C-NRPP Technical Bulletin

Decision to Mitigate

October 2020

It is the choice of each homeowner to decide what level of radon exposure they are willing to accept.

C-NRPP certified professionals are to reflect high standards and ethics in their work, and comply with recognized standards of practice to protect public health and safety. They communicate clearly and accurately with consumers about their process and the harmful effects of radon gas.

https://c-nrpp.ca/about/

This bulletin is intended to assist a professional when faced with a homeowner who has tested their home for radon using a device or method which is not in accordance with Health Canada's guidelines. It is expected that the radon mitigation professional help the homeowner to understand whether their radon measurement was conducted in accordance with Health Canada's guidelines, and be able to explain how deviating from the guidelines may affect the test result.

Ultimately, it is the *choice of each homeowner* to request mitigation of their home. C-NRPP Mitigation professionals may ethically provide services as requested by a homeowner, as long as the homeowner is making an informed decision.

A homeowner can be considered to be making an informed decision if they've been made aware of the following points:

- Was the measurement taken over a time period representative of the annual exposure (from 3 to 12 months)? A short-term measurement can overestimate or underestimate the occupants' annual exposure.
- Did the measurement take place during the heating season (October to April)? If not, the result could underestimate the occupants' annual exposure.
- Was the device located in accordance with the recommendations in Health Canada's Guide for Radon Measurements in Residential Dwellings (Homes)? If not placed in an occupied space, the result may not be representative of the occupants' exposure.
- Was the measurement taken recently? The measurement may not be representative if renovations affecting ventilation or occupancy have been performed since the measurement was first made.
- Is the measurement provider and/or device listed by C-NRPP? Digital homeowner detectors are not currently listed by any organization and may not be as accurate as professional level devices which need to be monitored through Quality Assurance programs.

C-NRPP certified professionals should only provide measurement services and mitigation recommendations that are consistent with Health Canada and C-NRPP guidance. Although some devices provide radon measurements within hours or days, it is not ethical for a C-NRPP professional to conduct such a measurement for the purpose of advising a homeowner to mitigate their home based on the result.

