



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF WOOD BUFFALO

COMMUNITY NOTICE

March 21, 2023

Update on Fort Chipewyan Water Treatment Plant

Tap water continues to be safe to drink and use for all household activities

The Municipality has implemented additional safety measures and enhanced testing at the Fort Chipewyan Water Treatment Plant (FCWTP). This will help ensure that the quality of tap water is closely monitored and continues to be safe to drink and use for bathing, cooking and all household activities.

Extensive testing

The results of the enhanced testing on March 1, AEPA's testing on March 11, and all testing since the recent leaks at Imperial Oil's Kearl Lake site began confirm that the drinking water being provided to the community continues to be safe and meets all standards set by Health Canada in the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. With all treated water test results showing no signs of contamination, the lake intake for the FCWTP will be reopened to refill the water in the storage ponds.

Enhanced testing of the raw water from the intake on Lake Athabasca, at the plant and the treated potable water will be done regularly. The extent of this ongoing sampling and testing ensures that water quality will continue to be very closely monitored.

The additional testing and cautionary measures will remain in place until further notice. All regular safety measures and testing are also being done.

Since the Municipality's enhanced testing is focused on the FCWTP, we have requested sampling data from Alberta Environment and Protected Areas (AEPA) monitoring stations in the area, and any other sampling data from the Athabasca River and Lake Athabasca, as they are the agency that monitors those areas. We have also requested increased monitoring by AEPA.

Additional safety measures at the Water Treatment Plant

The Municipality is implementing a detailed operation and monitoring plan that was developed with input from drinking water specialists with AEPA. A key component in the plan is to open the lake intake to re-fill the storage ponds before the spring snow melt. This will help ensure the intake can be closed when the flow of the Athabasca River is at its highest and there is an increased risk of potential contamination travelling downstream.

Working with other agencies

The Municipality continues to work closely with Indigenous communities and have discussions with AEPA, Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) and Imperial Oil.





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Updates Online

The Municipality will continue to share new information as it becomes available.

These notices and testing results are posted on the RMWB website at rmwb.ca/water. Users may subscribe to this page so they are notified when the page is updated.

The health of Fort Chipewyan community members will always be the Municipality's number one priority. We are taking this situation very seriously and will continue to take the necessary steps to ensure that tap water remains clean and safe to use.

Anyone with questions or looking for more information, can visit the Fort Chipewyan Municipal Office or contact Pulse at 780-743-7000, 1-800-973-9663.

