



Air Quality Briefing Note

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Agency: BC Ministry of Environment

2016 PM 2.5 Goal

- A 40% reduction from all significant sources;
- A daily average not to exceed 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air; and
- An annual average of 5 micrograms per cubic meter of air.

Questions

What the Ministry of Environment has done in the last 12 months?

- Provide funding to PG AIR to support public educational efforts, and engagement with the business community on air quality issues and actions to improve air quality in Prince George. *Goals Addressed: reduce dust; reduce emissions from relevant businesses; reduce wood smoke; informed community*
- Maintained MOE air quality monitoring instruments and issued air quality advisories as necessary. *Goal Addressed: informed community*
- Released air quality summary report for Prince George (2014 data). *Goal addressed: informed community*
- Developed provincial Smokey Skies Bulletins, a type of public notice being issued by the Ministry of Environment, in collaboration with the Northern Health Authority, to improve communication on wildfire smoke. *Goal Addressed: informed community*
- Participated in the 2016 Bike to Work Week and inter-office active commuting challenges within Prince George (the Fair Weather Challenge and the Frost (Bite) Cup). *Goal Addressed: reduce emissions from vehicles*
- Amended the provincial Waste Discharge Regulation and developed a Ministry Burning Fact Sheet to clarify proper and legal disposal options for unwanted structures. *Goals Addressed: reduce emissions from relevant businesses; reduce wood smoke; informed community*

What the Ministry of Environment is planning to do in the next 12 months?

- Consider PM2.5 emissions in future permit authorizations and amendments (timing is proponent driven). *Goal Addressed: reduce emissions from permitted industry*

- Continue to maintain MOE air quality monitoring instruments and issue air quality advisories as necessary. *Goal Addressed: informed community*
- Release air quality summary report for Prince George (2015 data). *Goal addressed: informed community*
- Encourage increased participation in the 2017 Bike to Work Week. *Goal Addressed: reduce emissions from vehicles*

Ministry of Environment's self-assessed progress during the past 12 months:

Low

Medium

High