



1 house icon represents 10 homes tested.

Levels can vary between neighbouring houses. The only way to know your radon level is to test.



Radon enters a home through contact with the ground and can build up to elevated levels.



Photo Credit: Harry Johnson

TAKE
ACTION
ON RADON

LAKE COUNTRY, BC

100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

214 HOMES

participated by testing for radon gas during the winter of 2020. This represents approximately 4% of the community dwellings.

52% of homes tested above Health Canada's guideline of 200 Bq/m³.



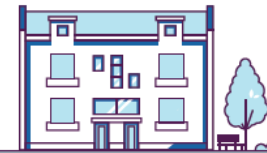
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Radon enters a home through contact with the ground and can build up to elevated levels.

Next steps: 100 Test Kit Challenge Legacy Programs

- How best to establish lasting change?
- Work with communities to assess real-world options:
 - Providing community with subsidized detectors
 - Financing mitigation
 - Establishing annual awareness campaign



Thank you for your participation in this program!

www.takeactiononradon.ca

@actiononradon



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