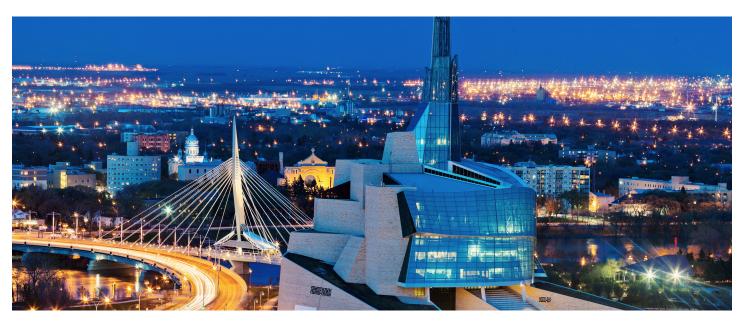


# Winnipeg, MB 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge



**66 homes** participated by testing their homes for radon gas during the winter of 2019. This represents **0.02%** of the community dwellings.

**29% of homes** tested above Health Canada's recommended guideline of 200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>.

**62% of homes** tested above the World Health Organization's (WHO) recommended guideline of 100 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>.

Bedrock

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that comes from the ground.

Radon can enter homes through cracks and gaps in the floors, pipes and side walls.

*Levels can vary between neighbouring homes. The only way to know your exposure is to test.* 

Exposure to elevated levels of radon increases your risk of developing lung cancer.





## **Missed your chance to test?**

Visit Take Action on Radon's website to find a long term **(91+ day)** test kit and learn how to test your home. <u>TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/</u>

### WHAT IS THE ACTION LEVEL?

The Government of Canada recommends action when long-term tests are above 200 Bq/m<sup>3</sup>.

FIX NOW	FIX SOON
If your radon level is	If your radon level is
600+ Bq/m <sup>3</sup>	200 - 600 Bq/m <sup>3</sup>
Reduce radon	Reduce radon
within 1 year.	within 2 years.

#### WHAT IF MY TEST RESULT COMES BACK HIGH?

High radon levels can be reduced. Once you receive your result, the first step is to contact a certified radon mitigation professional to help.

#### WHAT IF MY TEST COMES BACK LOW?

If your radon level is below Canada's action level, no further action is required. However, radon levels can vary over time. We encourage you to test again in 5 years and encourage others to test their homes. Everyone can help reduce the burden of lung cancer.

A radon mitigation system is installed so a fan draws air (and radon) up from beneath the foundation to the outdoors. This way the gas doesn't enter your home.

For more information see: https://www.canada.ca/en/ health-canada/services/publications/health-risks-safety/ residential-radon-mitigation-actions-follow-up-study.html

#### HOW TO FIND A CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL?



Depending on the year of construction of a home, the Manitoba building code requires installation of a radon stub pipe through the foundation of the house. This is not a radon mitigation system, but simply a rough-in. Every home needs to be tested for radon for 91 days during the heating season. A homeowner can then determine if installation of a radon mitigation system is required.

### Already Tested and Want to Help?

If you are willing to share your data to help us better understand radon in your community, submit your information to our online radon depository: www.takeactiononradon.ca/share

Installing a radon mitigation system is the most effective way to reduce high levels.

Research shows that certified radon professionals can reduce levels by over 90%.

Other steps, such as increasing ventilation or sealing cracks can lead to a smaller reduction in radon levels.

Certified radon mitigation professionals are trained to properly assess your home. They design systems that efficiently and effectively reduce your radon level. Often, the work involved can be done in one day, at a cost that's comparable to a new furnace or a couple of new appliances. <u>TakeActionOnRadon.ca/test/find-a-radon-mitigation-professional/</u>



Take Action on Radon is a national initiative funded by Health Canada with a mandate to bring together stakeholders and raise awareness on radon across Canada. The current advisory team is made up of the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), CAREX Canada, and the Canadian Cancer Society. Care to join in motivating Canadians to take action on radon? Check out <u>https://takeactiononradon.ca/join/</u> to discover the various ways you can lend your support.