



Water Testing Policy for Heritage Christian School

Purpose - Heritage Christian School is committed to the health, safety, and well-being of all students, staff, and community that enters its building. Isaiah 44:3 reads, “For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.” As a Christian School we thank God for His provision in blessing us so abundantly with water to drink in Canada. We take steps to ensure that our drinking water is safe and will diligently observe the results from both external and internal testing.

Authority - The Black Mountain Irrigation District (BMID) is an improvement district operating within the Central Okanagan Regional District. A large portion of their service area falls within the City of Kelowna boundaries. The primary water sources for the BMID are the Scotty Creek and Mission Creek watersheds. Heritage Christian School (HCS) falls within these boundaries. Therefore, BMID will act as the quality and safety control for water coming into the school from these external sources.

The BMID website is <http://www.bmid.ca> The BMID ensures that drinking water is safe coming from its various external sources and posts these results annually online under the Full Parameters Report. A copy of this report will be kept in the HCS Safety Binder.

Water Concerns – Will be addressed by the BMID and through other sources such as Castanet and local radio. Additionally, HCS may call the BMID emergency line at (250) 868 5737 as necessary. HCS’ primary concern is ensuring that the drinking water provided to students, families, and community has not been tainted internally through lead input.

Water Testing Protocol- HCS adheres to the recommendations of Health Authorities that advises that an accredited and independent laboratory test the water quality of the school. Thus, HCS will have its water tested once per year and this includes water fountains and lunchroom taps. As advised, one sample will be collected before flushing the water (running the tap for at

least two minutes) and another separate sample collected after flushing. HCS currently uses Caro Analytical Services at teamcaro@caro.ca

Once the lead testing has been conducted by CARO an accredited analysis of the sample for lead will be emailed to the school in a report detailing the test results and will be placed in the Safety Binder and these results will be sent annually to the Ministry by March 30th.

Mitigating Risks – Will be done through HCS taking the necessary steps to comply with water testing safety requirements as stated in the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality by Health Canada which may include flushing regimes and deactivation of water sources and supplemental signage.