

SUMMARY HYBRID Meeting: June 11th, 2026, 6:50-7:10pm social; meeting 7:10p.m.

Location: *City of Trail Committee Room #2 (Spokane St entrance) or online*

Committee Members in attendance:

Colleen Jones, Chair, City of Trail
 Dr. Janice Mok, Interior Health MHO
 Tara Bullanoff, Interior Health
 Huan Liu, BC Ministry of Environment
 Clare North, Teck Trail Operations
 Glenda Fratton, Teck Trail Operations

Ron Joseph, Community Member (Resident)
 Sara Ridge, Community Member (Families)
 Carol Lerosé, Community Member (Parent)
 Jasen Nelson, BC Ministry of Environment
 Vacant, Community Member

Others in Attendance:

Frances Boreland, Broken Hill, Australia
 Dave Bell, Teck Trail Operations
 Jessica Yarwood, Teck Trail Operations
 Julie Orban, BC Ministry of Environment
 Nelson Ames, volunteer and former MHO
 Mike Davis, Community
 Aidan Dutton, KC Recycling

Cecilee Pitman, Interior Health/THEP
 Matt Parrilla, Teck Trail Operations
 Dr. Karin Goodison, former MHO Interior Health
 Catherine Ellison, Village of Fruitvale
 Morgan Sternberg, Community Program Office
 Fred Jamin, Community
 Chris Buchan, City of Trail

WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Colleen Jones, THEC Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting followed by a land acknowledgement. She specifically pointed out people in attendance that participated in the Knowledge Sharing & Learning (KS&L) Trail Group onboarding tour earlier that day, including:

- Alyson Blackstock, Assistant Deputy Minister - Ministry of Environment and Parks
- Janice Mok, THEP's new Medical Health Officer (and for the region)
- Chris Buchan, City of Trail - City Planner
- Jessica Yarwood, Teck Trail Operations - Group Superintendent, Community & Indigenous Relations

Mayor Jones proudly shared that the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) won the annual *Go Green* award from the Trail and District Chamber of Commerce. She thanked all the partners for their hard work and collaborative efforts to ensure THEP is successful in the community. Mayor Jones, along with Councillor Thea Hanson, Dave Bell from Teck and Morgan Sternberg from the Community Program Office jointly accepted the award at the ceremony, June 5th, in Rossland. The award will be showcased at THEP's community program office.



MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the THEC meeting, April 15th, 2026 were approved and are posted [online](#).

PRESENTATIONS, REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Fireside Chat: THEP story 2001-2026

Conversationalists:

- Karin Goodison (former MHO from Interior Health)
- Clare North (Teck)
- Andrea McCormick (AtkinsRealis, formerly at the Community Program Office)
- Michelle Laurie (THEC Lead Facilitator)

This fireside chat shared THEP's progress over decades, along with highlights and reflections from each person. The major time periods covered included:

- The Task Force years (1990s-2001)
- Building the program (2001-2010)
- Recognition and integration (2010-2015)
- Inside the home (2015-2020)
- Maintaining progress through COVID (2020-2022)
- Strategic direction and where we are now (2022-present)

The information conveyed in the fireside chat stems from writing initiated to fulfill a milestone in [THEP's strategic directions \(2022-2027\)](#) to document the story of THEP's evolution and achievements for the public and science communities. Conversationalists shared successes for which the program is well known as well as times of strain including how THEP managed to overcome tensions and keep rooted in shared ambition with a community focus. The writing of the THEP story is ongoing with hopes to have a draft for the September THEC meeting.

Suggestions from THEC to augment the story include adding the contributions of key people such as Dr. Bonnie Henry (BC's Provincial Health Officer) and her role in helping to overcome communication challenges between various partners, Ministries and THEC and bringing focus back to the community (early 2020's) and the contribution of Dr. Clyde Hertzman (UBC) for his focus on community and social determinants of health which have been embedded into the program since its inception and were championed by Mayor Dieter Bogs during his tenure 2001-2014.

The participants from the KS&L onboarding tour were asked to share how THEP could support their leadership. Key points included:

- Continue fostering relationships
- Continue data collection, data sharing, and data driven decision making
- Use THEP as a resource to answer questions from the community and combat misinformation
- Provide THEP's Lead-safe renovation and paint information to homeowners during building permit applications.

THEC community members and others around the table were asked to share what will keep them engaged and coming back to the table. Points shared were varied:

- Continuing to see the positive changes in the local environment over time
- Knowing that Trail is a healthy community and the desire to see this continue
- Interested in the science and having the ability to share learning with others professionally and as a community member
- Knowing that THEP and THEC are seen as a global model and that community involvement is key to continuing this

Program Reports & Updates

Q&A and Comments on Reports All

Q&A on all reports (Air, Health, Community Program Office)

Community & Round Table Check-In - All

Several people shared questions and comments during the round table.

- A community member asked where Trail stands in comparison to other communities, such as Toronto, with respect to overall air quality index.
 - It was noted that various types of measurements are used in different jurisdictions to measure air quality. These may not be directly comparable.
 - It was noted that the closest station that provides a comprehensive air quality health index (AQHI) is Castlegar. With respect to lead in air, the Ministry of Environment provided a presentation looking specifically at Trail and other communities at the November 2024 THEC meeting and the presentation is in the minutes online ([link](#)).
- Jasen Nelson shared an update on the Wide Area Remediation Plan (WARP) noting the technical review is complete and the Indigenous consultation process continues in collaboration with Teck. No specific timeline on the approval decision was stated but updates will continue to be provided.
- Dr. Karin Goodison shared that maternal blood lead data for the Trail area were compared to data from across the Province (January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2025) and findings are similar.
- Dr. Goodison also provided an update from the Blood Lead Level Reduction Working Group.
 - The IH blood lead analysis of variables was updated with 2024 and 2025 data and results were essentially the same as the initial study (two years earlier). The MHO recommendation is to review the analysis of variables annually. The next step is to include dust fall data to see if there is a correlation with blood lead levels.

Program Planning Update - Michelle Laurie, THEC Lead Facilitator

- Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments Conference walking tour with THEP (April 17) and Plenary Panel (April 18th) held.
- KS&L Trail Group Onboarding Meeting (June 10th and 11th).
- Lead Safe Renovation reflections and planning continue.
- Trail and District Chamber of Commerce - THEP won the 'Go Green' category.
- Earned media:
 - [Our annual progress was shared in the news](#) (June 5th)
 - [Trail Times posted an article](#) (April 23rd) on our lead safe renovation program review and updates
- THEP submitted feedback to the City of Trail on the OCP bylaw, specifically where THEP collaboration could be highlighted. A copy is provided in the meeting package.
- Some negative comments related to soil management were posted on the City of Trail's Facebook page. The team will review and follow up with the appropriate people.

Partner Meeting Report – Colleen Jones, Chair

- There was no partner meeting.

2026 THEC MEETING DATES

- Sept 10th
- Nov/Dec to be confirmed

REPORTS TO FOLLOW:

- AIR
- HEALTH
- COMMUNITY PROGRAM OFFICE
- THEP Bylaw Feedback to City of Trail

Air Quality Report – June 2026

The THEC Air Quality Report provides an update on levels of Pb and SO₂ in community air based on THEP's current priorities related to ambient air.

1. Lead in Air:

The chart in Figure 1 shows the 3-month rolling average for lead in airborne dust at Butler Park (blue line) and Birchbank (green line), in comparison to the US EPA standard (green dashed line). 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 airborne dust levels measured at Butler Park and Birchbank meet the US EPA standard of 0.15 µg/m³ on a 3-month average. The variability in the data reflects the influence of emissions and weather including dominant wind direction and precipitation. Read THEP's Lead (Pb) [Fact Sheet](#) to learn more.

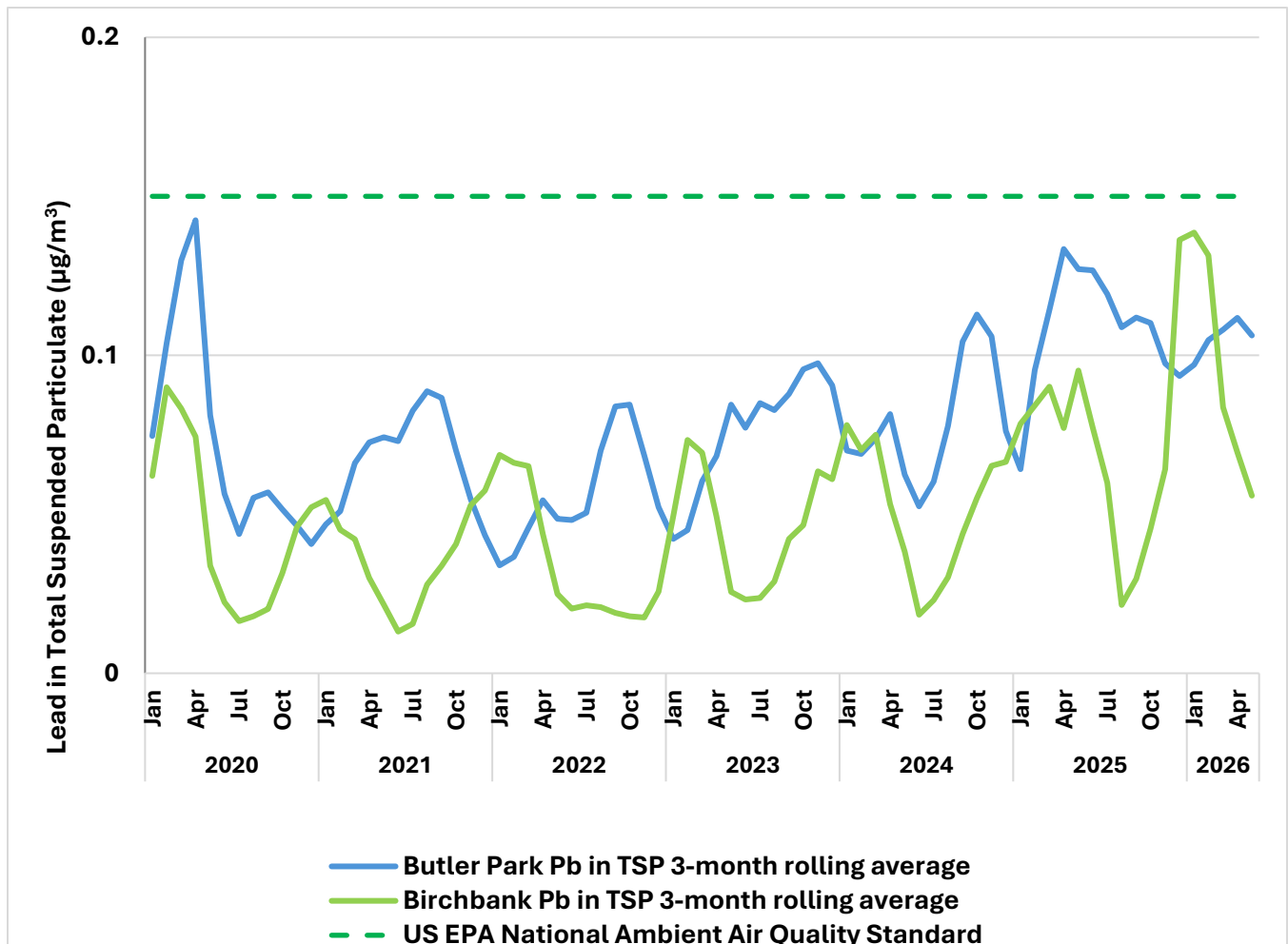


Figure 1: 3-month rolling average lead in total suspended particulate at Butler Park and Birchbank stations (measured bi-daily)

2. Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂):

SO₂ 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, SO₂ 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.

SO₂ is monitored by Teck at four locations in the Trail area – Birchbank, Butler Park, Columbia Gardens and Haley Park. The Haley Park monitoring station replaced the nearby Warfield monitoring station in 2023. 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> SO₂ levels fluctuate throughout the day, month and year.

THEP's SO₂ [Fact Sheet](#) provides guidance for actions to take when SO₂ levels are elevated. The charts below provide SO₂ hourly data from Butler Park, Birchbank and Warfield/Haley Park stations for 2016 – 2026 year-to-date, 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. Early in a given year, the year-to-date values presented in the charts below may be variable compared to the previous years with whole year data due to the influence of weather conditions in winter months. Values would be expected to become more similar to previous years over the course of the year.

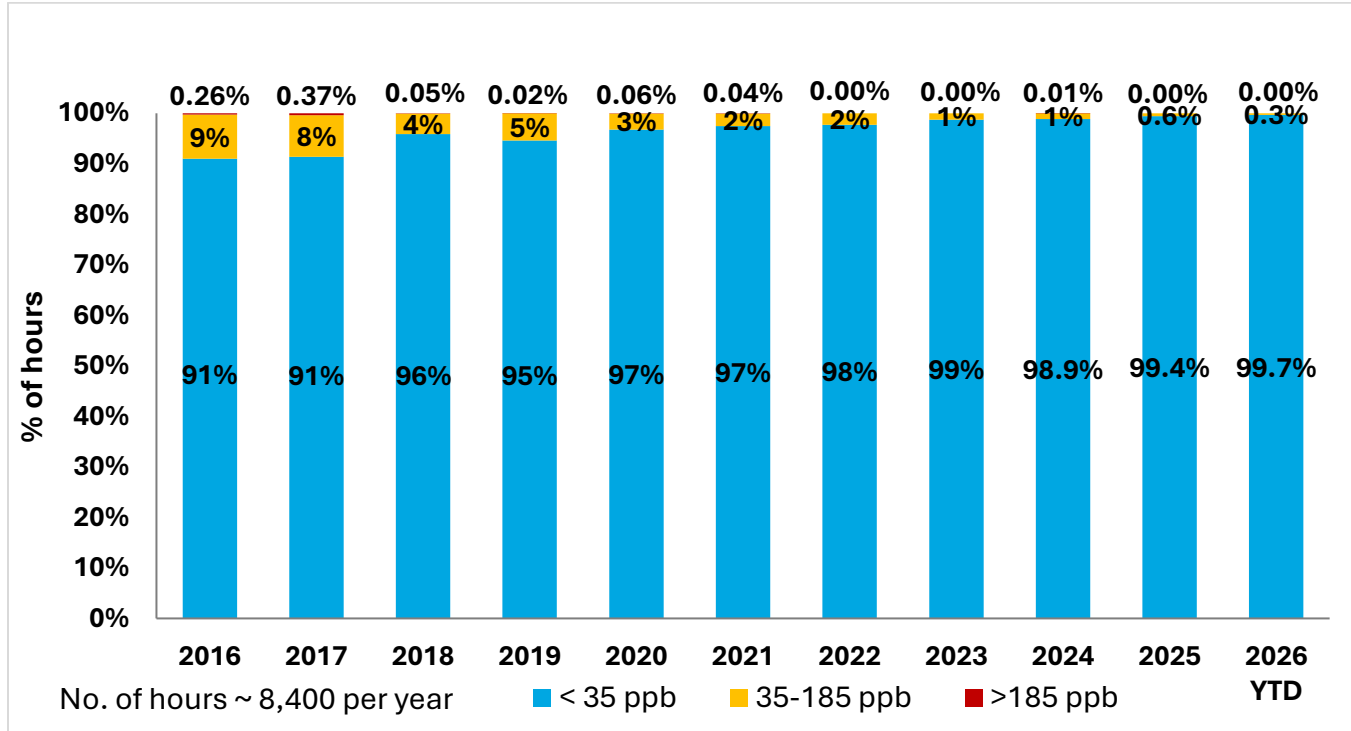


Figure 2: Distribution of Hourly SO₂ Levels at Butler Park

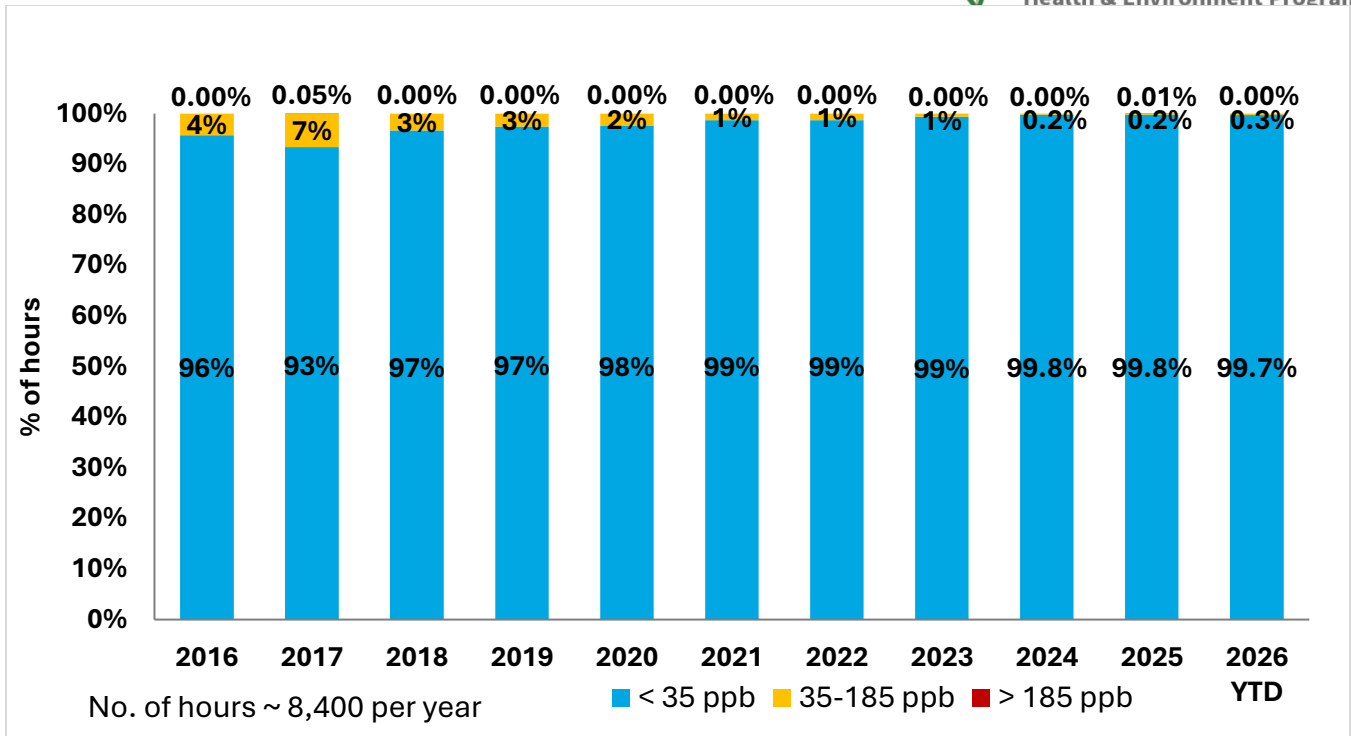


Figure 3: Distribution of Hourly SO₂ Levels at Birchbank

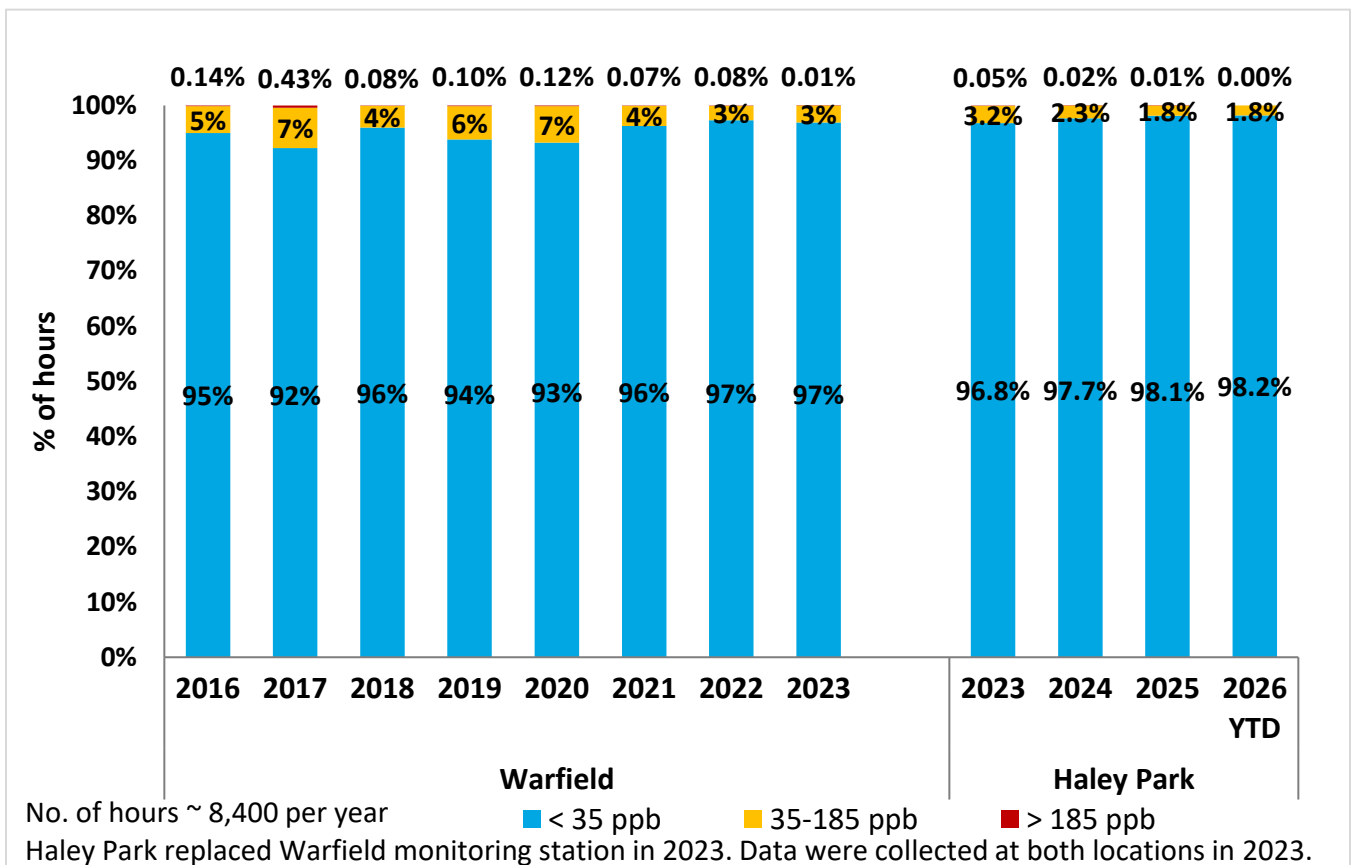


Figure 4: Distribution of Hourly SO₂ Levels at Warfield/Haley Park



Figure 5: Teck Community Air Monitoring Stations

Residents who have concerns about air quality are encouraged to call the Teck Community and Environment Feedback line at (250) 364-4817, a phone line answered 24 hours a day.

FAMILY HEALTH REPORT

June 11, 2026

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Healthy Family Visits
2. Community Outreach
3. Blood Lead Clinics

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

1. Healthy Family Visits
 - 31 Healthy Family Visits completed so far in 2026
2. Community Outreach
 - Continuing to attend Muffins & Munchkins & Building Beautiful Babies monthly
 - Attended Ready Set Learn on April 24
 - Completed Spring Daycare/Preschool outreach with Wendy from CPO
 - Handwashing station & THEP info shared at Public Health Kindergarten Fairs in April & May
 - Hosted Mock-Tale event with Wendy from CPO for Early Years Community Partners
 - Attended Teddy Bear Picnic on June 10
3. Blood Lead Clinics
 - Will be held between September 14-29. Specific clinic dates to be confirmed this month.



COMMUNITY PROGRAM OFFICE REPORT

June 11, 2026

The Community Program Office (CPO) had a great spring meeting with families at home visits, connecting with local daycares, and hosting booths at outreach events that support young families. The Soil Management Program is also well under way. Vegetable garden replacements started early this year and numerous difficult access properties with young children have already received soil management. With the milder spring weather, more residents are stopping in to ask about THEP. We look forward to hearing from you at the CPO, over the phone, or via email.

1. Soil Management Program:

- Yard Improvements:
 - Ground Cover Improvements: 6 soil pick-ups have been completed
 - Lawn Care: 50 post soil management properties and 4 Healthy Homes (HH) properties received spring fertilizer; summer fertilizer begins in July.
- Soil Assessment:
 - Soil testing: 45 residential properties have received soil testing; 54 properties remain
 - Ground Cover Evaluations: 56 properties completed; 29 properties remain
- Soil Replacement:
 - 83 properties have been offered soil management to date
 - Full soil replacement has been completed at 24 properties
 - Partial soil replacement has been completed at 3 properties
 - 9 vegetable gardens have been replaced to date
- Standardized Paint Testing:
 - Exterior paint testing¹ has been conducted at 71 properties that received soil management or soil assessments.

¹ 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.

2. Healthy Homes:

- Healthy Homes (HH):
 - 23 Healthy Homes (HH) visits completed to date in 2026
 - Interior paint testing has been completed at 2 Healthy Homes properties to date in 2026
- Enhanced Support (ES):
 - One additional Residential Lead Inspection (RLI) was completed following the winter blood lead clinic and results have been shared verbally.

3. Lead (Pb) Safe Renovation:

- 24 residents have accessed free supplies to date in 2026.

4. Outreach and Engagement:

- CPO hosted a booth at the Amazing & Aging Earth Day Event to share vegetable gardening tips on April 20.
- CPO and IH visited registered daycares to share THEP messaging on April 22 and 23.
- CPO and IH hosted a table and craft at the Ready Set Learn event to support healthy eating on April 24.
- CPO met with the Yellow Road and Bridge (YRB) crews to discuss dust management on roads in the community on April 30.
- CPO attended the Monday Morning Playgroup at the Trail library to read a story about handwashing and reconnect with local families on May 25.
- CPO and IH hosted a THEP Mock-Tale event to engage community partners and share how families are supported within THEP on May 27.
- CPO hosted a Breakfast and Learn for THEP house cleaning contractors on June 3.
- CPO attends the Family Action Network (FAN) Early Year Committee meetings.
- CPO has participated in the Navigation Table meetings.
- CPO and IH hosted a booth at the Teddy Bear Picnic to share THEP messaging on June 10.

May 31, 2026

Dear Chris,

In response to the request to review the proposed bylaw related to the City of Trail's draft Official Community Plan, the Trail Area Health & Environment Program have the following consolidated comments:

Section 1. Community Context

1.1 and 1.2 Introduction and Current Identity and Conditions

- Teck Trail Operations is mentioned, as a major employer however it could use a description (Teck is one of the world's largest Pb and zinc smelting and refining facilities, in operation for over one hundred years) as you do explain what STAC and KAST are in more detail.

Section 1.3: Guiding Principles:

1.e. – COLLABORATION OBJECTIVES

- suggest adding a bullet here to stress the importance of City as partner of the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) and Chair of the Trail Area Health & Environment Committee.

e.g. Continue to be a partner of the Trail Area Health & Environment Program (THEP) and convenor of the Trail Area Health & Environment Committee, a select committee of the City of Trail.

6. – COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, and WELLBEING

- suggest THEP added here in the bullet list. (it is mentioned in the actual Section 11.0 under bullet 11.1.3)

e.g. Continue to be a partner, and promote THEP, which supports the community of Trail and surrounding areas to live, work and play in an area influenced by smelter air emissions for over 125 years.

Section 8

8.1.20 – Install air quality monitors to measure emissions and wildfire smoke levels.

- Not sure it needs to be in the bylaw however please consider THEP be informed / involved in any plans to install air quality monitors, since THEP reports out on an existing monitoring network at our THEC meetings every two months.

Section 11

11.1.3 – Continue to support the Trail Area Health & Environment Program related to improving and monitoring community health.

- We would like to suggest updated wording to better reflect THEP's mandate and the City's role as a partner in THEP and convener of THEC.

e.g. Continue to be an active partner in the Trail Area Health & Environment Program including the City's role of undertaking dust control in the community, convening the partner's joint THEP work, and related Committee and working groups, all in an effort to improve community health influenced by historical and ongoing air emissions.

Unrelated comment for your interest:

- Section 1.2 – We believe the 10 and 5 year references need to be updated:
 - Columbia Basin Trust and the Province of B.C., through its agent the Columbia Power Corporation (CPC), have invested \$1 billion over the last 10 years to construct three hydroelectric power projects: the Arrow Lakes Generating Station, the Brilliant Expansion Project, and the Waneta Expansion Project.
 - In the past 5 years, the City of Trail has embarked on major projects like the Columbia River Skywalk, the Trail Riverfront Centre, a new terminal building and runway upgrades at the Trail Regional Airport, as well as major investment at the Trail Memorial Centre in rebuilt ice surfaces and heat-recovery and HVAC systems.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. We are available for questions at any time.

Kind regards,



Michelle Laurie

Lead Facilitator, Trail Area Health & Environment Committee