

This newsletter has been developed to share updates about how the environmental work in the Bishop Street Community is being monitored, reviewed and regulated by staff from the **Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, Region of Waterloo Public Health, Region of Waterloo Water Services and Grand River Conservation Authority.**

Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Update

Day-to-Day Activities

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), in consultation with the Region of Waterloo Public Health, continues to oversee environmental work at the former Northstar Aerospace (Canada) Inc. (Northstar) property, located at 679 Bishop St. N., Cambridge, and within the Bishop Street Community.

In November 2014, the MOECC completed a competitive procurement process and contracted the services of AET Group Inc. (AET) to manage day-to-day activities. In June 2016, the MOECC exercised its option to extend its existing service agreement with AET by an additional year to November 2017. AET staff continue to manage day-to-day activities, some of which are highlighted below.

Groundwater Extraction System (GES)

AET operates and maintains the Groundwater Extraction System (GES) located at the former Northstar property. The GES extracts contaminated groundwater and treats it to acceptable levels prior to discharging to the municipal storm sewer. The GES helps contain contaminated groundwater, which prevents the further migration of contaminants into the Bishop Street Community.

Indoor Air Monitoring Program

AET performs routine indoor air monitoring within the Bishop Street Community to ensure levels of trichloroethylene (TCE) remain below acceptable levels and to assist in determining where mitigation may be required. The next round of indoor air monitoring is scheduled for January and February 2017.

Collecting Samples

AET routinely collects groundwater samples from various locations in the community, including roads, boulevards and parklands. The sampling data provides a snapshot of current groundwater conditions and is provided to the MOECC for review. AET also collects surface water samples in and around the Grand River to continue to ensure that water quality meets provincial guidelines.

Operating the Community Information Centre (CIC)

AET continues to manage the Community Information Centre (CIC) at the 679 Bishop St. N. location as a one-window access point for the community.

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Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) Update

Sale of a Portion of the Former Northstar Property

The MOECC took steps to ensure that ongoing environmental work was not interrupted by recent demolition and renovation activities being completed at the former Northstar property by King & Benton. In May 2016, the Ontario Bankruptcy Court endorsed a motion to sell a portion of the former Northstar property to King & Benton. Proceeds from the sale are being used by the MOECC for ongoing environmental work within the Bishop Street Community.

Please note that the CIC has not moved locations, but has a new physical address – 679 Bishop Street North – in light of the recent sale. All other contact information for the CIC remains the same.

695 Bishop Street North is now owned by King & Benton who are currently using the property for the storage of steel fabricated components and a small commercial use in the front. They are also in negotiations with a light industrial user that if successful will result in approximately 50 new jobs. For any inquiries relating to 695 Bishop Street North, please contact Steve Charest, President of King & Benton, at 519-742-2714.

Remedial Options Evaluation

In September 2016, the MOECC completed another procurement process and contracted the services of Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon) to conduct a remedial options evaluation. Specifically, Dillon will be:

- Reviewing available information regarding work that has previously been done at the former Northstar property, identifying data gaps and making recommendations for additional work that may be necessary to address these gaps;
- Developing a detailed list of potential remedial options; and,
- Preparing an evaluation report of the top five remedial options for the MOECC's consideration.

In addition, Dillon will be evaluating select Soil Vapour Extraction Systems within the area in terms of overall operating costs, efficiency and effectiveness.

The report is anticipated to be completed in Spring 2017 and will help the MOECC develop its remedial action plan moving forward.

Open House Planned for Spring 2017

The MOECC, along with the Region of Waterloo Public Health and GE Canada, is planning to hold an Open House in the Spring of 2017. Updates will be provided on:

- The Indoor Air Protocol, including Winter 2017 indoor air sampling results
- Findings from Dillon's Remedial Options Evaluation
- GE Canada ongoing activities
- Indoor Air Mitigation

Further details about the Open House will be communicated once they are finalized.

GE Canada Activities

Since 2007, GE Canada has been undertaking investigations and remedial efforts at 610 Bishop Street North and has shared in mitigation efforts in the Bishop Street Community. GE Canada provides support to both indoor air mitigation and monitoring work conducted by the CIC.

In 2009, GE Canada began treating soil and groundwater in the southwestern portion of the 610 site with potassium permanganate. GE Canada's remedial efforts have been effective in destroying TCE in the soil and groundwater. In 2015, GE Canada, in consultation with the MOECC, began a monitoring program that includes assessing the long-term effects of the remedial effort while discontinuing the use of potassium permanganate. GE Canada expects to continue the monitoring program through 2018 and will take specific actions if trigger concentrations are exceeded. Next steps will be determined in consultation with the MOECC following the monitoring program.

Region of Waterloo Public Health Update

Indoor air levels continue to trend down

The results of the ongoing indoor air sampling program in homes in the Bishop Street Community continue to trend downward. The vast majority of homes (99%) are below $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ which shows an ongoing improvement in indoor air concentrations over time. The recommended indoor air action levels were developed for monitoring purposes and to help prioritize home assessments for mitigation. The recommended indoor air action levels are set very low to be health protective and to ensure that the levels of TCE in homes are not likely to cause adverse health effects. These levels are as follows:

Less than $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$:

No further action is required.

Between $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$:

Annual indoor air monitoring recommended

Above $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$:

Homes recommended to be assessed for indoor air remediation (i.e. active TCE removal from indoor air)

Reducing TCE concentrations in a priority based step wise manner continues to be the main objective with a long term goal to reduce concentrations in homes to less than $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ where possible through remediation and mitigation.

Ongoing communication and partnerships between the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, Region of Waterloo Public Health, City of Cambridge and Region of Waterloo Water Services are an important component of the monitoring, mitigation, and remediation programs in this community. The environmental work done to date has been effective at lowering overall TCE levels in homes in the Bishop Street Community and reducing exposure to TCE.

The table below shows a summary of historical and current sampling results of indoor air TCE concentrations in homes in the Bishop Street Community. Historical results represent the total number of homes sampled in the area of investigation with the highest TCE concentrations ever measured in those homes. Current results represent the number of homes in the current area of investigation with present-day TCE concentrations.

	Number of Homes with an Indoor Air Concentration of TCE:			Total
	Less than or equal to $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Greater than 0.5 but less than or equal to $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	Greater than $5 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	
Historical (based on highest values recorded)	130 homes	226 homes	308 homes	664 homes
Current (as of September 7, 2016)	281 homes	126 homes	6 homes	413 homes

Region of Waterloo Public Health will continue to work with our partners to reduce exposure to TCE. For more information, please refer to the TCE Fact Sheet on the Public Health's website or contact Public Health at 519-575-4400.

To access the TCE Fact Sheet or other resources about TCE in the Bishop Street Community, please go to:

www.regionofwaterloo.ca/ph and search for "TCE".

* Friendly Reminders *

Indoor Air Monitoring: Winter 2017

Like last year, CIC staff will begin scheduling indoor air monitoring appointments in January for the homes in the current area of investigation. If you will be away in January and require an earlier appointment, please call the CIC.

Heat Recovery Ventilators (HRVs)

The CIC reminds homeowners who are asked to run their HRV mitigation equipment to turn the dial to the

sunshine icon in summer  and the snowflake  setting in winter .

Selling or Renovating your Home?

Please consider letting the CIC know if you are selling your home. We can provide assistance with questions which real estate agents or potential buyers may have about this project. If you are planning a basement renovation (i.e. installing a sump, changing the basement plumbing, adding a bathroom, deepening the basement, etc.) also give us a call to let us know.

Meet the CIC Staff!

The CIC continues to be managed by AET Group Inc., an environmental consulting firm based out of Kitchener, Ontario. The regular CIC team consists of:

JANET MCKENZIE – PROJECT MANAGER
LAUREL ADAMS – ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIST
RYAN BOURNER – ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN

For more information contact:

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Region of Waterloo Public Health.....	519-575-4400 ext. 5147
Region of Waterloo Water Services.....	519-575-4426
Grand River Conservation Authority	519-621-2761
Bishop Street CIC	519-653-0680 ext. 311