

What can you do?



**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
OF RADON SCIENTISTS AND
TECHNOLOGISTS
IS
RAISING AWARENESS
ON RADON**

***CARST is working to help
Canadians prevent lung cancer but
WE NEED YOUR HELP!***

Canadians still don't understand their risk from radon and many aren't investing in fixing their homes.

A recent survey by the Canadian Cancer Society showed only 4% of Canadians have tested their home.

Low-income families need assistance both in covering the cost of the radon test and ensuring their home is "Radon Safe".

Landowners and employers need legislation to mandate them to test and fix the buildings we work in.

Test your own home and protect your loved ones.

- ✓ Help support changes to the Canadian Labour Code.
- ✓ Help support changes to the Residential Tenancies Act in each province to enforce mandatory radon testing and reduction before tenant occupancy.
- ✓ Make sure builders in your community know and follow the current National Building Code.

Help ensure Canadians know about their RADIATION RISK DUE TO RADON GAS!

Contact us:
www.CARST.ca

info@carst.ca



Basic radon facts:

Being exposed to radiation due to elevated levels of radon gas increases a person's chance of developing lung cancer.

Smokers who are exposed to elevated levels of radon have an even greater chance of developing lung cancer than if they are just smokers.

According to Health Canada's Survey some regions in Canada have up to 44% of homes above the guideline. Radon is present in every building, but the concentration is higher in some.

Though most of the surveys have been in homes, radon is also present in workplaces and commercial buildings.

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Building Codes

The current National Building Code requires measures to ensure that cost effective steps are taken at the time of construction to ensure that an effective radon mitigation system can be installed in the future, if testing reveals unacceptable levels of radiation due to radon gas inside the home.

The code includes:

- Gravel layer under the slab
- Sealed slab edge
- Sealed sump pit
- Well-sealed membrane around the foundation, all posts and all entry points
- Rough-in pipe

These measures do not FIX RADON. They will make an active radon mitigation system quieter, more efficient, and more effective. If a post-occupancy radon test reveals the presence of high radon the system requires activation by a C-NRPP certified professional.

For this code to be effective:

- Homeowners need to know they still have to TEST FOR RADON and ACTIVATE the system if they have high levels by having a C-NRPP professional activate the system
- The code needs to be adopted by the province or municipality
- The code needs to be enforced by building inspectors
- Builders need to understand what the measures are and why they are required



Homeowners also need to be aware that:

- They need these measures for their home
- They need to TEST their home for RADON once they move in, as these measures don't fix the radon, they are the rough-in for a full active system, if radon levels are elevated

Protecting Low-Income Canadians

- Providing grants or access to low interest loans would help Canadians access the finances they need to make their homes safe
- Ensuring Landlords test their homes before being granted a rental license will ensure that tenants are protected
- Changes to the Canadian Labour Code to ensure that Canadian workplaces are tested and made **Radon Safe**

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