



## Testing equipment in Fir Building

As part of our commitment to the health and well-being of the campus community, the University is conducting testing in the Fir building. You may notice testing equipment in offices and classrooms beginning the week of February 26, 2024.

### Previous testing and follow-up

- In 2019, the Canadian Government changed the maximum allowable levels of lead in drinking water from 10mcg/L to 5 mcg/L. In 2016 (revised 2019), new policies in BC required K-12 schools to test for lead in water.
- Though post-secondary institutions do not fall under this policy, the Capilano University Children's Centre requested water testing when the regulatory change was made. The University decided to proactively test its water in all buildings on campus.
- As a result of this testing, sinks of concern were replaced and retested. Much of this was done when the areas were closed or underused during the initial months of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Follow-up testing showed no concerns and that the sinks were safe to use. You can view the reports from this testing on Frontlines in the Safety section.

### Upcoming testing

- As a result of recent requests from University community members with respect to lead and other concerns around air quality in the Fir Building, the University has opted to do follow up testing on the water, as well as additional rigorous testing, including air quality and radon.
- The water in the Children's Centre will also be re-tested, in line with the Ministry of Education's recommended retesting cycle for children's educational facilities.
- An external certified industrial hygienist will do the testing beginning the week of February 26.
- Results will be shared on Frontlines.

### What to expect during testing

- During this time, you may notice air quality monitors or other devices in classrooms and offices. Please do not touch them to ensure results are accurate.
- The industrial hygienist chose the start date for after Reading Week. This allows testing to better reflect real-world operational conditions when there are more people in the building that might impact environmental conditions.
- You can continue to work and use the space as you normally would; there is no need to adjust anything you are doing.



### Find out more

- Information on previous testing and the testing plan is available on the Safety section on Frontlines.
- In preparation for testing, the industrial hygienist will be onsite and available Thursday, February 15 from 11:30 am-1:00pm in Fir205. Please feel free to drop in during this time if you have any questions.
- Please email [safety@capilanou.ca](mailto:safety@capilanou.ca) or call Natalia Skapski if you have any thoughts, questions or information to share.