

Section:	Administration
Policy:	5.24
Revised:	September 2024
Approval:	Motion #477

5.24 Potable Water Testing Policy

1. Rationale

The School's Commitment

As required by the Ministry of Education, it is the responsibility of Kootenay Christian Academy School to test its drinking water to ensure that its quality complies with water management best practices and the Drinking Water Protection Act. The drinking water supply at Kootenay Christian Academy School will be tested every three (3) years by an accredited testing lab to ensure that it is safe and free of lead and other contaminants.

All plumbing systems that provide drinking water in school facilities shall be tested for lead content where the:

1. Plumbing systems were installed before January 1, 1990.
2. School has any history of elevated lead levels

2. Guidelines

Water Testing Requirements

Kootenay Christian Academy will work with the Regional Health Authority to determine a testing program. The testing procedure and amount of samples taken shall be determined in collaboration with the Regional Health Authority, and be based on risk.

The school must conduct lead content testing in drinking water if the facility is being regularly utilized by students and/or staff and must complete lead content testing on all school facilities once every 3 years.

Mitigation Strategies

If sample results reveal lead levels above the maximum allowable concentration of 0.010 mg/L as stated from the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality by Health Canada, the school, in consultation with their Regional Health Authority must commence daily flushing immediately or deactivate and place a "Not is Use" sign on the water source.

Mitigation solution may include:

1. Flushing regimes
2. Deactivation of water sources and supplemental signage
3. Installation of filtration systems
5. Or other steps that result in reducing the exposure to acceptable levels

Communication and Reporting Requirements

Should testing result in elevated levels of lead, the school must immediately inform the Ministry of the issue.

The school will collaboratively work with their Regional Health Authority to communicate the results of testing lead content in drinking water with parents, students, and staff by describing the following:

- Rationale for testing lead in drinking water
- Identify partnerships with the Regional Health Authority in solutioning
- State results of sampling
- Identify mitigation strategies implemented or being considered by the Board
 - Provide contact information for the School District and the Regional Health Authority for parents, students, and staff to request further information.

The School must submit all of their testing results annually to the Ministry of Education and Childcare by March 30th, in accordance with Ministry and Childcare requirements.