



Interior Health

July 14, 2014

Dear Current Resident,

RE: Water Quality Advisory for Residents who may draw water from the Hullcar Aquifer in Spallmacheen

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the shallow Aquifer located in your area is showing high levels of Nitrates. Recent nitrate sampling has shown that current nitrate levels are just above acceptable levels as set out by the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. High nitrate levels are a health concern for infants less than 3 months in age and can also increase the risk of stomach cancer for adults.

Interior Health is advising that pregnant women, babies under 6 months of age, the elderly, and individuals with weakened immune systems, or chronic heart, lung and blood conditions should take precautions and use an alternative source of water (ex. bottled water) at this time. For bottle fed infants, use an alternate source of water to mix infant formula for infants less than 6 months of age.

Interior Health and the Ministry of Environment are aware and involved in investigating the source of the nitrates. We are currently monitoring ground water nitrate levels and will provide further updates as more information and monitoring results become available.

Nitrate levels throughout the aquifer may vary; therefore it is recommended that individuals test their water (this applies to wells and surface water sources). Interior Health is unable to pay for testing of private wells, but we are more than happy to assist with interpretation. If you require assistance interpreting your result please contact Janelle at the number below. Testing for Nitrates can be arranged through **Caro Analytical services in Kelowna (250) 765-9646**.

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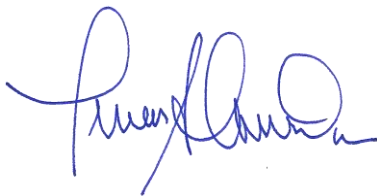
If you have further questions regarding Nitrates and your health, please contact your family physician. If you have any questions regarding this notice please contact Janelle Kwan (Environmental Health Officer) at (250) 549-5758.

Further information on Nitrates in drinking water please see attached go to:

<http://www.healthlinkbc.ca/healthfiles/hfile05a.stm>

http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/alt_formats/hecs-sesc/pdf/pubs/water-eau/nitrate_nitrite/nitrate_nitrite-eng.pdf

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Trevor Corneil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "C".

Dr. Trevor Corneil, FRCPC
Medical Health Officer

TC/lis