

**TRAIL CITY COUNCIL AND TRAIL HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE RECEIVE
UPDATED REPORT ON IBD IN TRAIL AREA**

On Monday, December 16, 2013, the BC Centre for Disease Control (BC CDC) presented a study about health care services related to Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) in the Trail area to Trail City Council and the Trail Area Health and Environment Committee (THEC).

The report indicated higher than average rates for the use of health services related to IBD when Trail is compared to other nearby BC communities. The study indicated that the use of health services declined over the period assessed (2007-2011), trending towards average rates. The study also noted that differences between Trail and other communities may be associated with a number of factors, including differences in physician practices and an older population in Trail.

Dr. Andrew Larder, Senior Medical Health Officer, Interior Health, indicated that if the rates continue to decline or remain stable then no further action will be warranted.

Dr. Tom Kosatsky from BC CDC noted that there is no known connection between IBD and smelter emissions. He also noted that the observed rates in Trail are far lower than the rates that have recently been reported in Northport, Washington.

The latest BC CDC study followed a 1994 BC CDC report that found hospitalization rates for IBD in the Trail area were lower than in the regions used for study comparison.

We continue to improve our environmental performance, and investments we have made in the last twenty years have reduced emissions of metals to air and water by 95%, and we remain committed to continuing to enhance our environmental performance.

Since 1990 the Trail Area Health and Environment Committee (THEC), a partnership between the local community, the City of Trail, Teck, Interior Health and the BC Ministry of Environment, has worked on initiatives focusing on the health and wellbeing of the local Trail community. Teck is committed to the health of the community in which we live and work, and will support any additional work deemed necessary by the Trail Area Health and Environment Committee to further study this issue.

An Interior Health Fact Sheet about the study is attached <<file:///\\teckcominco.local\\tr\\groups\\PRPUBLIC\\Bulletins\\2013\\IHA%20Trail%20IBD%20Summary.pdf>> .

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December 17, 2013