

# TAKE ACTION ON RADON

## WEST KELOWNA, BC

### 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge

Photo Credit: Harry Johnson

### 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/m<sup>3</sup>.



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.



UNDER 100 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>  
(29%)



100-200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>  
(35%)

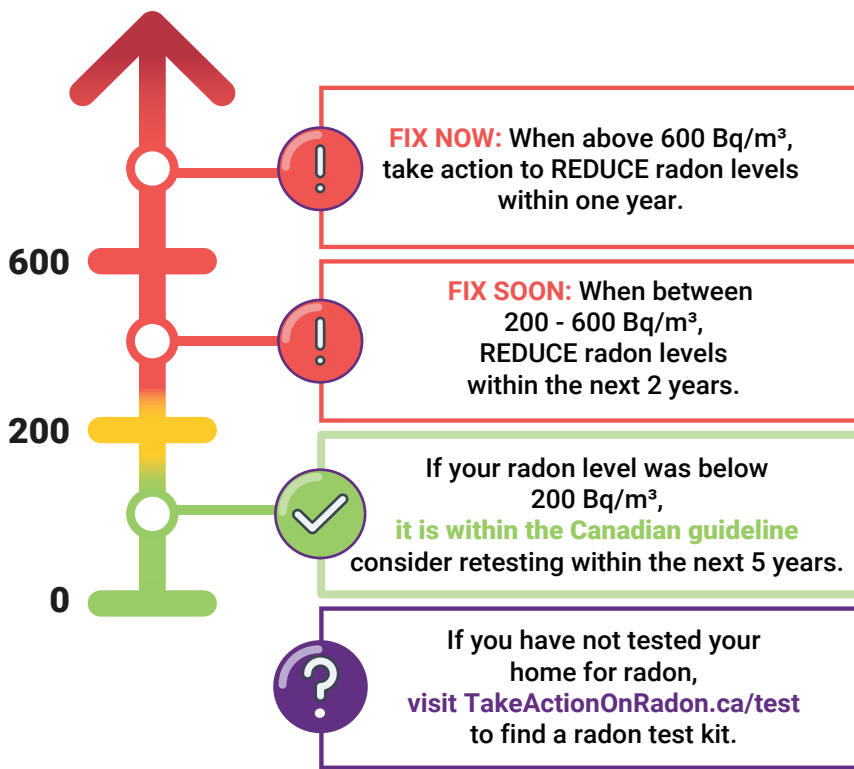


OVER 200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>  
(36%)

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.



## HOW TO FIND A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL

Certified radon mitigation professionals are trained to properly assess your home, and design systems to efficiently and effectively reduce your radon level.

### Go to:

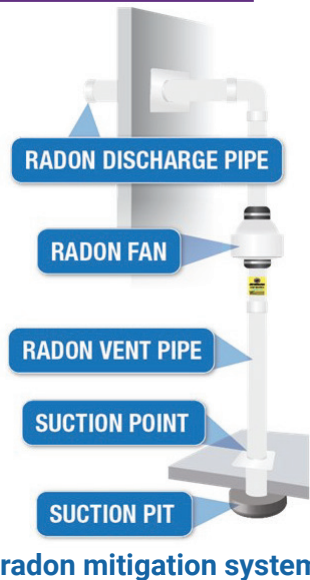
[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional/](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional/)

The BC Building Code requirements for radon vary by year and region. Some homes have a radon stub pipe or an extended pipe that runs through the house. These features are the beginning of a radon mitigation system and can make installation easier. Long-term (91 day) testing is still necessary.

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.

For more information, go to:  
[www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/health-risks-safety/residential-radon-mitigation-actions-follow-up-study.html](http://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/publications/health-risks-safety/residential-radon-mitigation-actions-follow-up-study.html)



### Missed your chance to test?

Check out Take Action on Radon's website for more information on how to access a long-term (91-day) test kit in your region and how to properly test your home.

[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test)



### Already tested and want to help?

If you are willing to share your data to help us better understand radon in your community, submit your information to our online radon depository.

[TakeActionOnRadon.ca/share](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca/share)



*This project was supported by the Regional District of Central Okanagan, Interior Health, the BC Lung Association the Vancouver Foundation and British Columbia Real Estate Foundation and all local governments in the Central Okanagan.*

Take Action on Radon is a national initiative funded by Health Canada with a mandate to bring together stakeholders and raise awareness on radon across Canada. The current advisory team is made up of the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), CAREX Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society.



[TakeActionOnRadon.ca](https://TakeActionOnRadon.ca)