



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"



For Immediate Release

(Pembroke, Ontario, October 9, 2026)

Let's Reduce Lung Cancer from the Ground Up!

Residents of Renfrew County and District are invited to protect their health by testing their homes for radon this winter by participating in the **100 Radon Test Kit Challenge**. A free online Radon Information Session is being offered for anyone interested in learning more about the health risks of radon and a limited number of free radon home test kits are also available. The information session will cover the health effects of radon, why it's a concern, and what Health Canada recommends for homeowners. Interested residents are invited to pre-register to reserve a spot and a test kit.

The Radon Information Session will be held online on October, 28 at 7:00 p.m. Radon test kits will be available to pick up after the information session from November 2 – 6 at Renfrew County and District Health Unit, 141 Lake Street, Suite 100, Pembroke, ON, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Radon is a radioactive gas that is released by the breakdown of uranium in the soil. It is odourless, tasteless, and colourless, and can enter buildings and enclosed spaces undetected. Since Canadian homes are sealed against the weather, radon can become trapped indoors, building up to dangerous levels. Long-term exposure to high levels of radon damages the DNA in our lung tissue and is currently leading to over 3,000 Canadian deaths each year – more than the combined toll of car collisions, house fires, carbon monoxide poisoning and drowning.

"Although Canadians are becoming more aware of radon and its link to lung cancer in non-smokers, we still see hesitancy before homeowners take steps to test and reduce their radon exposure," says Pam Warkentin, Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (CARST), and Project Manager for Take Action on Radon. "Reducing radon exposure saves lives and the 100 Test Kit Challenge is a great way for a community to come together and take action on radon."

"We are challenging Renfrew County and District residents to complete 100 radon tests because awareness starts with action. Every test completed helps us better understand local radon risks and empowers residents to make informed decisions about their homes and their

health. Radon is a well-established human carcinogen. Testing and reducing radon levels is cancer prevention," adds Dr. Jason Morgenstern, Medical Officer of Health for RCDHU.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

A limited number of free kits are available, and residents must sign up for the program at: <https://form.jotform.com/262325966224258>.

The Free Radon Information Session will be October, 28 at 7:00 p.m. online. Registrants for the free kit will receive an email to join. Anyone wanting to listen into the session, can contact *Take Action on Radon* for information: info@takeactiononradon.ca.

Radon test kits will be available to pick up from Renfrew County and District Health Unit 141 Lake Street, Suite 100, Pembroke, ON, open 8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

About Take Action on Radon

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

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

To find photos to use with this press release, you can download free, high-quality images from here: <https://pixabay.com/users/takeactiononradon-18149510/>.

Find details about the program at: <https://takeactiononradon.ca/resources/100-radon-test-kit-challenge/>

-30-

To schedule an interview with a representative, please contact:

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