June 19, 2019

Dear Staff and Parents/Guardians of Meduxnekeag Consolidated School,

A recent test for levels of radon in the classroom and work areas of Meduxnekeag Consolidated School (MCS) revealed the presence of radon gas above the recommended value set by Health Canada. Health Canada and Public Health in New Brunswick has assured us that there is no immediate health risk to students or staff.

For example, exposure to 200 Bq/m$^3$ (Becquerel’s per cubic meter) levels of radon every day, all day for 70 years results in a 2% increased risk of developing lung cancer, (17% if the person is a smoker).

In June of 2007, Health Canada announced a new exposure guideline for radon gas in indoor air. This new exposure limit changed to 200 Bq/m$^3$ from 800 Bq/m$^3$.

Testing was carried out at MCS from December 2018 to May 2019 to determine baseline results for radon in the new facility.

Currently, Department of Education and Early Childhood Staff are working on the mitigation plan for those rooms which tested above the limit of 200 Bq/m$^3$.

MCS was built with four (4) radon mitigation pits and pipes capped below the roof deck. These pipes will be vented outside with mechanical ventilation to complete the sub-slab depressurisation system to manage radon levels within the building. Department of Transportation and Infrastructure has been advised of the issue and will be instructed to complete this work within 12 months.

Further information on radon is available on the New Brunswick Department of Health website at [https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/healthy_environments/content/ radon.html](https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/healthy_environments/content/ radon.html)

Sincerely,

Shawn Tracey

Director of Finance and Administration