

Water Testing Policy

Learningstorm Education Society

(May 20, 2017)

INTRODUCTION

In compliance with the following Acts, the Learningstorm Education Society has developed a policy for testing drinking water in the school.

- [Drinking Water Protection Act](#)
- [Drinking Water Protection Regulation](#)
- [Public Health Act](#)
- [Independent School Act](#)

TESTING

The Principal or designate will consult with Island Health to develop a water quality lead testing program for drinking water in the school. The program will include:

1. Risk assessment
2. Water testing
3. Communication plan
4. Mitigation strategies

Drinking water in the school will be tested for lead content by December 15, 2017. Once a program and sampling method has been established beyond that, the school will complete lead content testing, plus any other contaminants deemed appropriate by Island Health and the school, once every 2 years.

Results will be shared with Island Health and the Ministry of Education.

MITIGATION STRATEGIES

If sample results reveal lead levels exceed concentration of 0.010 mg/L (based on maximum allowable concentration--[Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality](#) by Health Canada), the school will, in consultation with Island Health, undertake mitigation strategies which may include:

1. A flushing regime
2. Deactivation of water sources and supplemental signage
3. Installation of filtration systems
4. Plumbing upgrades
5. Other steps that result in reducing the exposure to lead to acceptable levels

COMMUNICATION

In the event that testing finds drinking water concentrations of lead at or above the maximum acceptable level, the school principal will:

- a. immediately inform the Ministry of Education Independent Schools Branch.
- b. work collaboratively with Island Health to communicate the results of testing lead content in drinking water to parents, students and staff by describing the following:
 - rationale for testing lead in drinking water,
 - identify partnership with Island Health to work toward a solution,
 - state results of sampling,
 - identify mitigation strategies implemented or being consider by the school,
 - provide contact information for parents, students and staff to request further information.