# **Trail Area Health & Environment Committee**

# **MINUTES**

Meeting:

City of Trail – Committee Room #2 Tuesday, February 7, 2017 – 7:00 pm



# **Committee Members in Attendance:**

Mike Martin, Chair, City of Trail Lisa Pasin, Alternate Chair, City of Trail Mark Tinholt, Teck Trail Operations Jeannine Stefani, Interior Health Tiffany Armstrong, Community Member Ron Joseph, Community Member Marylynn Rakuson, Community Member Sonia Tavares, Community Member Dawn Tomlin, Interior Health

# Others in Attendance:

Bruce Enns, SNC-Lavalin Inc. Cindy Hall, SNC-Lavalin Inc. Ruth Beck, Program Manager Shane Ferraro, Warfield Councilor Donna Haga, Ministry of Environment Daniel Bouillon, Teck Trail Andrea McCormick, SNC-Lavalin Inc. Liz Anderson, SNC-Lavalin Inc. Jason Lasuik, Ministry of Environment

# **MEETING MINUTES: Dated November 22, 2016**

Motion to approve the minutes from November 22, 2016. With no omissions or errors noted, the minutes were accepted as is.

Note: Mike noted that at the end of the agenda discussions, there will be a short in-camera meeting.

# PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

# **Presentations:**

Home & Garden Program: 2016 Annual Report; attached

Cindy and Andrea shared the PowerPoint presentation of the 2016 annual report for the Home & Garden program.

With regard to the indoor dust study, Mark commented that the study's rationale was to update our information on the relationship between emissions of fugitive dust and the dust that gets into the home. This will inform future programming and provide us with a baseline for indoor dust from before the smelter recycle building came into operation.

Andrea clarified that some property owners decline remediation (after they have requested sampling), for many reasons, but often it's because they have put a lot of time and energy into their yards and gardens and they are comfortable with their soil numbers.

Mark would like to know the total number of gardens that have been sampled by the program and wondered aloud if there will be a point where we will have sampled all the gardens in town?

Andrea clarified that one contractor (Alpine) performs the remediations, yard improvements, and conditioning of yards. Bruce commented that it may make more sense to do full yard remediations as a

rule, rather than partial remediations where we may need to go back and remediate again in the future as the program progresses.

Discussion took place about promoting the program by placing a sign in the yard while it is under remediation. It has been mentioned in the past, but two concerns have stopped us: it may become a problem for the contractor while they are trying to get the work done if they are interrupted by those wanting to know more. Also, it may affect some homeowners and their desire for privacy. We could consider putting a sign up in the yard after the work is completed for a time, with permission from the homeowner.

Ruth mentioned that the preliminary results from the public consultation are in and there is a good satisfaction rate for the Home & Garden program: 72%.

Mike commented, "Thanks; great report. Lots of work happening and great results".

# Early Years Initiatives in the Lower Columbia; attached

Sonia presented an update on Early Years Initiatives in the Lower Columbia. The EDI (Early Development Instrument) questionnaire results were provided via email prior to the meeting and Sonia encouraged everyone to refer to them on their own time. She highlighted that the EDI is performed with kindergarten children and the questionnaire is delivered by their teacher (who has training to do so). The results for our area, Kootenay-Columbia South, indicate that Trail is less vulnerable than BC overall. Our area has decreased in vulnerability over time, from 29% to 22%. There is good investment in the area by the CBT (Columbia Basin Trust), as well as the work done by CBAL (Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy), FAN (Family Action Network), Strong Start, as well as a strong community. Sonia mentioned Revelstoke; they have only 7% vulnerability as a result of big financial investments and putting almost all services under the same roof to improve access.

Success by 6 and FAN utilize the EDI results and are advocating for more community education and community screenings of young children's developmental milestones: "check early, check often".

Sonia added that there is also a TDI (Toddler Development Instrument) that examines contextual factors that influence ECD (early childhood development). This is more about the family and early life experiences; not necessarily the child. The aim is to normalize screening for developmental milestones.

Sonia encouraged anyone who would like more information to speak with her. She cannot divulge info pertaining to specific schools but can separate the data between Castlegar and Trail. She also clarified that this year's data are for public schools, but they hope to involve private schools next year.

# Family Action Network Update; attached

Ruth provided the update for FAN and highlighted the dedication to early screening and networking, with supports for families with young children. She also shared that FAN will soon be celebrating the opening of 2 new Easy Peezy comfort stations; one at the Aquatic Centre and one at the Trail Memorial Centre.

Sonia shared that FAN was not the successful applicant for hosting the Cities Fit for Children Summit, but they are looking into why they didn't get it.

Ruth highlighted HELP (Human Early Learning Partnership) and the research the THEC commissioned and shared with the community. (Note subsequent to the meeting: the literature reviews are referenced on HELP's website at: <a href="http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/library/citations/">http://earlylearning.ubc.ca/library/citations/</a>)

Minimizing lead exposure in combination with improving other developmental inputs makes for the best outcome for children: it is why we're here!

### **Program Updates and Business Arising:**

# Community Check-In:

In response to a question from Shane Ferraro with regard to Haley Gulley in Warfield, Mark clarified that in the fall of 2016 Teck installed a sediment trap to stop sediments from travelling offsite down the creek.

Teck is coming up with a long-term plan for reclamation of the closed landfills located at the head of Haley Gulley. This work is being done under the review of the BC Ministry of Environment Land Remediation Section and Environment Canada.

# Air Quality: report attached

Mark highlighted the annual averages for lead and arsenic in air. The 2016 annual average for lead in air is the lowest overall that we've ever had (even for strike and shutdown years). Mark is hopeful that the smelter recycle building is a major reason for the low levels, but there was also exceptional rainfall, a short maintenance shutdown, and snowfall. The trend is continuing in January and we are hopeful that it will continue throughout the year. The 2016 annual average for arsenic in air,  $0.0078 \, \mu g/m^3$ , is below the 2018 goal of  $0.01 \, \mu g/m^3$ !

Mike commented that the result is incredible; we've had weather variables in the past and not seen this level of improvement.

# Family Health: attached

Jeannine spoke about the upcoming winter blood lead clinics. She also highlighted the development of the new IH database; it should have more functionality and reduce the time Jeannine has to spend organizing the data collection.

Home & Garden: no report beyond the 2016 annual report.

# Program Manager's Report: attached

Ruth presented the report and highlighted that she is working on reviewing the draft consultation report and updating our knowledge on sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). She also raised that the spring 2017 newsletter will be in the works soon enough and we should consider what we would like to have in it. Suggestions for the newsletter from those in attendance: consultation update, home and garden, a note for expectant parents, dust study update (if available), feature a THEC member, FAN update, Easy Peezy comfort stations, air quality update (Mark will check on specific content, e.g. possibly about the second acid plant or a Teck fugitive dust update (possibly mention our key messages about SO<sub>2</sub>).

# Executive Meeting Report: verbal report

Ruth listed the various working group meetings that will be taking place over the next few months:

- The Consultation Working Group and the Community and Families Working Group will jointly meet in early March to go over the draft consultation report. A doodle poll is forthcoming to arrange the date.
- Air Quality Technical Working Group: Ruth will present a draft Issues Brief and PowerPoint on SO<sub>2</sub> at the next meeting in early April (date TBD).
- The WAS Impacts Assessment Working Group will meet in early March.
- The Blood Lead Levels Reduction Working Group will meet later in Spring (May or June) to look at details of further supporting the reduction of blood lead levels. This group will look at the findings of the dust study, the draft plan for soil remediation (WARP), and work being undertaken by the MHO and BCCDC as well.

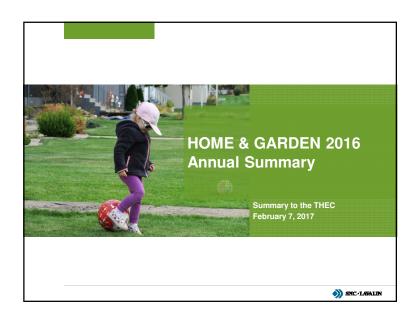
# Upcoming THEC meetings

Ruth listed the proposed THEC meeting dates for the rest of 2017:

- April 18, 2017: Consultation Report and Presentation on SO<sub>2</sub>
- June 27, 2017: Fugitive Dust Reduction Program update and Dust Study findings
- September 19, 2017
- November 28, 2017: Results from the 2017 Fall Blood Lead Clinic

**ACTION**: Liz to send out the proposed dates via email.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 18, 2017



# **Outline**

- · Home & Garden Staff
- · Healthy Homes
- Outreach Activities
  - THEP
  - · Public Consultation
- · Community Program Office
  - · Radon Kits
  - · Lead Safe Renovation
- Dust Study
- Soils Program
  - Assessment
  - Remediation
- Upcoming for 2017

SINC - LAWALIN



# **Healthy Homes**

- 76 Healthy Homes Visits completed in 2016
- 73 'new' families identified in 2016
  - 14 visits to parents while still expecting
  - · 6 new families are grandparents
- 12 families are scheduled for visits in 2017

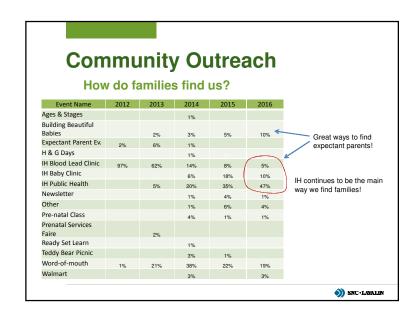
Healthy	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Homes Visits Service Wait Days *	312	114	42	35	17

\* Initial contact to HH visit, not including weekends

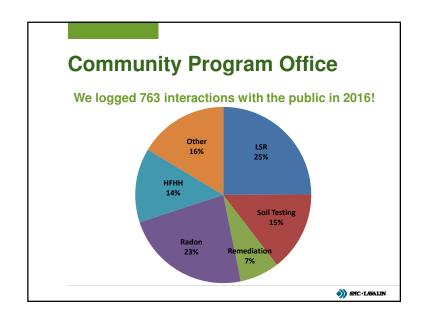


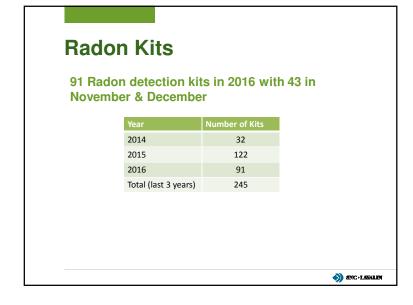














# New to Lead Safe Renovation in 2016!

### Survey with 34 respondents

- · 32 found the supports very helpful (97%)
- · 12 requested different supplies (36%)
- · 8 said we need more publicity (24%)

### How-To Videos - 20 had not watched them

- · 12 did not know about the videos (60%)
- · 6 said they know how to reno safely (30%)
- 2 said the videos did not apply (10%)
- The 14 people that watched the videos had positive feedback

### New supports!

- · Filters and bags for personal shop vacs
- · HEPA tool attachments & Extendable poles



### Lead Safe Contractors

- Two contractors in our first year
- Looking to renew these and find more 2017!

SNC-LAVALIN

# **Dust Study**

- · 63 participants
  - At least 6 properties per neighbourhood
- · Placed a mat at the door
- · Set out an outdoor dust fall jar
- Placed an indoor dust fall jar in the home
- Collected after approximately 28 days
  - Submitted to a lab for extraction (loading)
  - Submitted for analysis (concentration)
- Filled out a questionnaire with the participant





# **Dust Study**

- Results were received Dec 21, 2016
- Next steps
  - Summarize data
  - Attempt to answer questions regarding dust distributions and loading
- Deliverables
  - · Report to THEC
  - · Letter to participants
  - Draft an update for the community



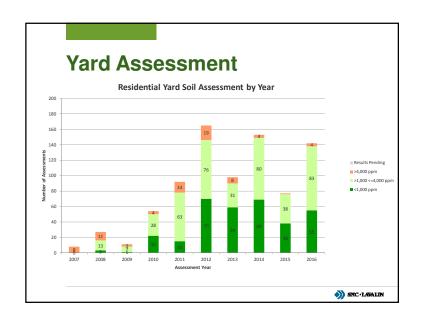


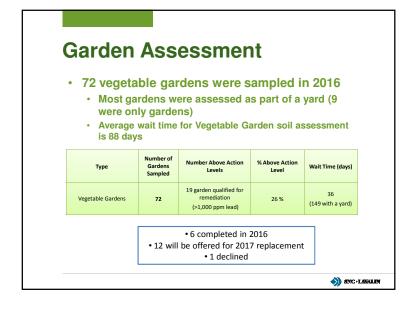
# **Soils Program**

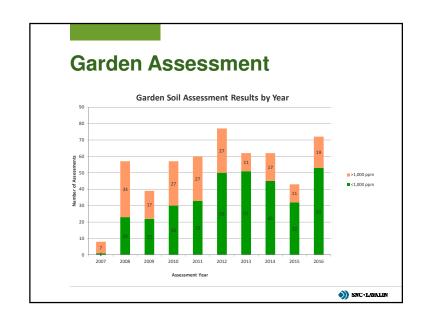


# **Yard Assessment**

- 48 Healthy Homes properties were sampled in 2016
  - 3 families signed up in November and are on the list for spring sampling
- 94 Community Program residential properties were sampled
  - 16 yard requests remain on the list with the longest wait from April, 2016





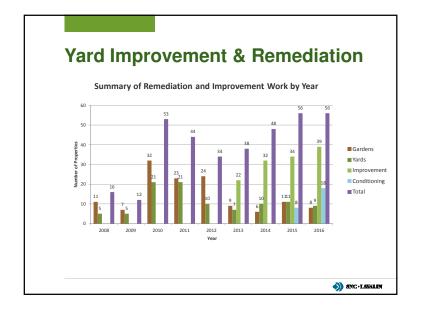




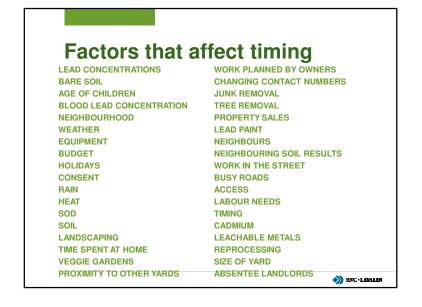
# Yard Improvement & Remediation

- Similar remediation and yard improvement program to previous years
- A total of 76 properties received work
  - · 39 yards received yard improvement work
    - 18 additional properties received yard conditioning
  - · 9 yards were remediated (2 partial)
  - · 8 vegetable gardens remediated (5 more as part of yards)
  - · 2 received other remediation support
- Service times from signed consent to completion of work:
  - · 10 weeks for CP Yards and Gardens
  - · 3 weeks for HH Yard Improvement





### **Improvement & Remediation** Year property was tested for Remediation and Improvement in 2016 Type of Work 2013 2016 2015 2014 Yard Improvement 17 12 5 5 39 Garden 8 2 4 1 Yard Remediation Number of DAYS from Soil Testing to Remediation or Improvement Shortest Wait Longest Wait CM 953 91 HH Yards 12 1943 141 Yards 152 2183 497 Yards & Gardens 76 657 108 SNC · LAVALIN



# **Improvement & Remediation** for 2017

- · 9 owners will be offered remediation
- 12 gardens will be offered remediation
- 21 Healthy Homes properties have work proposed
  - · 9 conditioning
  - 7 properties to evaluate

Families with young children continue to have the highest priority



# **Upcoming in 2017**

- More Lead Safe Reno Outreach & Partnerships
- Dust Study Findings
- · Continuation of our Healthy Homes & Soils Programs
- Responding to findings from the Public Consultation







Early Development

A questionnaire that measures five core areas of early child development that are known to be good predictors of adult health, education and social outcomes.

Not used to assess individual children, rank teachers, neighbourhoods, schools or school districts

The EDI is a population-level research tool.

Physical Health &

- Over or underdressed for school
- Too tired/sick
- Late Hungry
- Independent in washroom habitsHas an established hand preference
- Well coordinated
- Sucks a thumb/finger
  Level of energy during school day
  Holds small objects like pens
- Manipulates objects
  Climbs stairs
- Overall physical development

- · Gets along with peers
- Co-operates with other children
- Plays with various children
- Demonstrates self-control • Demonstrates respect for adults/children
- · Listens attentively
- Follows directions
- Works independently
- Solves own day to day problems
- Adjusts to changes in routines
- Curious about the world
- Eager to play with a new toy/game/book

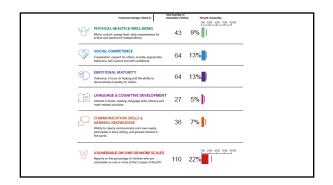
- Helps someone who is hurt
- Helps other children with a hard task
- Comforts a child who is crying/upset
  Is restless/impulsive
- Difficulty taking turn
- Gets into physical fights
- Kicks/bites
- Hastemper tantrums
- Is upset when left by parent
  Seems unhappy or depressed
- Is nervous/high-strung
  Incapable of making decisions
  Is shy

Cognitive

- Handles a book
- Identifies 10 or more letters
- Takes part in group reading
- Experiments with writing tools
   Interested in books/reading/number games
- Reads simple wordsSorts and classifies objects
- Uses one to one correspondence
- Counts to 20

Current provincial vulnerability rate is 32. 2%

1 IN 3 CHILDREN VULNERABLE IN BC Current Kootenay/Columbia School District 20 vulnerability rate is 22% VULNERABLE
CHILDREN
LIVE IN
EVERY
NEIGHBOURHOOD
IN BC



Moving - More of forward - Check

What is our Local region's response to EDI results

- More community screening taking place
- -Check Early Check Often program
- More awareness of local EDI results in community

Toddler Development Instrument (TDI) –

Greater Trail Pilot community A questionnaire for parents/primary caregivers of 16-20 month old children. The Toddler Development Instrument (TDI) asks questions related to contextual factors that influence early child development, such as daily routines, family-child interactions, and available parental/caregiver and community supports.

Why TDI?

The purpose of the TDI is to better understand the early life experiences of toddlers and their families and to elicit further systems of support for families and communities. What will it look like in

We will be assisting the parents in administering the ASQ with the TDI Questionnaire

Pilot project so we are excited what will this will look like in our community and what our data will look like.

We look forward to working on this project with UBC!



Ages and Stages Questionnaire

A Parent completed tool

Professionals assist with the scoring

Parents are given follow up information as required.

To encourage parent involvement & knowledge

To detect delays & connect early

To gather data regionally

43 flagged for further followup

Fall Screening Clinic

- · Kiro Health Centre in Trail
- "Pop up hub" concept
- Partners include:
  Kootenay Family Place
  Interior Health
  Success by 6
- Services provided on site:
  Ages and Stages screen
  Dental Check
  Audiologist
  Speech and Language
  Access to other info

Spring Mobile Clinics

- Various locations in region
- Bring services to communities

- Partners include:
  School District20
  CCRR
  Kootenay Family Place
  Interior Health
  Success by 6







Activity	Notes
Ages and Stages – Early Childhood Development Screening	<ul> <li>Upcoming Mobile Screening Day – Warfield Thursday, April 06<sup>th</sup> at Webster Elementary Call to Register 1-855-368-3707</li> <li>Since 2014, 204 children screened across our region with 43 referred for additional follow up</li> <li>Launch of the 'Check Early – Check Often' Regional Early Screening Program coming in February. Watch for more information</li> <li>TDI (Toddler Development Instrument) pilot project with UBC set to unroll Feb 2017</li> </ul>
Easy Peezy Family Washrooms	<ul> <li>3 sites in Rossland</li> <li>2 sites in downtown Trail, including the THEP office</li> <li>Watch for 2 new Trail locations in the very near future – the Aquatic and Leisure Centre and Trail Memorial Centre</li> </ul>
Early Screening Toolkit Project	<ul> <li>Video script has been vetted with advisory group and filming to take place March 2017; promoting the importance of early developmental screening</li> <li>Parent resource tools have now been completed. The key ring and fridge magnet promote 'Check Early Check Often' message and provide ideas on how to encourage development at home.</li> <li>New funding from the Trust will assist in the launch of a regional Community of Practice for service providers regarding Early Screening</li> </ul>
Creation of the 'FAN Parent Advisory" group	Through our Parents and Families Task Force, we will be launching a Parent Advisory Group in early 2017. Looking to recruit parents from each of the 5 Lower Columbia communities for input around FAN priority projects
Application for BC Healthy Communities 'Cities Fit for Children Summit'	Submitted last November. All 5 of our regional Mayors signed letters in support of hosting the Summit in our region in 2018. We are waiting to hear if we were the successful bid.

Feb 7, 2017

# RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

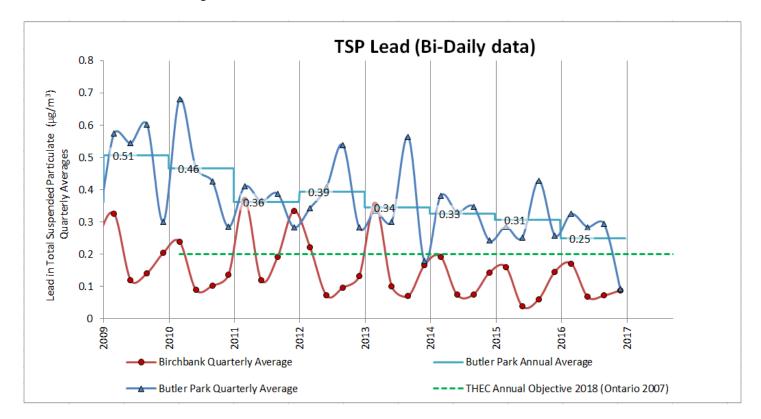
# TRAIL A R E A HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

# 1. Lead in Air:

• The average for the fourth quarter of 2016 was very low. Overall, 2016 was the lowest ever annual average for lead in community air using the current monitoring locations.

# Details:

The chart shows quarterly averages for Lead in air (measured in Total Suspended Particulate) for Butler Park (dark blue), Birchbank (red), as well as the annual average for Butler Park (light blue), in comparison to the 2018 THEC Air Quality Objective (green dashed line). Quarterly averages for Lead in ambient air are expected to have some variability due to season, weather, predominant wind direction and operational variance. The average for the fourth quarter of 2016 at Butler Park  $(0.09 \, \mu g/m^3)$  was very low and could be due to a combination of the record rainfall in October, the commissioning of the Smelter Recycle Building, a maintenance shutdown, or other factors. Overall, 2016 was the lowest ever annual average for lead in community air using the current monitoring locations.

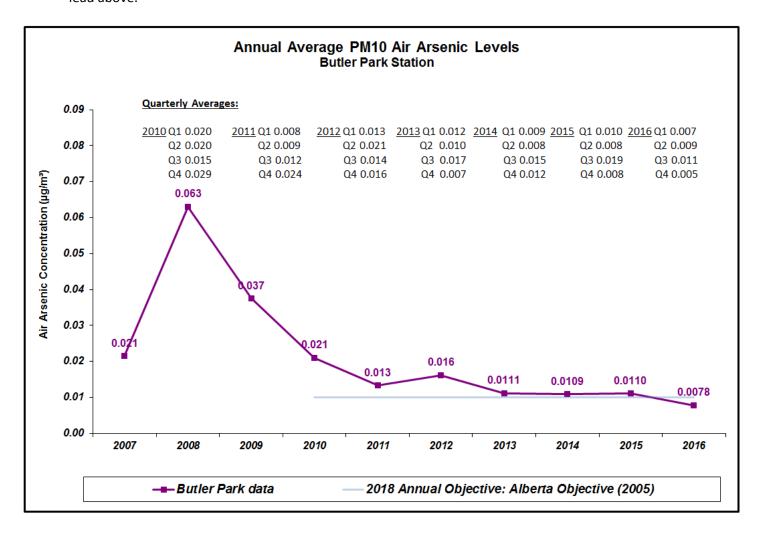


### 2. Arsenic in Air:

• The annual average for arsenic in air continues to be improving; the average for 2016 achieved the 2018 objective, and was the lowest ever annual average for arsenic in community air using the current monitoring locations.

### **Details:**

The chart shows the annual average for Arsenic in air (measured as inhalable  $PM_{10}$  fraction) for Butler Park (purple) in comparison to the 2018 THEC Air Quality Objective (blue line). Improvements between 2008 and 2011 appear to be the result of maintenance of the Continuous Drossing Furnace and Refinery Scrubber Stack. The 2016 annual average was  $0.0078 \, \mu g/m^3$ , lower than the objective of  $0.01 \, \mu g/m^3$ , and the lowest ever annual average for arsenic in community air using the current monitoring locations. The average for the fourth quarter of 2016 at Butler Park ( $0.005 \, \mu g/m^3$ ) was low and could be due to the same combination of factors as listed for lead above.



# **FAMILY HEALTH REPORT**

# February 7, 2017

# **RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- 1. February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 blood lead clinics
- 2. Healthy Family Visits
- 3. Community Outreach
- 4. New Trail Blood Lead Program Database

# **ADDITIONAL DETAILS**

- 1. February 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 blood lead clinics
  - 44 children invited
  - 24 children that have turned 6 months old since the Fall clinic
     1 family declined testing
  - 14 children that were case management from the Fall clinic
  - 6 children that parents' have requested February testing

# 2. Healthy Family Visits

- 65 done 2016
  - o Average 8.8 months old (range 2 months to 38.5 months old)
  - o 10 declined 87% participation rate
    - 6 had previous Healthy Family visit with older child
- 18 since last THEC meeting November 22/2016
- 1 more visit scheduled (Feb 28)

# 3. Community Outreach

- Attended local pregnancy outreach program on December 13<sup>th</sup>, January 31st and continue about once a month.
- Presented with Cindy at Child Care Resource and Referral Program December 13<sup>th</sup> for local child care providers.
- Scheduled to present to Sunningdale Children's Centre February 8th, 2017.

# 4. New Trail Blood Lead Program Database

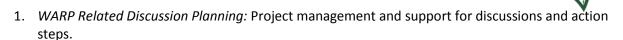
 Continue to work collaboratively with Interior Health's Information Management Information Technology department and Teck to develop a new Trail Blood Lead Program Database.



# PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT

# February 7, 2017

# **RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**



- 2. Lead Safe Renovation: Working with Andrea to develop Healthy Renovation visit concept, plan a meeting with the RDKB, and other actions to increase awareness and uptake of this program
- 3. *Consultation:* Reviewing drafts of the public input summary and final report.
- 4. Sulphur dioxide draft communications: As time permits, drafting a background document (an Issues Brief) with all the details. From this, we will develop draft key messages, a draft Fact Sheet, and draft Powerpoint presentation to be given at the next THEC meeting. All the drafts will go to the next AQTWG meeting for review and revision/approval when ready.
- 5. *Spring Newsletter early planning*: The newsletter will come out in late May. If you have suggestions for what to include, please let me know. We plan to include public consultation input highlights and promotion of our home and garden programs.