

Sundre Residents Lead the Way in Protecting Their Loved Ones from the Dangers of Radon

(Sundre, AB) October 7, 2020: Sundre residents interested in learning more about the health risks associated with radon attended an information session Tuesday evening that underlined the importance of testing and reducing radon levels in their home.

The event, organized in partnership with Sundre Municipal Library and Take Action on Radon, a national health coalition, counted 80 residents enrolled in the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge. Residents registered in the program will receive a free test kit that they will use to measure the level of radon in their home over the winter months.

"Sundre Library is pleased to be the community coordinator for the 2020 edition of the 100 Test Kit Challenge," says Karen Tubb, Manager, Sundre Municipal Library and Community Liaison for the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge. "The support provided by the staff at Take Action on Radon has enabled us to offer educational information and, through this fantastic program, to ensure that radon testing is freely available to any of our area residents wishing to participate."

Radon is an odourless, tasteless and invisible radioactive gas that is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. A University of Calgary study shows that 1 in 6 homes in Alberta test above the Health Canada's radon guideline.

"Ultimately, we want residents of Sundre to be aware of the health risks of high radon levels and encourage them to test their home. Testing your home for radon is easy, and there are proven and effective methods to reduce radon in your home that can save lives" says Karen.

During the radon information session, Kelley Bush, Manager of Radon Education and Awareness at Health Canada, discussed the health risks associated with radon while other speakers explained how easy it is to test and reduce radon levels in your home.

"Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers. The only way for homeowners to determine their home's radon level, is to test for it," said Ms. Bush.

Pam Warkentin, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), and Project Manager for *Take Action on Radon* mentioned how pleased she was with the interest and enthusiasm shown by the residents of the town of Sundre and surrounding rural communities to embark on the project. "On behalf of the Take Action on Radon coalition, I want to thank Sundre Municipal Library for your leadership in raising awareness of this important health issue."

With Canadians spending most of their time at home this year and winter coming now is the perfect time for residents of Sundre to take action on radon and ensure that the air they breathe is healthy.

Residents who wish to take part in the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge are encouraged to register online at: <https://parklandab.wufoo.com/forms/radon-100-test-challenge/>

Residents who registered for the program may pick up their radon test kit at Sundre Municipal Library #2, 96 2 Ave NW, Sundre, AB T0M 1X0, from October 13 -16, 2020.

Organizers wish to note that there is a limited number of test kits available.

For more information, visit: <https://sundre.prl.ab.ca/events/adults/2020/radon-100-test-challenge>

Take Action on Radon is a national initiative that brings together radon stakeholders to raise radon awareness across Canada. The initiative is led by the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), CAREX Canada, and the Canadian Cancer Society.

To learn more about radon and how to test your home, visit: TakeActionOnRadon.ca

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For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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Reference: University of Calgary research: <http://cmajopen.ca/content/5/1/E255.full>