

# Trail Area Health & Environment Committee



## SUMMARY

HYBRID Meeting: April 24, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** *City of Trail Committee Room #2 (Spokane St entrance) & City of Trail Committee Room, Spokane St Entrance and Zoom*

### Committee members in attendance:

Colleen Jones, Chair, City of Trail	Carolyn Amantea, Village of Warfield
Thea Hanson, Alternate Chair, City of Trail	Adriana Almeida-Rodriguez, BC Ministry of Environment
Jasen Nelson, BC Ministry of Environment	Tara Bullanoff, Alternate, Interior Health
Clare North, Teck Trail Operations	Dan Bouillon, Teck Trail Operations
Erika Krest, Community Member (Chamber)	Steve Hilts, Community Member (History)
Annick de Goede, Community Member (Parent)	Ashley Melenchuk (Parent)
Karin Goodison, Interior Health, MHO	Trevor Allegretto– USW Local 480 rep
Julia Stockhausen – Community Member (FAN)	

### Others in attendance:

Cecilee Pitman, Interior Health	Andrea McCormick, AtkinsRealis
Meghan Morris, Interior Health	Morgan Sternberg, AtkinsRealis
Christina Yamada, Interior Health	Adrianna Goodson, AtkinsRealis
Nelson Ames, Community Member	Leanne Cusack – Interior Health
Frances Boreland, Broken Hill, Australia	Michelle Laurie, THEC Lead Facilitator
Jayne Garry, Teck Trail Operations	Dave Bell, Teck Trail Operations
Sara Ridge – Kootenay Family Place	Razia Zariff – Port Pirie, Australia

### WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

- Colleen Jones, THEC Chair and Mayor of Trail, welcomed everyone online and in-person followed by a traditional land acknowledgement.

### MEETING MINUTES

- Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved from THEC's February 27th, 2024 meeting.

### PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Wide Area Remediation Plan and Blood Lead Analysis: Update and Discussion

**Presenters:** Clare North, Teck Trail Operations and Dr. Karin Goodison, MHO, Interior Health

The presenters provided an update on Interior Health's blood lead analysis, the Wide Area Remediation Plan, the MHO recommendation to be included in the WARP, and the process toward public consultation. The presentation was followed by small group discussions and questions which provided valuable feedback to help improve future presentations and prepare for public consultation.

## Program Reports & Updates

See Reports Attached. A few additional updates are also provided below.

Air Quality Working Group Update:

- Steve Hilts will continue as Chair.
- Teck is working to incorporate text in the THEC Air Quality report to outline the focus on Pb in air, and will also propose an FAQ for website. They will bring it to the AQWG next meeting and then to THEC in the fall.
- In THEP's strategic plan, SO<sub>2</sub> was added to the milestone in Air and an indicator developed: Annually, demonstrate improvements in Pb and SO<sub>2</sub> in ambient air, as measured in the community (Indicator: Review percentage of hours that SO<sub>2</sub> is above 35ppb annually).
- The group is working on communications to improve understanding of lead in airborne dust in Trail.
- The next meeting is May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. All are welcome.

The Community Program (CPO):

- Soil management work in the community officially started for the year on April 15, with work on individual residential sites.
- The Pilot Block Soil Management Initiative will continue in 2024, with four blocks selected in East Trail for soil management (starting in May).
- The team continues to engage with the community through outreach events.

## Community & Round Table Check-In – All

- Two new participants to the THEC meeting introduced themselves:
  - Sara Ridge, a Kootenay Family Place Child Development Consultant is planning to replace Julia Stockhausen as a THEC member when Julia retires later this year. Sara also lives in Warfield.
  - Razia Zariff, a scientist with South Australia Health has been working with Port Pirie for fifteen years. Razia is also interested in developing an international community of practice for practitioners working in communities with lead smelters.
- Carolyn Amantea asked the program team how THEP is reaching newcomers and suggested multi-lingual materials.
  - Meghan Morris, THEP's PHN, responded the team has good relations with newcomers however will be in touch to hear additional ideas such as a specific THEP introductory workshop for newcomers.
- Michelle shared some items related to the community and communications:
  - There were three inquiries from residents related to dust when sweeping roads and highways. She wrote to YRB, the highways contractor to remind them about wetting before sweeping to keep dust down.
    - THEC supported sending a letter to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure encouraging them to remind contractors (YRB) of the need to keep dust down when sweeping highways and roads. Michelle will draft and send on behalf of THEP/THEC.
  - There was an inquiry from a former Trail resident asking about exposure to lead from the 1960's and requesting information on adult impacts. Dr. Goodison suggested adding resources to the website and linking to the US CDC which has information.

- Michelle will review the messaging and links with partners to ensure information is not confusing for current adult residents living and working in Trail.
- The Canadian Armed Forces Range Control officer engaged with THEP regarding risks of exposure to lead from shooting sources related to their involvement with the Casino Ranges leased from Teck. This was in response to Teck requesting that user groups engage with THEP.
  - Michelle shared messaging related to preventing community exposure to lead from sources at the Casino Ranges including dust control indoors and outdoors, avoiding potential carry home, and hygiene such as handwashing before eating, drinking and smoking.

### **Program Planning Update - Michelle Laurie, THEC Lead Facilitator**

The following updates were shared:

- The annual lessons learned document from partners was sent for review and will be finalized and put online at thep.ca under Reports > Program Documents.
- THEP's pilot Residential Lead Inspection is being evaluated for next steps.
- THEP is reaching out to the City of Trail to see about synergies and coordinated approaches where possible.
- The work around an international community of practice continues and we have recently made contact with Umicore Hoboken, located in Antwerp in Belgium; a meeting is planned to learn more about the programs and work being done there.

### **Partner Meeting Report – Colleen Jones, Chair**

- There was no partner meeting.
- Currently looking for a date to reconvene the multigovernmental Knowledge Sharing & Learning Group for Trail in May or June.
- Colleen asked the group if THEC would be supportive of applying for a UBCM Community Excellence Award in the sustainability category. The focus would be on our collaborative approach to addressing complex challenges. THEC was supportive.
  - Michelle will draft the application and send to partners for review. Carolyn Amantea also volunteered to review the application.

### **2024 THEC MEETING DATES**

- June 19
- Sept 12
- Nov 28
- THEC meetings are held from 7:00-9:00pm.

# Trail Area Health & Environment Committee



## AGENDA

HYBRID Meeting: April 24, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Location: *City of Trail Committee Room #2 (Spokane St entrance) & City of Trail Committee Room, Spokane St Entrance or online <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84649011425>*

### Committee Members:

Colleen Jones, Chair, City of Trail  
Thea Hanson, Alternate Chair, City of Trail  
Dr. Karin Goodison, Interior Health MHO  
Jane Power, Interior Health  
Trevor Allegretto, USW Local 480 Rep  
Ron Joseph, Community Member (Resident)  
Dan Bouillon, Teck Trail Operations  
Clare North, Teck Trail Operations  
Annick de Goede, Community Member (Parent)

Linda Worley, RDKB Area B  
Carolyn Amantea, Village of Warfield  
Ali Grieve, RDKB Area A  
Adriana Almeida-Rodriguez, BC Ministry of Env  
Jasen Nelson, BC Ministry of Environment  
Erika Krest, Community Member (Chamber)  
Steve Hiltz, Community Member (History)  
Julia Stockhausen, Community Member (FAN)  
Ashley Melenchuk, Community (Parent)

*The Trail Area Health & Environment Committee (THEC) meets five times per year online or in-person. Members, designates and community members are welcome.*

### WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

- Opening remarks from Colleen Jones, THEC Chair.

### MEETING MINUTES

- Review and approve minutes from THEC meeting, February 27, 2024 (as attached).

### PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Wide Area Remediation Plan (WARP) and Blood Lead Analysis: Update and Discussion (60 mins)**

**Presenter: Dr. Karin Goodison & Clare North, Teck Trail Operations (Leanne Cusack, Interior Health Epidemiologist joining as resource person)**

- Presentation
- Discussion
- Q&A

### **Program Reports & Updates**

*Air, Health, and Community Program Office reports are provided in the agenda package for your review prior to the meeting. Please bring your questions and comments for discussion.*

#### **Q&A and Comments on Reports All (10 mins)**

- Q&A on all reports (Air, Health, Community Program Office)
  - Highlights and open questions (**All**)
- Air Quality Working Group highlights from meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>, key points include:
  - Steve Hiltz elected to continue as Chair.

- Suggestion to add information on why some metals communicated on more than others to THEC Air Quality report; propose FAQ for website.
- In THEP strategic plan, text added on SO<sub>2</sub> to the milestone in Air: Annually, demonstrative improvements in Pb and SO<sub>2</sub> in ambient air, as measured in the community (Indicator: Review percentage of hours that SO<sub>2</sub> is above 35ppb annually).
- Will work on communications to improve understanding of lead in airborne dust in Trail.
- Next meeting May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **Community & Round Table Check-In - All (15 mins)**

- Round table contributions & questions

### **Program Planning Update - Michelle Laurie, THEC Lead Facilitator (10 min)**

- Monitoring and evaluation:
  - Assessing the pilot Residential Lead Inspection: Interviews, feedback, data analysis
  - Developing an additional milestone on enhanced support for strategic plan (with Interior Health and Healthy Families Healthy Homes team)
- Communications:
  - Maternal Health brochure and poster online and in community.
  - Updated Homeowner Guide to Soil Management online as well as products that those receiving soil management receive (see attached);
  - Refreshed THEP health tips posters and magnets (provided via Healthy Families Healthy Homes), see attached.
  - Lead Safe Renovation brochure updated with current messaging/dates.
- Liaising:
  - Reaching out to City of Trail to meet with relevant staff and THEP team members in order to coordinate and increase efficiencies where possible.
  - Liaising with South Australian colleagues on reinvigorating the concept to develop a Community of Practice for communities with lead smelters.

### **Partner Meeting Report – Colleen Jones, Chair**

#### **2024 THEC MEETING DATES**

- June 19
- Sept 12
- Nov 28
- THEC meetings are held from 7:00-9:00pm.



## Program Reports:

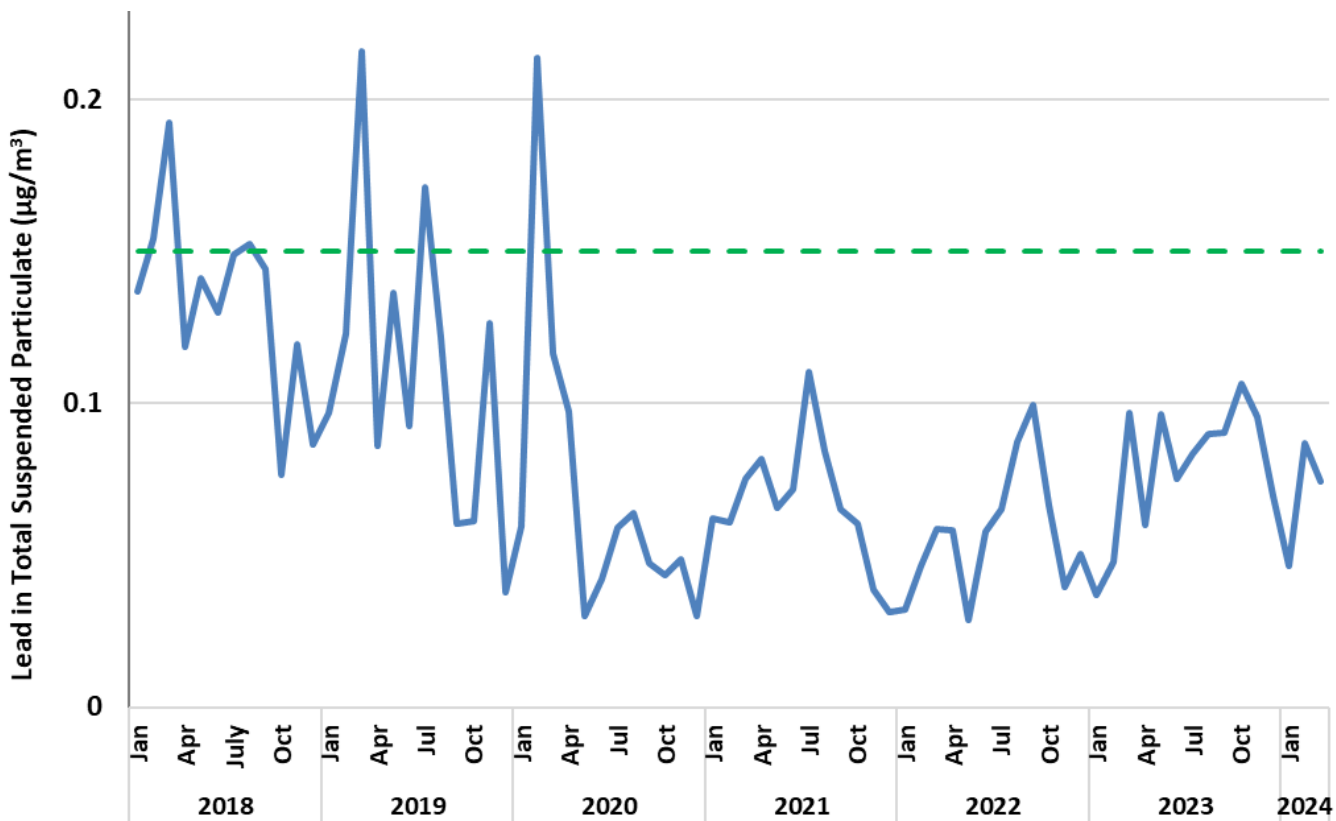
- Air Quality
- Health
- Community Program Office

## Air Quality Report – April 2024

### 1. Lead in Air:

Figure 1 presents the 3-month rolling average for lead in air measured at the Butler Park station compared to the US EPA standard of  $0.15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Federal and BC Provincial governments do not have ambient air quality objectives or standards for lead; however, it is reasonable to rely on standards from other jurisdictions when this is the case.

Lead in air levels measured at Butler Park and Birchbank meet the US EPA standard of  $0.15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  on a 3-month average. The intra-annual variability in the data reflects the influence of weather including dominant wind direction and precipitation. Read THEP’s Lead (Pb) [Fact Sheet](#) to learn more.



— Butler Park Pb in TSP 3-month rolling average — — US EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standard

**Figure 1: 3-month rolling average lead in air at Butler Park station (as total suspended particulate measured bi-daily)**

The chart in Figure 1 shows the 3-month rolling average for lead in air for Butler Park (blue line), in comparison to the US EPA standard (green dashed line).

## 2. Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>):

SO<sub>2</sub> is emitted by Teck Trail Operations as a by-product of processing mine concentrates, which contain sulphur, into metal and chemical products. Teck Trail Operations currently captures more than 99% of the sulphur and converts it to by-products, such as fertilizer and sulphuric acid. About 1% leaves the operation through emissions to air. With environmental improvements, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions continue to decline. However, the dispersion of air emissions from the smelter is constrained due to the location of the smelter, weather and the surrounding topography.

SO<sub>2</sub> is monitored by Teck at four locations throughout Trail and the surrounding areas – Birchbank, Butler Park, Columbia Gardens and Warfield. These stations operate continuously, with near real-time data publicly available at <https://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/bcairquality/readings/find-stations-map-SO2.html> SO<sub>2</sub> levels fluctuate throughout the day, month and year.

THEP's SO<sub>2</sub> [Fact Sheet](#) provides guidance for actions to take when SO<sub>2</sub> levels are elevated. The chart below provides SO<sub>2</sub> hourly data from Butler Park and Birchbank stations for 2013 – 2023, categorized by the health guidance levels. As Teck Trail Operations continues to implement emissions reductions measures, the percentage of hours within the yellow (35-185 ppb) and red (>185 ppb) categories is decreasing.

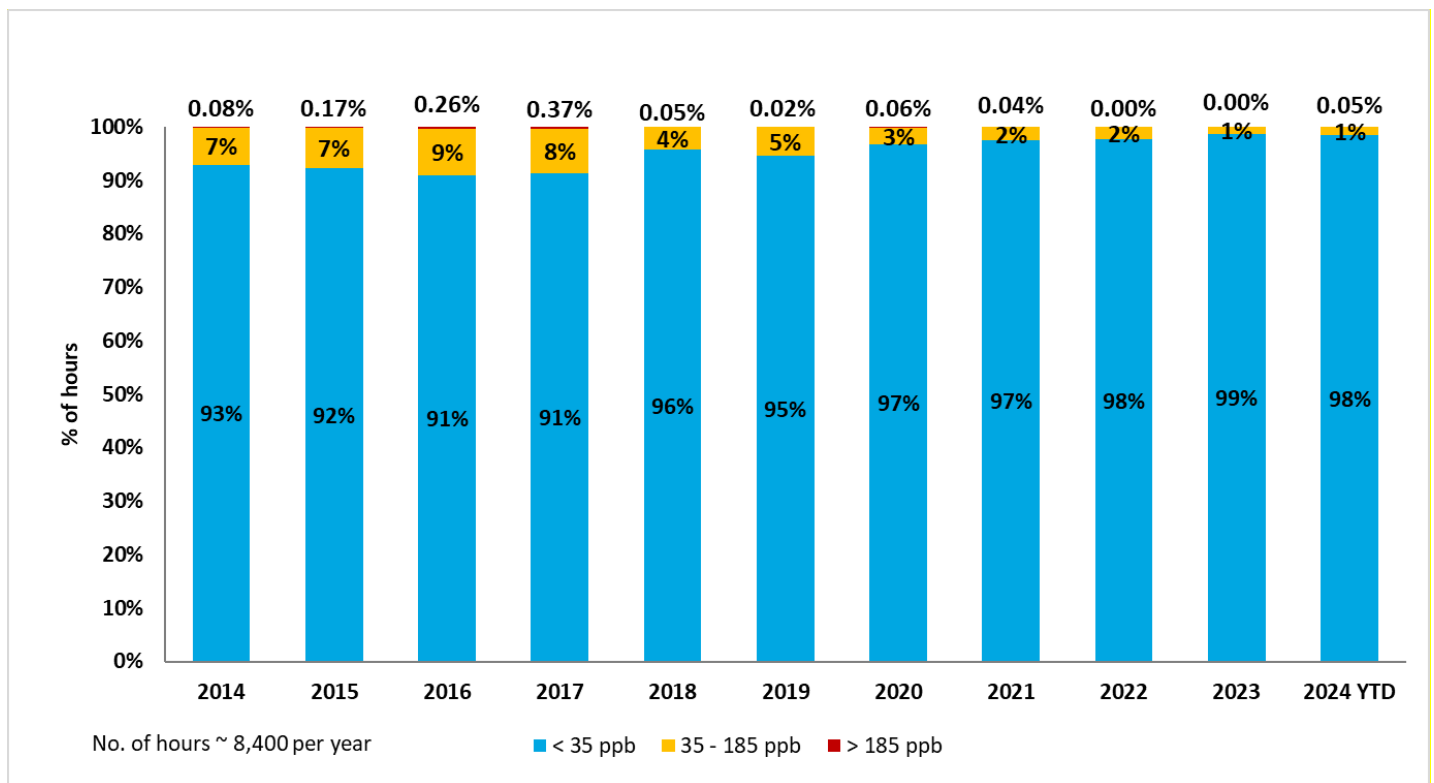


Figure 2: Distribution of Hourly SO<sub>2</sub> Levels at Butler Park



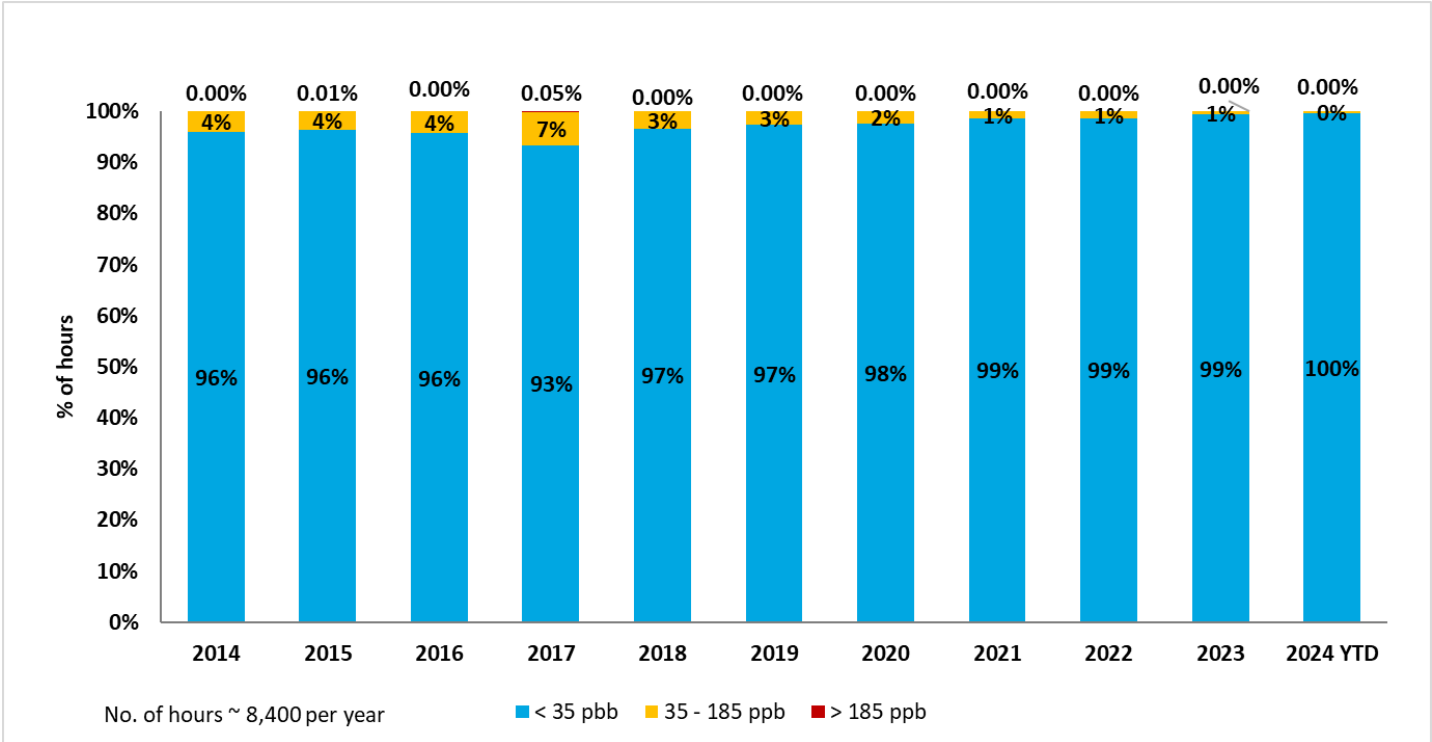


Figure 3: Distribution of Hourly SO<sub>2</sub> Levels at Birchbank

Questions or concerns about Air Quality?  
 Call Teck's Community and Environment Feedback line at (250) 364-4817

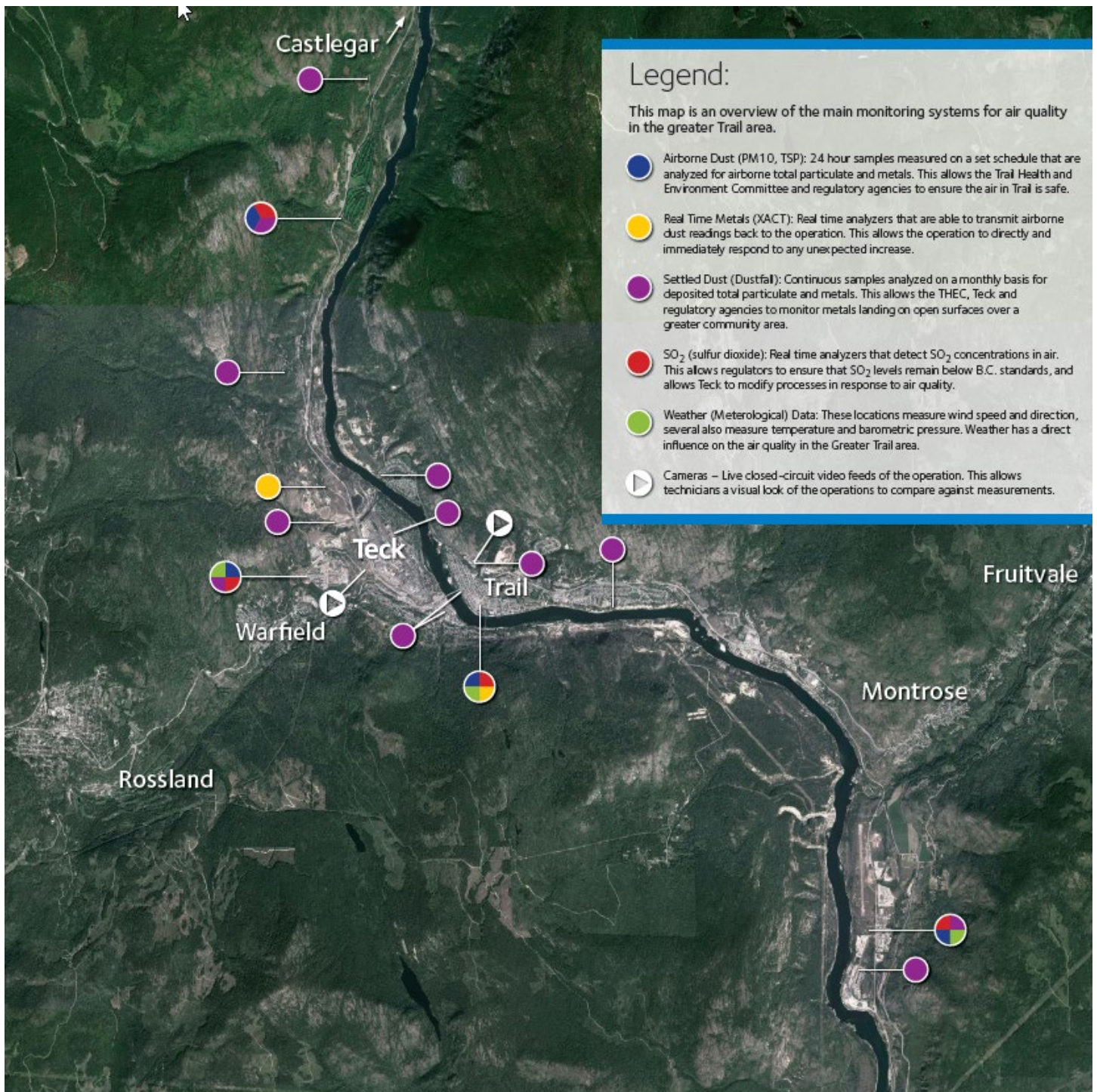


Figure 4: Teck Community Air Monitoring Stations

Questions or concerns about Air Quality?  
 Call Teck's Community and Environment Feedback line at (250) 364-4817



## FAMILY HEALTH REPORT

April 24, 2024

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Healthy Family Visits
2. Community Outreach
3. Blood Lead Clinic Update

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### ADDITIONAL DETAILS

1. Healthy Family Visits
  - 14 Healthy Family Visits completed to date in 2024
  - 1 Healthy Family visit declined
2. Community Outreach
  - Meghan attending Building Beautiful Babies monthly
  - Cecilee attending Muffins and Munchkins monthly
  - Meghan attended End Working Poverty Community Engagement session on Feb 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Meghan attended Early Years Table committee meeting March 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Meghan attended Ready, Set, Learn event April 12<sup>th</sup>
3. Blood Lead Clinic
  - Successful Winter BL Clinic
  - All urgent follow up from Winter clinic completed
  - Ongoing support continues to meet individual families needs for all Enhanced Support Families



## COMMUNITY PROGRAM OFFICE REPORT

April 24, 2024

The Community Program Office (CPO) team is off to a busy start for the season. CPO staff are regularly attending spring community engagement events, meeting with families through the Healthy Homes Program, and planning soil management activities for the year. Pilot activities continuing in 2024 include the Pilot Block Initiative, post-soil replacement lawncare, and exterior and interior paint testing.

### 1 Soil Management Program:

- › April 9: Soils team training/prep day.
- › Planning Soil Management work for 2024.
  - Kickoff began April 15
- › Pilot Block Initiative preparations
  - Offer letters sent out to 3 blocks as determined by prioritization framework.
- › Soil Assessments & Ground Cover Evaluations are underway, with an aim to identify any new, qualifying properties before July.
  - 8 Ground Cover Evaluations completed so far in 2024
  - 7 Soil Assessments completed so far in 2024
    - Exterior paint testing<sup>1</sup> was conducted during each Soil Assessment.
- › Yard Improvement
  - 52 properties that received soil replacement in 2023 are on the lawncare list
  - 2 Healthy Homes properties are on the lawncare list

### 2 Healthy Homes:

- › Healthy Homes:
  - 16 home visits completed so far in 2024
  - 3 Healthy Homes families have received interior paint testing at their properties.
  - Busy with follow up requests from families re-connecting after the winter.
- › Enhanced Support:
  - The new family identified following the Winter BL clinic has received follow up.
  - 2 Residential Lead Inspections completed so far in 2024.
  - 3 daycares offered Lead Inspection.
    - 1 is scheduled for May, 1 consent pending, and 1 “no response”.

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<sup>1</sup> Paint testing is a term used in lieu of paint screening for public communications purposes. Paint testing requires sending paint chips to a laboratory and results are more precise. For the purpose of THEP, paint testing means THEP screened viable paint in a home using XRF technology on-site. The XRF provides an immediate reading for lead levels in a painted surface.



### 3 Lead (Pb) Safe Renovation:

- › 15 residents have accessed free supplies so far this year.

### 4 Outreach and Engagement:

- › Attending local early years programs:
  - Building Beautiful Babies with the FAIR Society on March 14.
  - Ready set learn event with CBAL on April 12.
- › Present at the Winter blood lead clinics February 26 & 27.
- › Attendance at the Community Discussion: Ending Working Poverty event through the Skills Centre on February 28.
- › Participated in the Trail IncrEDIBLE Easter Market on March 30.
- › Gardening in Trail – presentation and soil testing demonstration to Selkirk College’s Steps to Opportunities Academics and Readiness class on April 24.
- › Our staff continue to attend the Navigator meetings, Early Years committee meetings, and involved on the Family Action Network board.



Communication Products to Follow




# Keep your new grass alive!

## THE FIRST TWO WEEKS ARE CRUCIAL!



Water twice a day for 20-30 minutes.






Stay off your lawn (including pets).



Do not mow.



## AFTER THE FIRST TWO WEEKS:

-  Water every other day.
-  Mow higher for at least the first month.
-  Mow regularly for a healthy lawn.
-  Weed as needed or visit your garden centre for advice.



THEP does not guarantee sod that fails to establish properly due to homeowner negligence, including insufficient watering or excessive use by children or pets.



**TRAIL AREA**  
Health & Environment Program

[thep.ca](http://thep.ca)

**IF YOU RECEIVED NEW SOD**  
**THEP will fertilize it twice**  
**during the first year to**  
**support its growth.**



**WERE YOUR**  
**SPRINKLERS REPLACED?**

**For all your sprinkler**  
**questions, contact**



**CONNECT TO LEARN MORE!**



Visit our office  
1319 Bay Avenue



Call  
250.368.3256



Website  
[thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



Email  
[programs@thep.ca](mailto:programs@thep.ca)



# Soil Management Contacts



**Property address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Kick-off date:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*(call or text)*

## Contractor

For site emergencies (24/7)


\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Community Program Office**

**thep.ca**

 Visit our Office  
1319 Bay Avenue

 Call  
250.368.3256

 Email  
programs@thep.ca



## HEALTH TIPS

# Prevent ingestion of lead with clean hands.

- ✓ *Always wash hands after playing outside and before eating.*



- ✓ *Use a damp cloth to wipe indoor surfaces and toys kids touch.*



- ✓ *Hose off outdoor furniture and toys often.*



Teck



Interior Health



**TRAIL AREA**

Health & Environment Program

For Family Health info: 250.364.6223 | [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



## HEALTH TIPS

# Clean often to reduce lead dust.

✓ *Take off shoes at the door and use door mats.*



✓ *Keep work boots, clothing, and lunch kits away from kids.*



✓ *Vacuum & damp mop often focusing on entryways, ledges, countertops, and play areas.*



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**TRAIL AREA**

Health & Environment Program

For Healthy Homes info: 250.368.3256 | [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



## HEALTH TIPS

# Prevent potential lead exposure in your yard.

✓ *Sign up online for soil and paint testing.*



✓ *Cover bare soil with lawn, mulch or landscape fabric.*



✓ *Hose off toys and kids play areas.*



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**TRAIL AREA**

Health & Environment Program

For Soil Management: 250.368.3256 | [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



## HEALTH TIPS

# Healthy eating reduces uptake of lead.

- ✓ *Eat regular, nutritious meals high in iron, calcium and vitamin C.*



- ✓ *Feed young children at the table.*



- ✓ *Peel root vegetables & wash leafy greens well before eating.*



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**TRAIL AREA**

Health & Environment Program

For Family Health info: 250.364.6223 | [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)



## HEALTH TIPS

# Older homes can expose people to lead.

✓ *Lead-based paint is a hazard when chipping, peeling or disturbed during renos.*



✓ *Pregnant women and young children should avoid homes and rooms being renovated.*



✓ *Contain dust in work areas and clean up thoroughly.*



✓ *Access tips at [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)* 

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**TRAIL AREA**

Health & Environment Program

Lead Safe Renovation: 250.368.3256 | [thep.ca](http://thep.ca)