# Sampling methodologies

The 2012 Grass Clippings Study involved the sampling of grass tissues and associated dust from 12 residential properties in the City of Trail, which had not undergone soil remediation at the time of sampling. Samples were collected directly from lawn mower collection bags, where the suction of a bag mower is presumed to collect greater quantities of dust than bag less mulching mowers, push mowers or raked grass clippings. Samples were placed in a Ziploc® bag, retaining air, to avoid damaging plant tissue and kept refrigerated until being shipped on ice to ALS Laboratory in Vancouver, BC (ALS). Samples were analyzed for total metals by ICPMS and moisture in tissue. In order to differentiate metal concentrations in grass tissues and the accumulated dust within the grass clippings, samples were analysed in two ways; the first was analysed ‘as is’, direct from the mower bag, and the second was analysed after dust and particulate had been rinsed from the surface of the grass tissue. Samples were rinsed at the laboratory.