

# Trail Area Health & Environment Committee



## Minutes

**Meeting: Thursday, February 20, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**  
**City of Trail – Committee Room #2, Spokane St. Entrance**

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### **Committee Members Present:**

Lisa Pasin, Chair, City of Trail  
Cyra Yunks, Village of Warfield  
Kyle Jorgensen, USW Local 480 Rep.  
Julia Stockhausen, Community Member

Lynn Miller, Interior Health  
Tara Bullanoff, Interior Health (alternate)  
Clare North, Teck Trail Operations  
Dan Bouillon, Teck Trail Operations

### **Via teleconference:**

Dr. Karin Goodison, MHO Interior Health  
Cassandra Counce, BC Ministry of Environment

### **Program Team:**

Meghan Morris, Interior Health  
Christina Yamada, Interior Health (phone)  
Jeannine Stefani, Interior Health  
Michelle Laurie (THEC lead facilitator)

Cindy Hall (Home & Garden)  
Andrea McCormick (Home & Garden)  
Sally Erwin (Home & Garden)

### **WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Lisa Pasin, THEC Chair, welcomed everyone, including new THEC members and staff, to the first THEC meeting of 2020. She encouraged everyone to ask questions throughout, to feel free to speak up and participate.

### **MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes from November 26, 2019 THEC meeting were approved.

### **PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **Presentations**

#### **Home & Garden Annual Report**

#### **Presenters: Cindy Hall and Andrea McCormick, SNC-Lavalin**

An overview of work completed in all areas of the THEP Home & Garden program in 2019 was provided. Achievements and challenges were shared on programming in Healthy Family Healthy Homes and Enhanced Supports, Outreach and Engagement, Lead Safe Renovation, and the Soil Management Program. The plan for 2020 was noted as being similar to the work undertaken in 2019.

A few highlights from 2019 included double the number of interactions (visitors) to the downtown office as compared to previous years, formally including ground cover evaluations as part of the soil management program for residential properties as well as parks and playgrounds and initial research undertaken to update lead concentrations in produce sampling.

It was noted that soil testing will resume as soon as the ground thaws and remediations begin April 6.

See attached presentation slides for details.

#### **Soil Management Plan update**

**Presenter: Clare North, Superintendent Environmental Remediation, Teck Trail Operations**

The 2019 Soil Management Plan Annual Report will be submitted by Teck at the end of March 2020 to the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy along with the 2020 workplan. The targets for 2020 will be similar to those found in the 2019 workplan. In 2020, soil data from parks and playgrounds in the Greater Trail Area will be reviewed and a strategy developed if improvements are needed.

### **Program Reports & Updates:**

#### **Air Quality**

- Report from Teck Trail - **Dan Bouillon, Teck Trail Operations**
  - *Report attached on lead and arsenic emissions levels in Trail.*
- Update on AQTWG meeting - Lisa Pasin, **Mayor and Chair**
  - A meeting was held January 30<sup>th</sup>. Discussions included updating the Terms of Reference to ensure relevance as well as looking at agenda topics for 2020 including how to broaden the air quality conversation beyond lead within the AQTWG, THEC and community.

#### **Family Health**

- Report from Interior Health Public Health Nurse – **Meghan Morris, Interior Health**
  - *Report attached on public health nurse activities in December, January and February.*
  - Congratulations to Meghan on moving from a temporary to permanent position as the PHN for the Trail Area Health & Environment Program.

#### **Community Check-In**

- Mayor Pasin shared that community composting (part of solid waste management) is expanding into the Central Kootenay and Kootenay Boundary Regional Districts after seven years of dialogue and study. The partnership includes a three-year planning construction project with a pilot operational for 2021 and a site in Salmo expected to be fully operational in 2022.
- Clare North provided an update on the alley dust sampling pilot project. Seven alleys were sampled and soil data was lower than the action levels in the program. The evaluation tool tested is effective. Next steps include driving the alleys prior to dust suppressant application and throughout the summer to determine the effectiveness of the suppressant.
- Clare North also provided an update on smoke easements, otherwise known as 'Industrial Emissions Statutory Right of Ways'. They exist on some titles in Trail though the number of properties is unknown. Teck will gather further information and report back at the next meeting.

#### **Program Planning & Operations – Michelle Laurie, THEC Lead Facilitator**

- Short survey undertaken illustrated that community is very supportive of THEP work. There is some knowledge and interest in the THEC however people are very busy and most are not able to commit to meetings. Topic areas of interest include Family Health, Air Quality and Soils. Report attached.
- The current focus for supporting THEP is development of a communications plan with the operation team. In addition, the website and products (for example brochures) are being updated.
- THEC members were also asked to consider how they want to be engaged, what they would like to know more about and to share that with Michelle via email or phone.

#### **Executive Report - Lisa Pasin, THEC Chair, Mayor, City of Trail**

- There was no executive meeting prior to the THEC meeting.
- The BC Lung Association is hosting a community lecture at the Best Western in Trail March 4<sup>th</sup> and the working group suggested panelists and next steps to support the lecture. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend.
  - Questions came up around indoor dust, mold and sprays/diffusers and their risk to children. Please send any further questions to Michelle to share with BC Lung prior to the lecture.

#### **2020 THEC MEETINGS**

April 30, June 17, Sept 16, Nov 26



# HOME & GARDEN 2019 Annual Summary

Summary to the THEC  
February 20, 2020  
7:00 pm

# Outline

*H&G Program delivers services in the community to prevent and reduce health risks from exposure to lead in the home and yard environment*

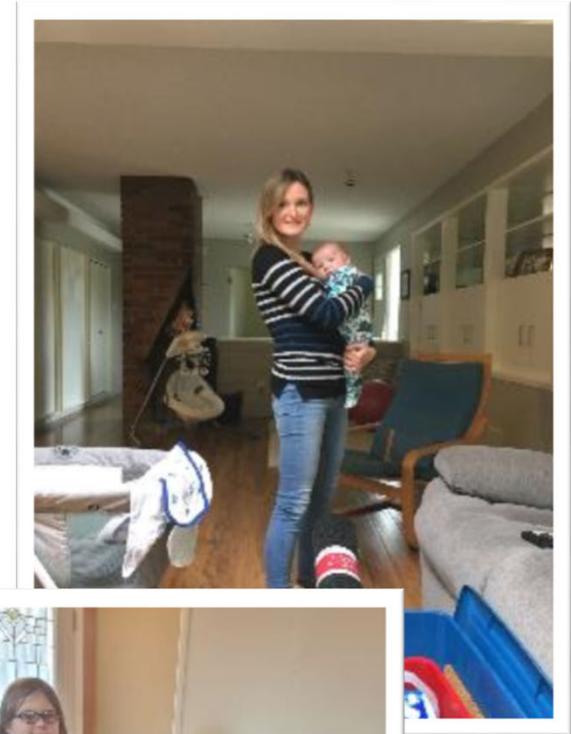
- Healthy Homes & Enhanced Supports
- Outreach & Engagement
- Lead Safe Renovation
- Soils Management Program
- Home & Garden Program for 2020



# Healthy Homes

*In-home visit program for families focused on the prevention of lead exposure in the home and yard*

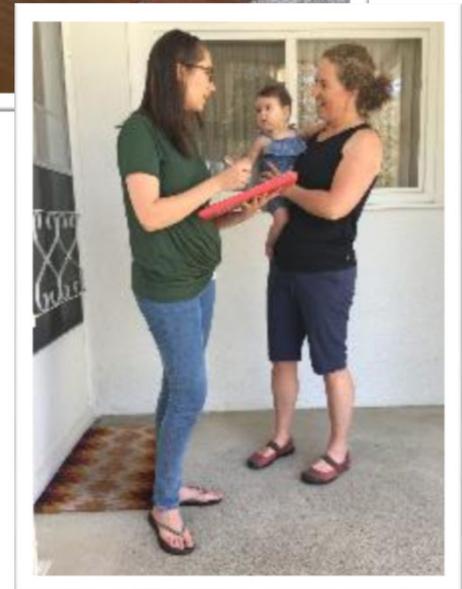
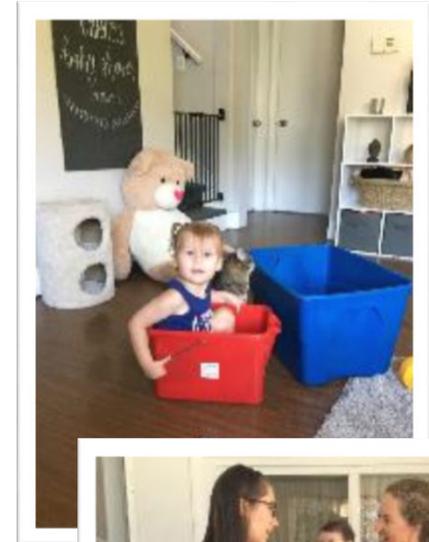
- **55 visits completed in 2019**
  - 51 'new' families identified in 2019
  - 7 prenatal visits
  - 92% participation rate
- **Response time to schedule 6-7 weeks**
- **579 HH visits since 2012**



# Enhanced HFHH Supports

*Supports for families of children with blood lead levels above the 2020 recommended threshold.*

- **Activities and supports for priority families.**
  - Follow-up (e.g. phone calls, supports, materials, and/or home visits) completed with all families.
  - Conference with Program Team, MHO and IH reps.
  - House Cleaning: 5 families accepted.
- **Residential Lead Inspection (RLI) Pilot Project**
  - Development of a proposal, procedures, and scheduled 5 RLI inspections (January 2020).



# Outreach & Engagement

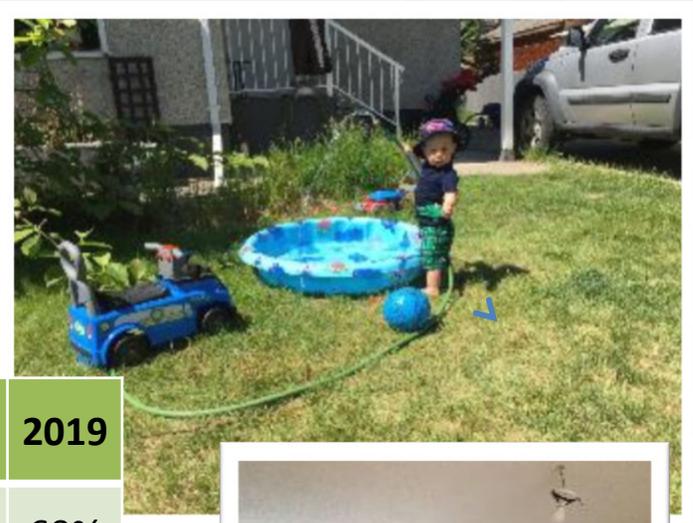
*Engage with families, residents and community organizations to promote THEP goals and objectives*

- **Community Program Office:** 1403 interactions through our Bay Ave office!
- **Events:** Teddy Bear Picnic, Alphabet Soup, Ages & Stages
- **Collaboration:** Navigator Table, Early Years Coalition, Family Action Network
- **Presentations:** Building Beautiful Babies, Trail Library



# Outreach & Engagement

*How do families find the Healthy Homes Program?*

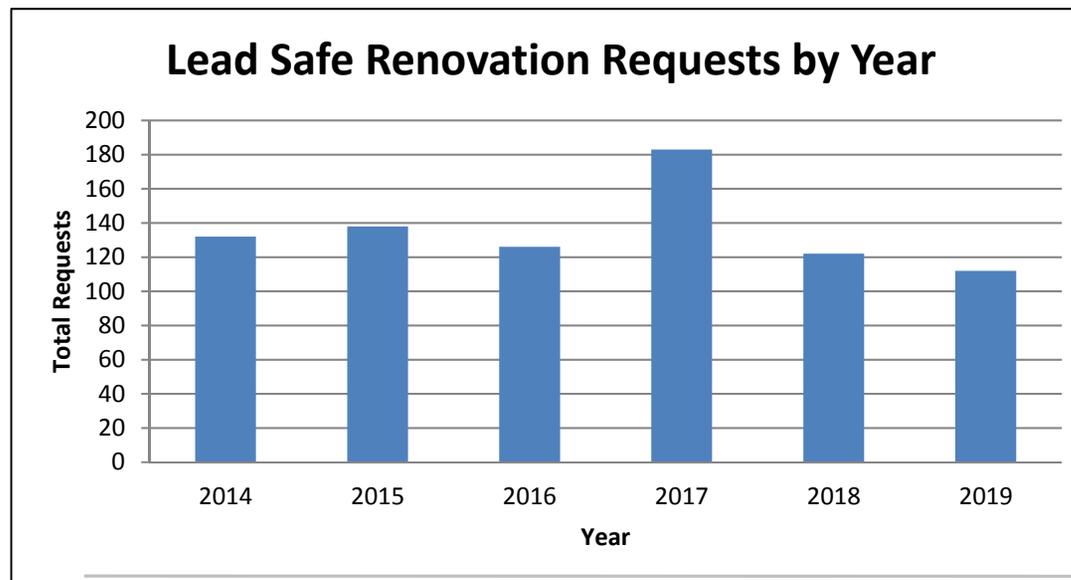


Outreach Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Interior Health	97%	67%	40%	51%	62%	56%	59%	60%
H&G Programs	1%	23%	40%	33%	24%	36%	35%	31%
Events	2%	10%	10%	7%	14%	8%	6%	9%

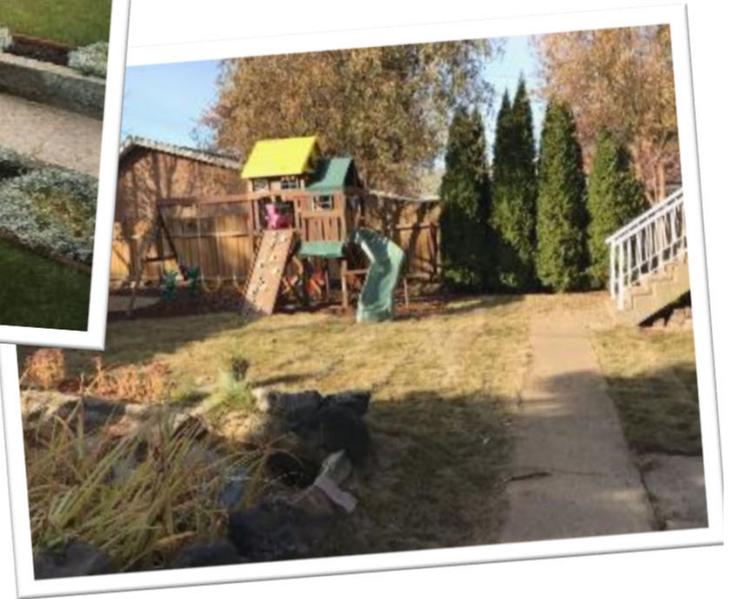
# Lead Safe Renovation (LSR)

*Prevent exposure to and the spread of lead dust during renovation projects*

- 112 requests in 2019
- Notable increase in requests for PPE not related to lead safe renovation



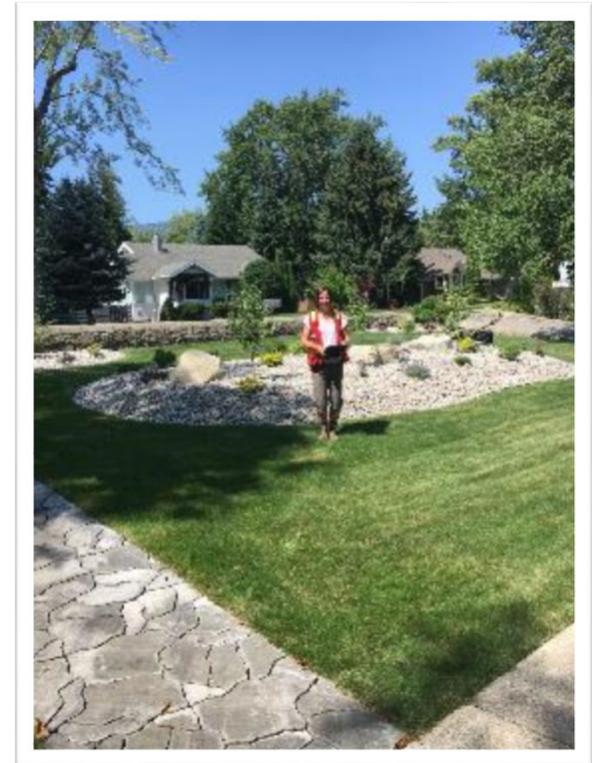
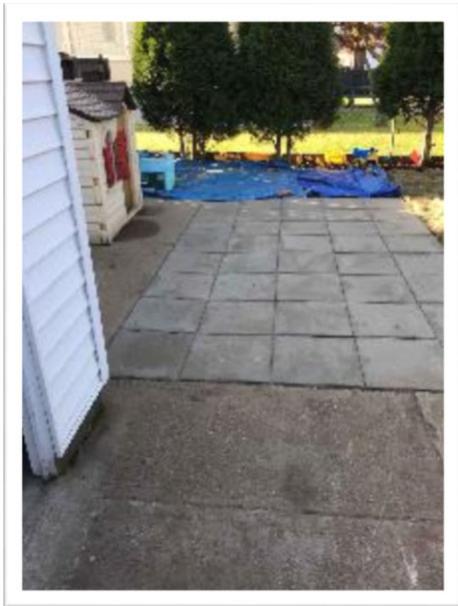
# Soil Management Program



# Yard Assessment

## *Identify metals in residential yards and gardens*

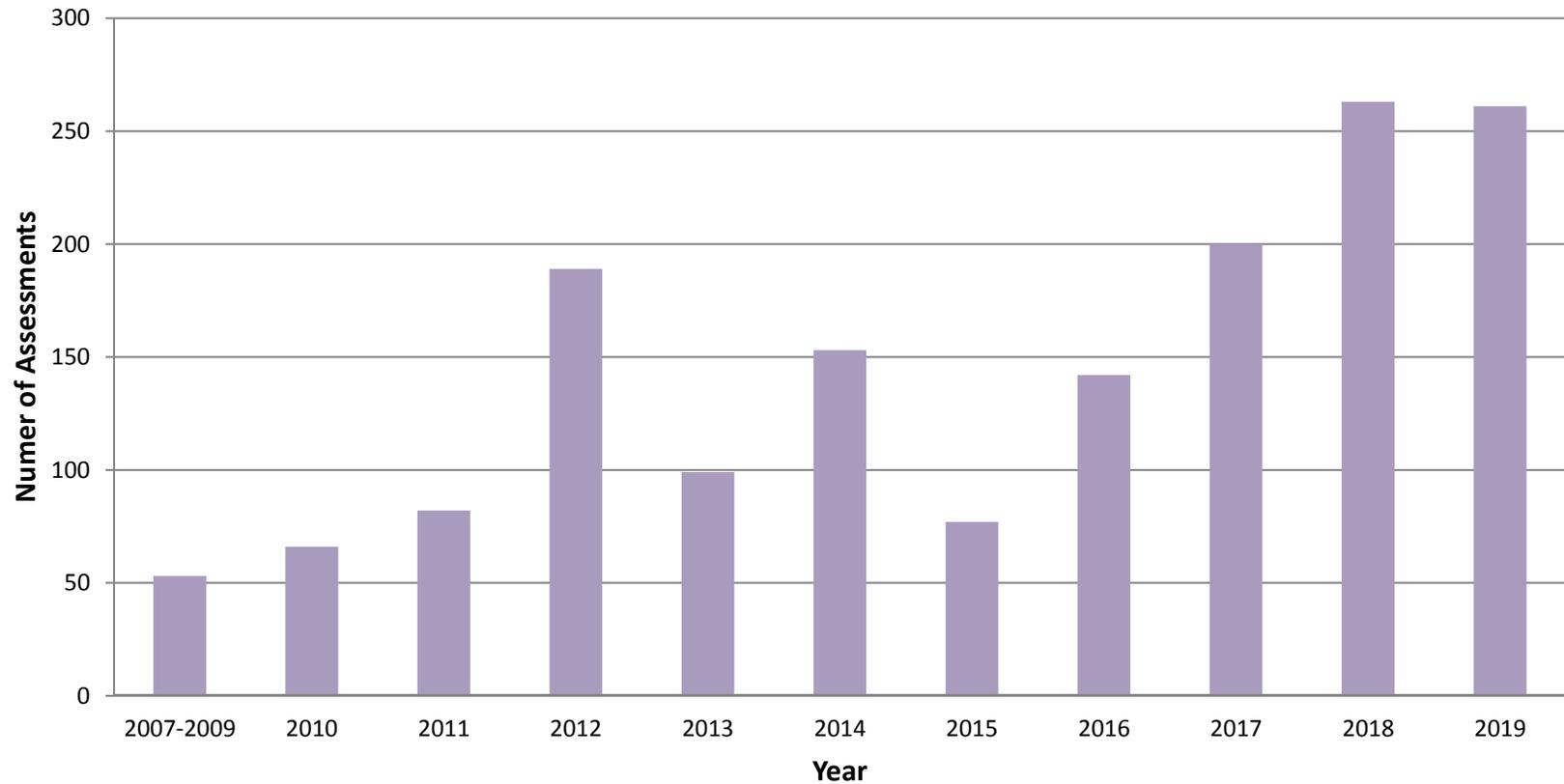
- Yards and Parks Tested in 2019: 261 Total
- NEW in 2019: 549 Ground Cover Evaluations





# Yard Soil Assessment

Residential Yard Soil Assessments by Year



# Ground Cover Evaluations

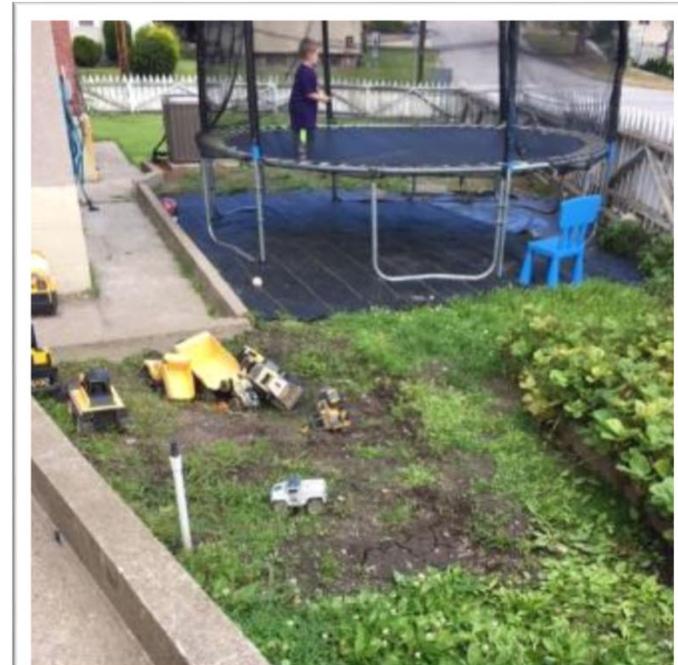
A visual assessment tool that collects data used to help prioritize yards based on the quality of ground cover



# Prioritization

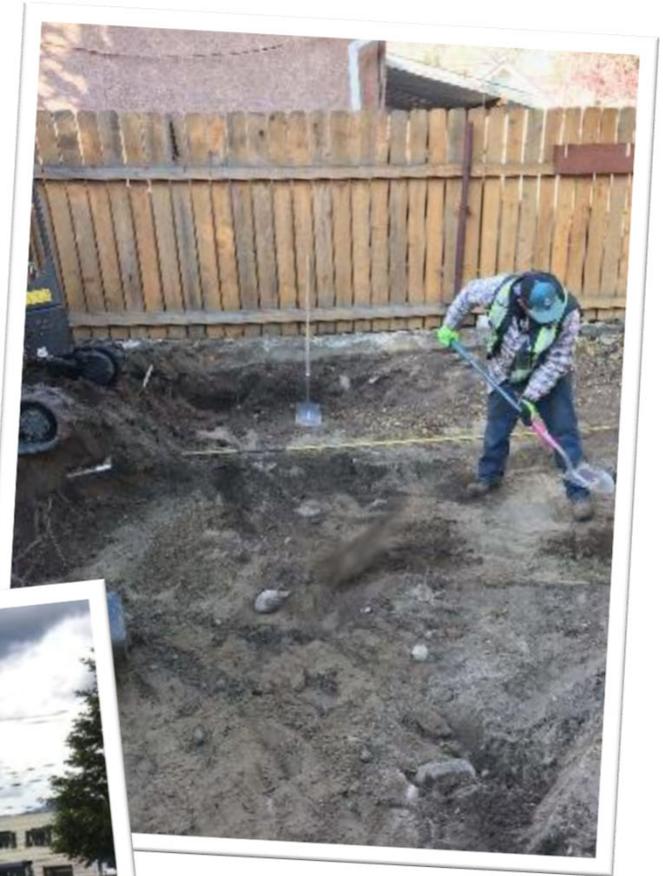
## *Approach for finding and prioritizing properties for assessment and remediation*

- Step 1: Desktop review
- Step 2: Data collection
- Step 3: Priority assignment based on:
  - Age of children on the property
  - Quality of ground cover
  - Soil lead levels
- Step 4: Action
  - Remediation
  - Yard Improvement
  - No action



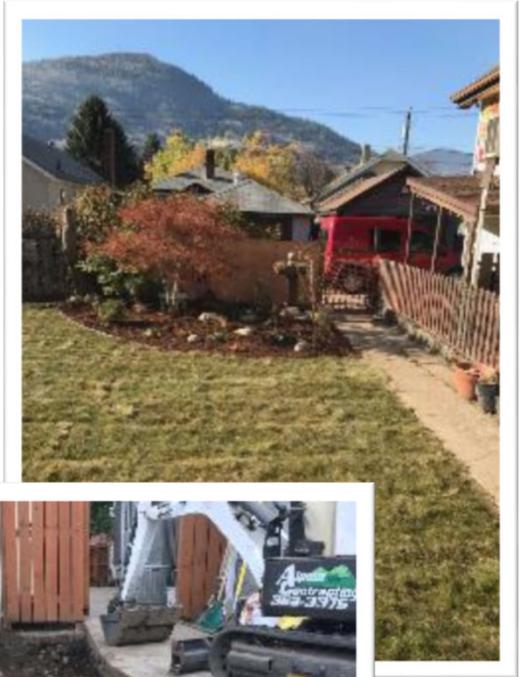
# Remediation & Yard Improvement

*Reduce exposure to metals in yards and gardens through remediation and soil management*



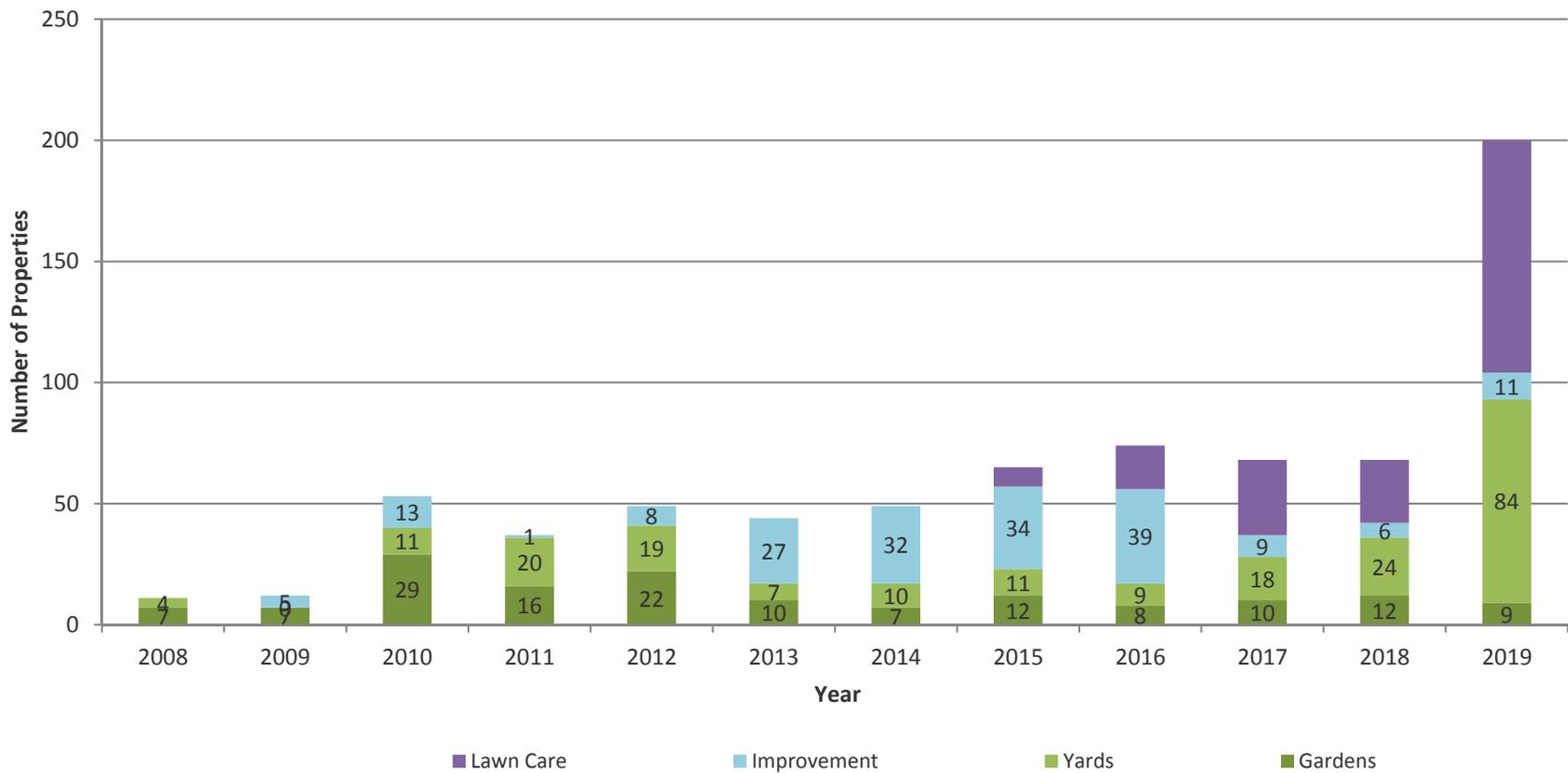
# 2019 Soil Remediation

- Focus on full yard remediation & on P1 properties
- 207 properties received work in 2019
  - 11 yard improvement
  - 96 lawn care
  - 84 Fully Remediated
    - 75 Healthy Homes (P1)
    - 9 Community Program Yards
  - 7 partial yard remediation (5 HH)
  - 31 vegetable gardens remediated (6 VG only)



# Soil Remediation

## Summary of Remediation and Improvement Work by Year



# 2019 Produce Sampling

- Collected 156 produce samples
- The goal was to obtain updated produce Pb concentrations
- Data evaluation is ongoing
- **THEP recommendations to gardeners will continue**  
(eg. peel root crops, wash produce, amend soil, etc.)



# 2020 Programs

- Soil Management Program will be similar to 2019 and support the 2020 Workplan
- Continue LSR, Community Program Office, Healthy Homes and Outreach to the broader community



**Thank you!**



**Any questions?**

## Air Quality Report

February 20, 2020

### 1. Lead in Air:

Fourth quarter average for lead in air at Butler Park was  $0.075 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , which is lower than the previous three quarters (Q1,  $0.145 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; Q2,  $0.105 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; Q3,  $0.118 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ). The 2019 annual average was  $0.111 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , which is the lowest recorded annual average for the third year running.

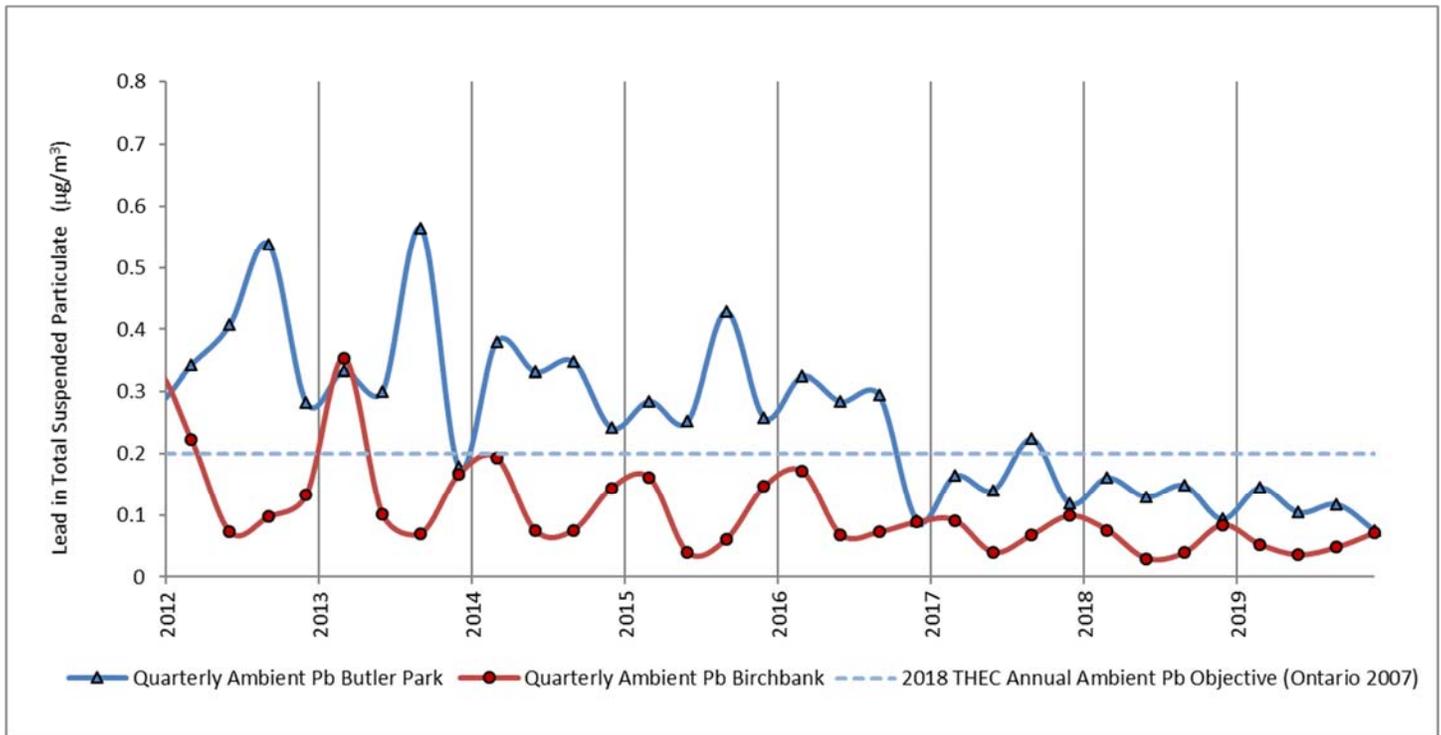


Figure 1: Quarterly monthly average lead at Butler Park and Birchbank stations (as total suspended particulate measured bi-daily)

The chart in Figure 1 shows quarterly averages for Lead in air for Butler Park (dark blue) and Birchbank (red), in comparison to the 2018 THEC Annual Ambient Lead in Air Objective (dashed line).

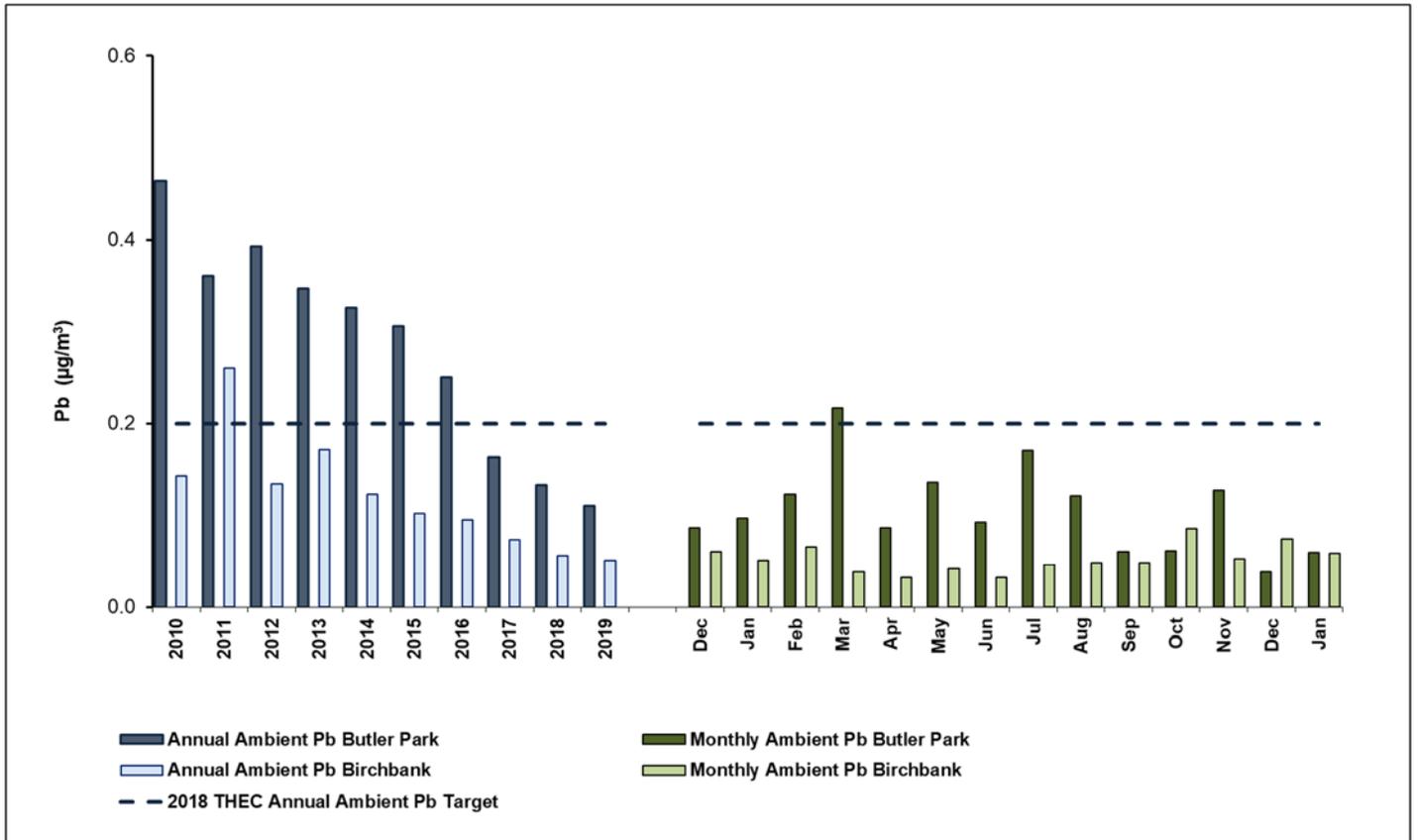


Figure 2: Annual and monthly average lead at Butler Park and Birchbank stations (as total suspended particulate measured bi-daily)

The chart in Figure 2 shows annual and monthly averages for Lead in air for Butler Park. Annual averages are shown on the left for Butler Park (dark blue) and Birchbank (light blue). Monthly averages for the past year are shown on the right for Butler Park (dark green) and Birchbank (light green). The 2018 THEC Annual Ambient Lead in Air Objective is shown as a dashed line. Monthly averages for Lead in ambient air are expected to have some variability due to season, weather, predominant wind direction and operational variance.

## 2. Arsenic in Air:

Fourth quarter average for arsenic in air at Butler Park was 0.004  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The annual average was 0.005  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , which remains below the THEC 2018 Annual Objective of 0.010  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for the fourth year running.

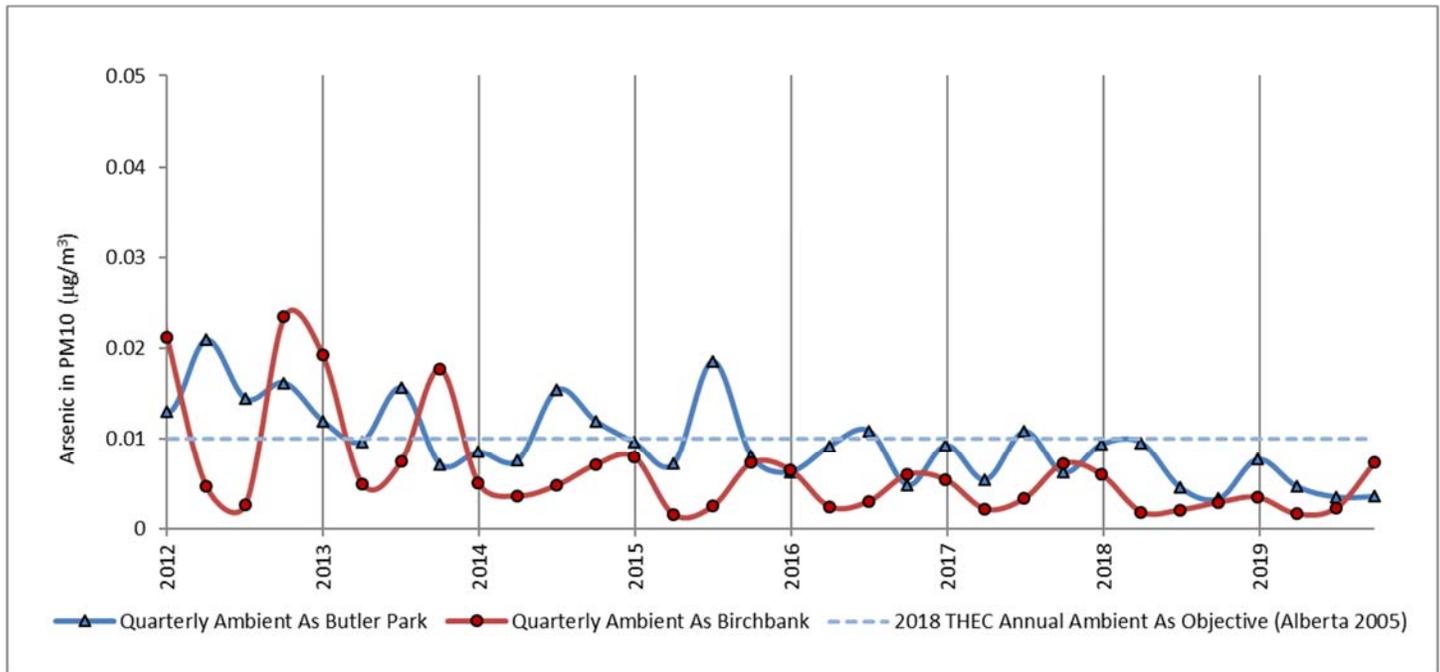


Figure 3: Quarterly average arsenic at Butler Park and Birchbank stations (as inhalable PM10 fraction measured weekly)

The chart in Figure 3 shows the annual average for Arsenic in air (measured as inhalable PM<sub>10</sub> fraction) at Butler Park (blue) and Birchbank (red) in comparison to the 2018 THEC Air Quality Objective (blue line).

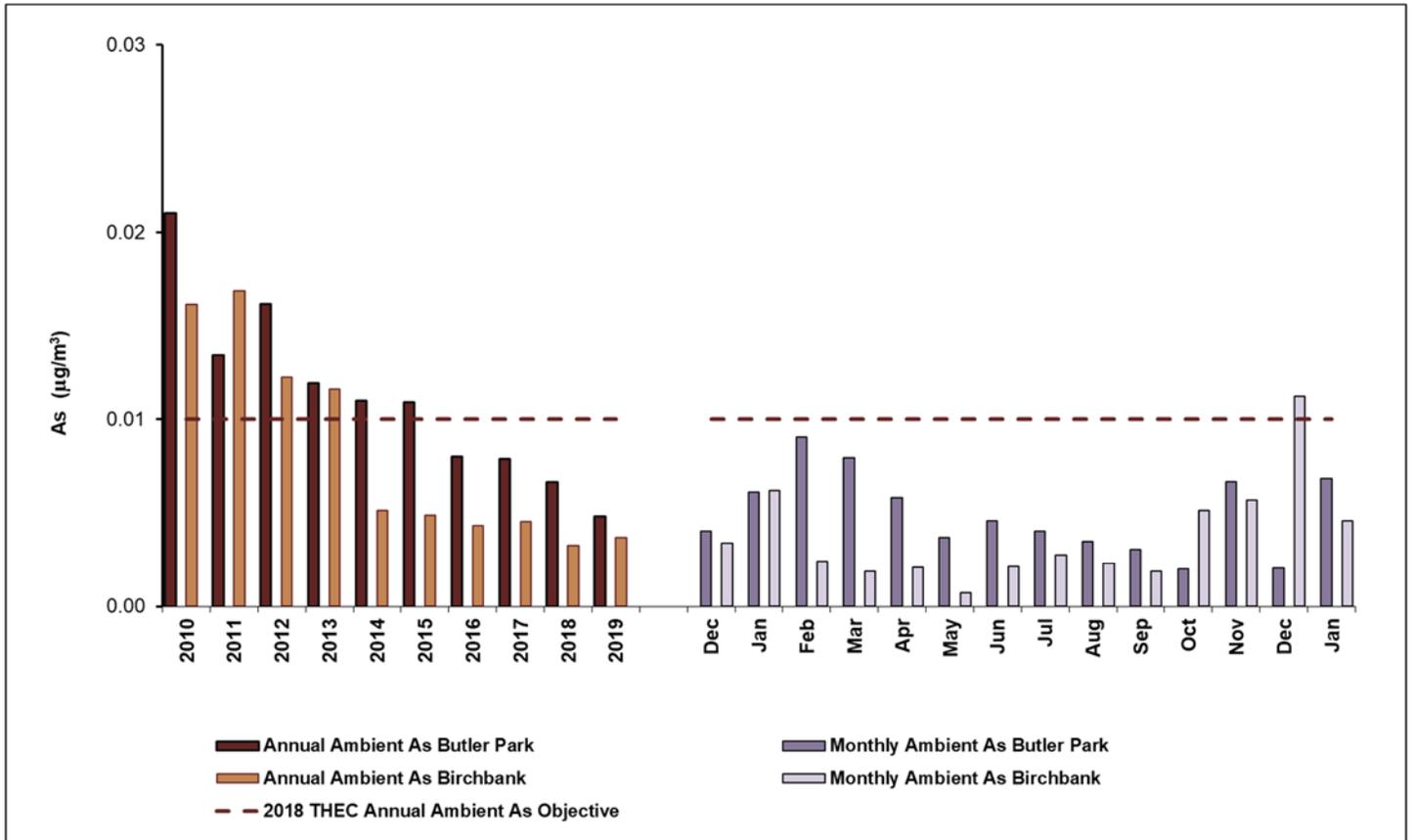


Figure 4: Annual and monthly average arsenic at Butler Park and Birchbank stations (as inhalable PM<sub>10</sub> fraction measured weekly)

The chart in Figure 4 shows annual and monthly averages for Arsenic in air at Butler Park and Birchbank. Annual averages are shown on the left for Butler Park (dark brown) and Birchbank (light brown). Monthly averages for the past year are shown on the right for Butler Park (dark purple) and Birchbank (light purple). The 2018 THEC Air Quality Objective is shown as a dashed line. Monthly averages for Arsenic in ambient air are expected to have some variability due to season, weather, predominant wind direction, operational variance and sampling frequency.

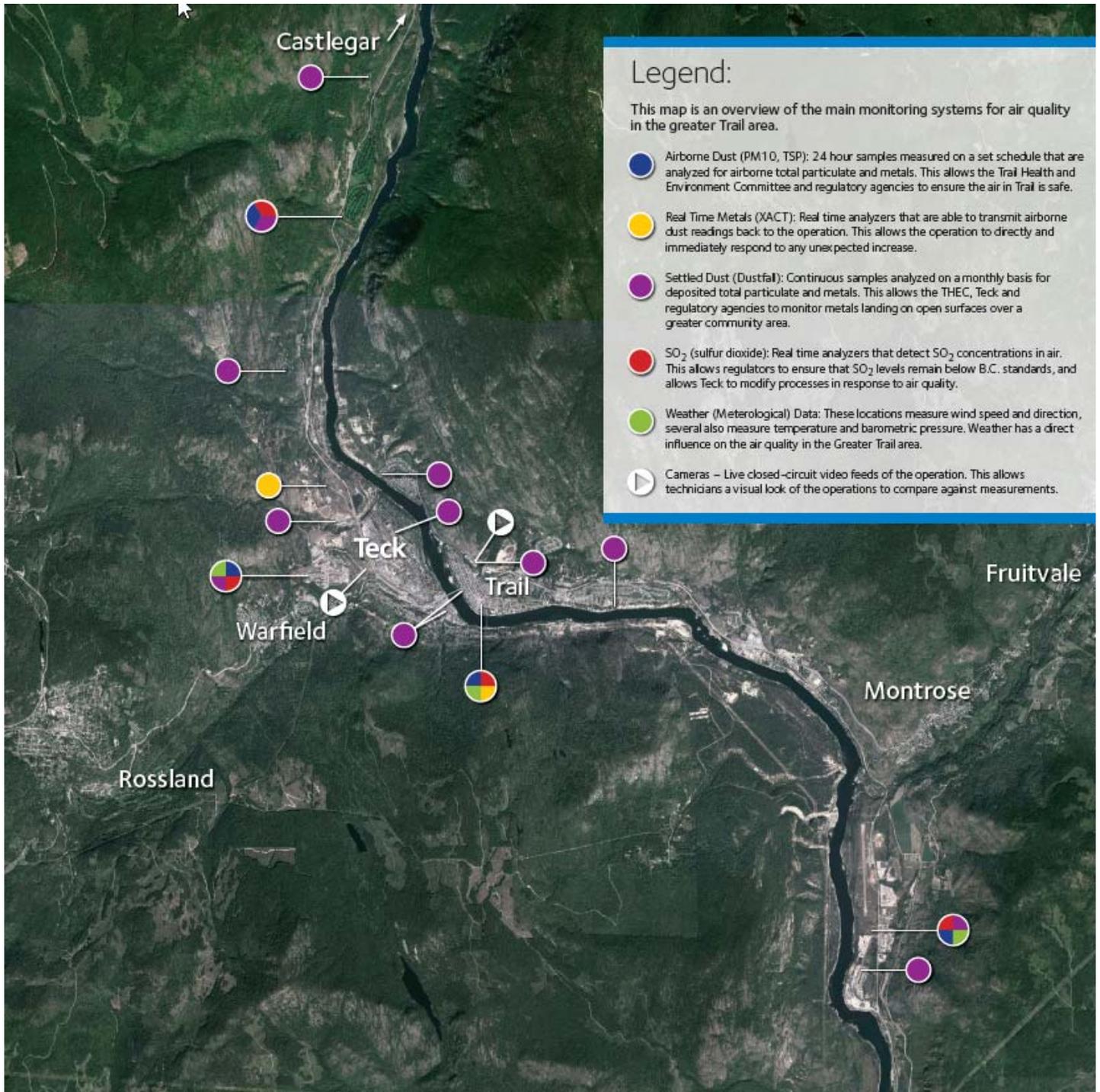


Figure 5: Teck Community Air Monitoring Stations



## FAMILY HEALTH REPORT

February 20, 2020

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. February Blood Lead Clinics
2. Enhanced Supports
3. Healthy Family Visit Summary for 2019
4. Community Outreach

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### ADDITIONAL DETAILS

1. February 2020 Blood Lead Clinics Complete
  - Clinics were held February 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>
  - 46 children invited, 30 attended.
  - Results pending
2. Enhanced Supports continue for Families of Children with Elevated BL Levels from September 2019
  - PHN Enhanced Support Home Visit or Telephone follow-up offered to all
  - Case Conference completed in December 2019 with MHO, IH and Program team participation.
  - Follow-up BL Testing-all children with results >5ug/dL in September 2019 were invited the February 2020 Clinic.
  - Ongoing supports to families throughout the year
3. Health Family Visit Summary for 2019
  - 63 Healthy Family Visits completed in 2019
  - 90% Participation rate
  - 7 Visits Declined of these:
    - 3 were younger siblings parents had had previous visits
    - 4 Not Interested

#### 4. Community Outreach

- Attending Building Beautiful Babies Program monthly
- Attended Trail Early Years Table Meeting January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020

# THEP Community Follow Up Survey: A Summary

A survey of people willing to engage further after completing the community and homeowner surveys on soil remediation from 2019.

The Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) undertook a survey in January / February 2020 to gain a better understanding of community knowledge related to THEC to help inform ongoing communications and engagement planning. Participants were respondents who agreed to further follow up after the 2019 community-wide perception survey focused on soil remediation and 2019 homeowner survey for those that underwent yard remediation. This follow up survey was online through Survey Monkey and open from January 29 to February 10, 2020. The survey was sent to 78 people via email. 28 people responded, for a response rate of 36%.

The vast majority of respondents (93%) was aware of the 30-year history of the Trail Area Health & Environment Committee (THEC) to improve air quality and reduce lead exposure in the community.

52% of respondents were aware that THEC meetings are open to the public while the rest were not. 68% of respondents would be willing to attend THEC or working group meetings as a member of the public. 21% of respondents (six people) would consider joining THEC as a regular committee member.

The topics of greatest interest to respondents were air quality, soil management, and family health – 67% of respondents selected these topics as in their top three interest areas out of a range of other topics shown in Figure 1.

Respondents comments were supportive of the programs noting the desire for them to continue as well as be proactive, responsible, and continually improving.

The survey summary by question follows with open ended comments removed to protect anonymity of respondents.

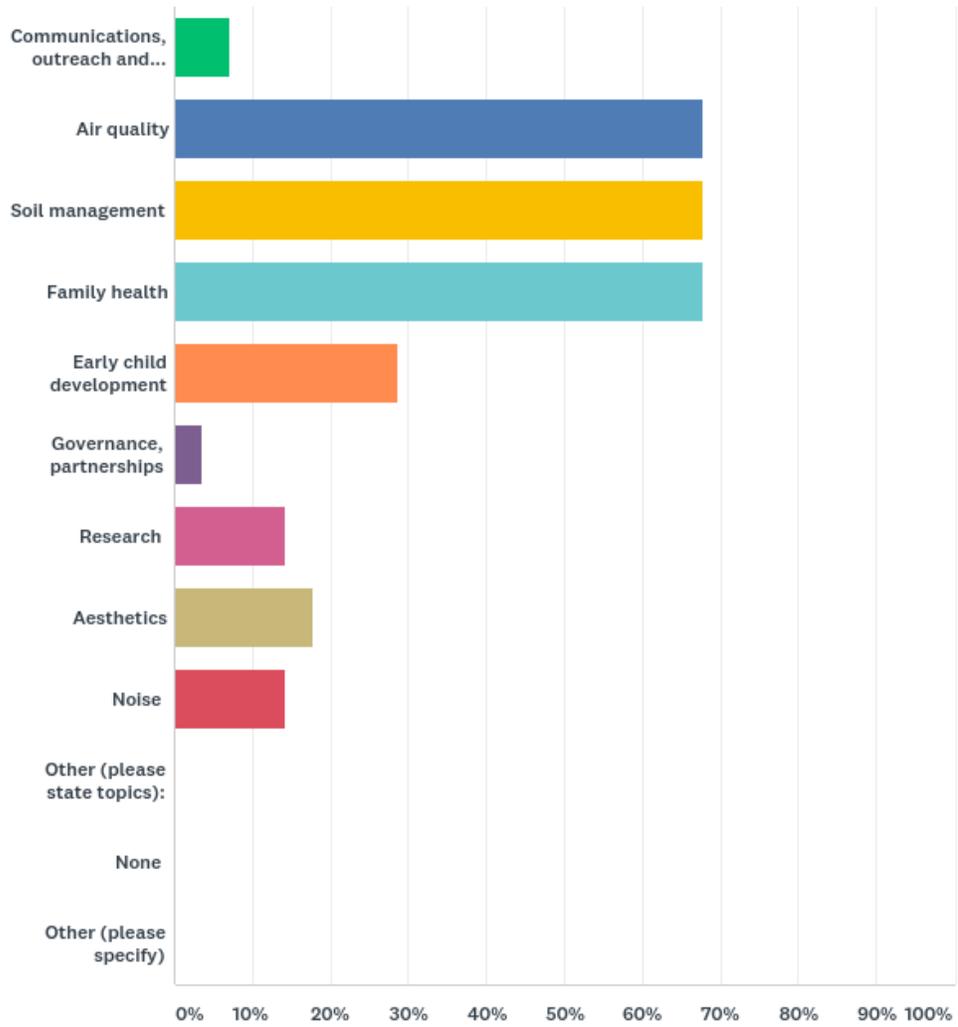
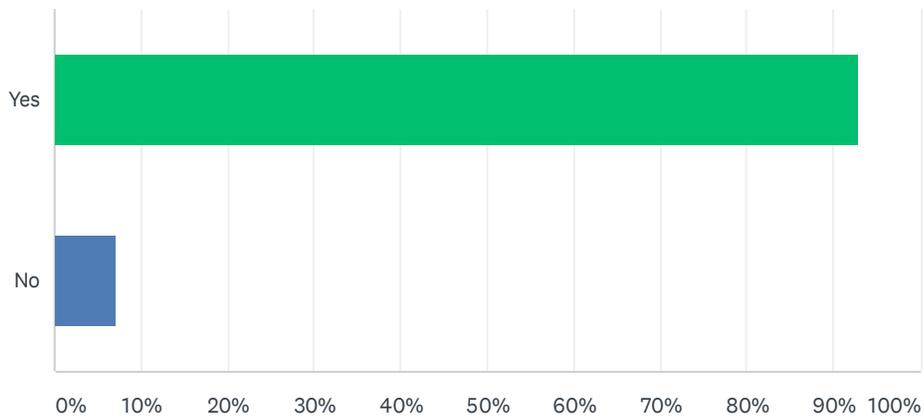


Figure 1: Responses to the question, "Which topics are of most interest to you? (check up to three)"

**Q1 The Trail Area Health & Environment Committee (THEC) has been working for over thirty years to improve air quality and reduce lead exposure in the community, particularly for children. THEC oversees the delivery of the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP). The Trail Area Health & Environment Program includes soil management, air quality, healthy homes and gardens, and lead safe renovation, to name a few. The community has always been an important partner and contributor to the Trail Area Health & Environment Committee. Are you aware of this history?**

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	92.86%	26
No	7.14%	2
TOTAL		28

**Q2 Are you aware that Trail Area Health & Environment Committee meetings are open to the public?**

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1

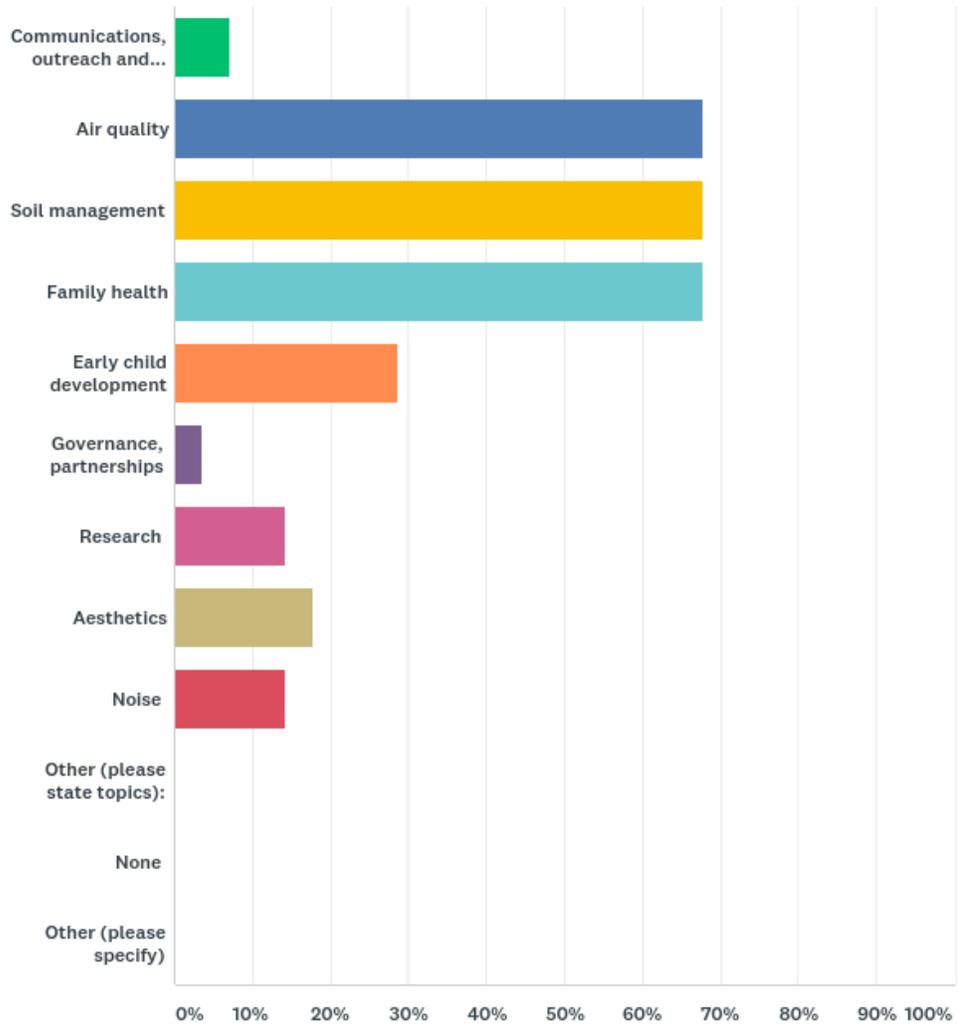
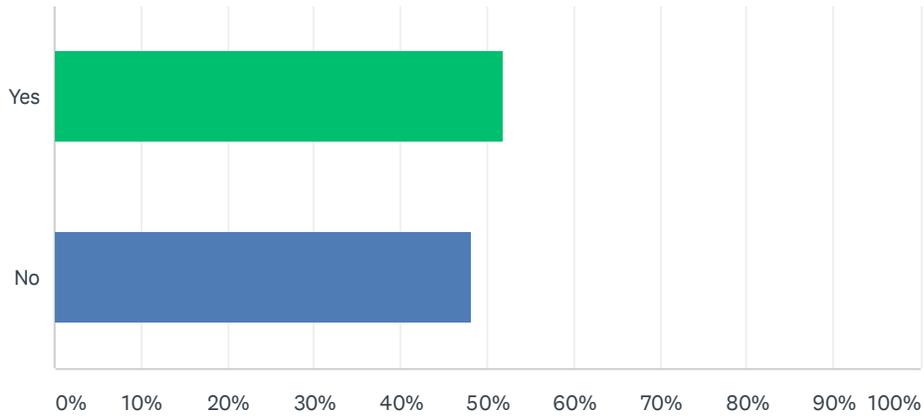


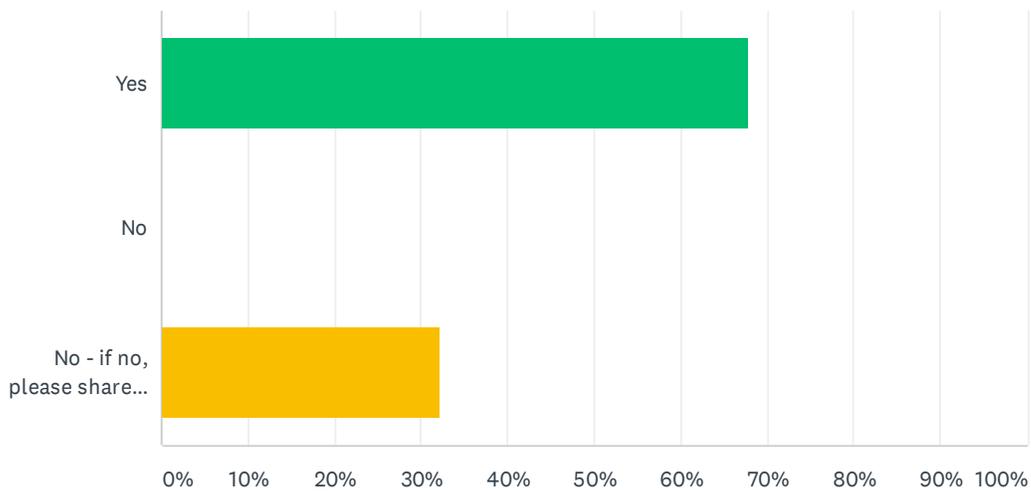
Figure 1: Responses to the question, "Which topics are of most interest to you? (check up to three)"



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	51.85% 14
No	48.15% 13
TOTAL	27

### Q3 Would you consider attending a Trail Area Health & Environment Committee or working group meeting as a member of the public?

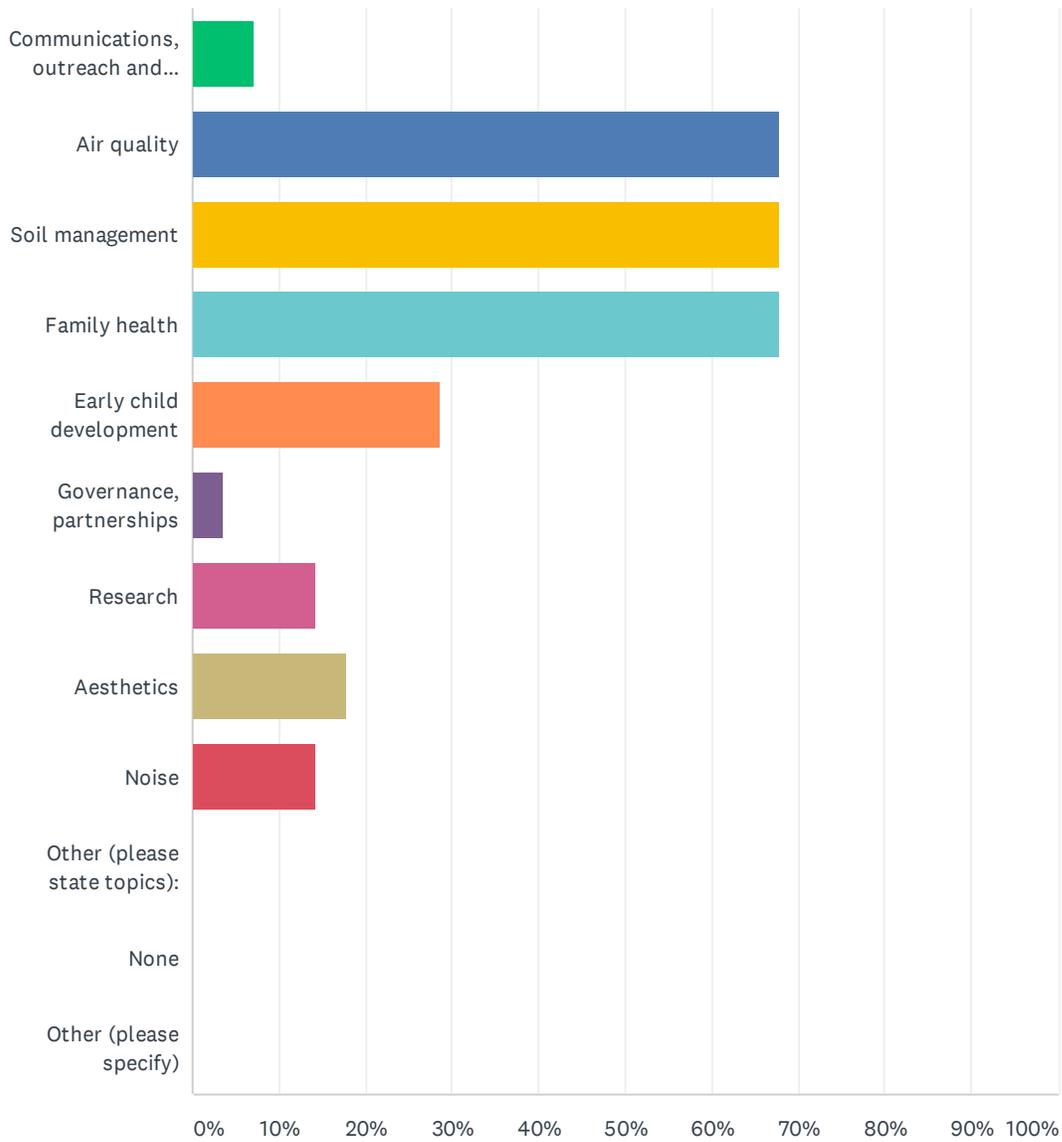
Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	67.86% 19
No	0.00% 0
No - if no, please share reasons here:	32.14% 9
TOTAL	28

### Q4 Which topics are of most interest to you? (check up to three)

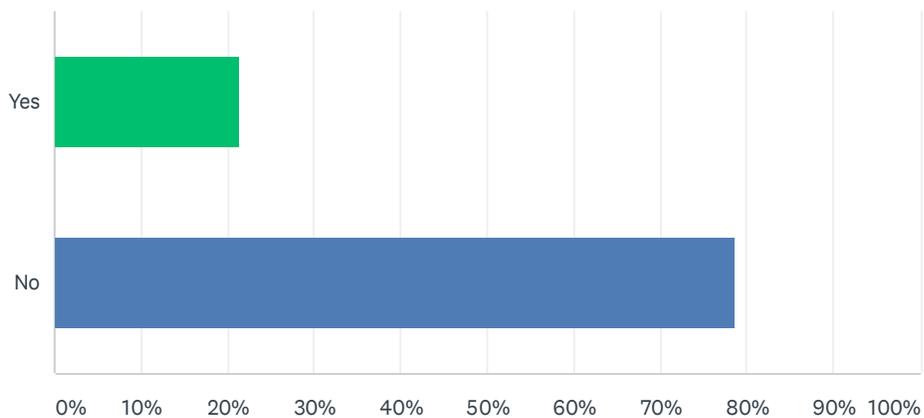
Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Communications, outreach and engagement	7.14%	2
Air quality	67.86%	19
Soil management	67.86%	19
Family health	67.86%	19
Early child development	28.57%	8
Governance, partnerships	3.57%	1
Research	14.29%	4
Aesthetics	17.86%	5
Noise	14.29%	4
Other (please state topics):	0.00%	0
None	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 28		

**Q5 The Trail Area Health and Environment Committee meets 5 times a year from 7-9pm at the City of Trail. Updates are provided on all the program areas and there is time for the community to share ideas or information. Would you consider joining as a regular committee member?**

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	21.43%	6
No	78.57%	22
TOTAL		28

**Q6 Why or why not?**

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1

## Q7 Please share additional comments related to the Trail Area Health & Environment Committee and Program:

Answered: 16 Skipped: 12