



Health Canada - Lead in Drinking Water Revision

Health Canada published revised guidelines concerning lead concentration in Canadian drinking water on March 8, 2019. The reduction of the maximum allowable concentration (MAC) of lead in drinking water is from 0.01 mg/L (set in 1992) to 0.005 mg/L.

Currently, lead detected at the Village of Burns Lake's water source is an average of 0.00020 mg/L, which is well below the new MAC limit.

However, **"lead is usually found in drinking water as a result of leaching from distribution and plumbing system components, particularly in aggressive (corrosive) waters. Historically, lead has been used extensively in service lines, solders and fittings, making its presence in drinking water more likely in older homes and neighbourhoods."** *Health Canada*

Resources:

The Health Canada, *Drinking Water: What about lead* document, outlines the risk factors and options to mitigate exposure. This document is written in layman's terms and provides the public with practical solutions to limit exposure. The document can be found on the Health Canada website:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/environmental-workplace-health/reports-publications/water-quality/what-about-lead.html>

or on the Village of Burns Lake website: <http://office.burnslake.ca/public-works/water/>

For those seeking the complete technical report, it can be found at:

Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality: Guideline Technical Document – Lead
<https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/documents/services/publications/healthy-living/guidelines-canadian-drinking-water-quality-guideline-technical-document-lead/guidance-document/guidance-document.pdf>

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