



VILLAGE OF MCBRIDE  
**BOIL WATER NOTICE**

In consultation with the Drinking Water Office of the Northern Health Authority the Village of McBride is hereby downgrading the current “Do Not Consume Notice” to a “Boil Water Notice” pursuant to Section 14 of the *Drinking Protection Act*.

**AREA OF APPLICATION**

This Boil Water Notice applies to all users of the Village of McBride water supply system (Operating Permit #2098) and should be followed by all persons using water from this system.

**REASON FOR NOTICE**

This Notice is issued as a result of the drinking water officer requesting an order in accordance with the directions of the drinking water officer, if in accordance with Section 14(1) (c) the drinking water officer considers that there is, was or may be a threat to the drinking water provided by a water supply system.

The current turbidity in the McBride CWS intake source (Dominion Creek) was measured at around 5 NTU. Although the turbidity is still expected to fluctuate in the coming days due to precipitation. It is expected that the worst part of the spring freshet, flood and other extreme weathering are coming to its end.

The Village of McBride had been monitoring the turbidity and communicating with different provincial parties on a routine basis. Considering the turbidity of the Dominion Creek had been trending down in the past couple of days, both Northern Health and the Village of McBride are confident that downgrading the current “Do Not Consume Notice” to a “Boil Water Notice” is the appropriate action.

**It is important to note that the current Turbidity Level is still above the normal operating range and it may fluctuate in the coming days due to precipitation.**

Turbidity is caused by suspended organic and inorganic materials in the water source leading to colored water. Turbidity could also impact treatment systems the Village had in place leading to potential ineffective treatment outcome. Thus, pathogens might survive in the water system. In fact, result from a water sample taken from the Dominion Creek (Raw Water) reported on July 17, 2020 indicated presence of Total Coliform and E. Coli.

**Thus, a “Boil Water Notice” is required to remediate the health hazard associated with water consumption and to protect public health.**

Population at risk include the high risk group such as elderly, young children and infants, immune-compromised, pregnant women and people with underlying health issues.

**To help businesses and residences to prepare for the “Boil Water Notice”, the Village of McBride will continue to provide potable water at the designated area until:**

**Wednesday July 22, 2020 6 PM**

The Village of McBride is dealing with the issue by doing the following steps:

- 1) Activate the Water Emergency Response Plan and put out a public notification through established channels
- 2) Increase chlorine residual concentration to 0.5 ppm and monitor & record chlorine residual at all water sample locations
- 3) Assessment and drafting of a water system recovery plan in consultation with Northern Health and appropriate parties for execution at the appropriate time
- 4) Conducting chemical water analysis
- 5) Conducting weekly bacteriological water sampling at the Dominion Creek (raw water) as well as all water sampling sites

### **HOW TO RESPOND**

Residents and local businesses are asked to respond by ensuring that tap water is boiled for a minimum of one (1) minute prior to personal consumption (please see back of form).

Use of bottled water for personal consumption during this Boil Water Notice.

### **OBLIGATION OF OWNERS OF PUBLIC PREMISES**

Owners of public premises served by this water system must:

- a). Notify the public that the drinking water is not potable water by posting a sign at every sink or drinking water fountain accessible to the public
- b). If normal business practices provide an opportunity, verbally advise any person who may use the domestic water system for a domestic purpose that the water is not potable water
- c). All food premises must ensure that equipment connected to the community water system is dis-connected. For example, soda machine, Slurpee machines, ice machine. For coffee machines, please see below for details.

### **DURATION OF THIS NOTICE**

This Notice remains in effect unless and until another public notice is issued upon the request of the Drinking Water Officer advising that the Notice has been amended or rescinded.

### **WHAT IS A "BOIL WATER NOTICE"**

A Boil Water Notice is one of three types of public notices commonly used by Drinking Water Officers. The decision whether to request or order issuance of one of these notices rests with the discretion of a drinking Water Officer, but in general, they are used in the following circumstances:

*Where the public health threat posed by the water supply system is significant and the nature of the threat is one that can be effectively addressed through boiling of the water.*

### **WHAT TO DO DURING A BOIL WATER NOTICE**

#### **How to boil tap water**

Tap water should be boiled for **one minute**. Use any clean pot or kettle. Kettles that have automatic shut offs are acceptable.

After boiling, let the water cool by leaving it on the counter or in the refrigerator in covered containers. After water is boiled it can be stored in food grade containers at room temperature or in refrigerator.

You can bring back flavor by shaking water in a container, pouring the water between two containers, and / or adding a pinch of salt.

**Boiled water is required for:**

**Drinking purposes**

This includes all beverage concentrates such as fruit juice and iced where water is added.

**Food Preparation**

This includes washing fruits and vegetables that will not be cooked. Water used as an ingredient does not need to be boiled prior to use, providing it will be brought to a boil during the cooking process.

**Coffee Machines**

Coffee machines usually produce water heated to about 70 to 80 degrees Celsius, which is sufficient to destroy pathogens. This temperature must be maintained for a sufficient amount of time to ensure that all harmful organisms are destroyed. Therefore, let the coffee stand for at least five minutes before drinking.

**Brushing teeth**

This includes daily oral hygiene such as cleaning dentures.

**Infant formulas**

Formulas should always be prepared by using boiled tap water or bottled water that is boiled.

**Making Ice**

It is important to note that freezing does not destroy most pathogens. Bacteria and viruses can survive in frozen products for long period of time. Discard any ice made from contaminated or potentially contaminated water.

**Fruit and vegetable washing**

Boiled water should be used to wash all produce that is to be eaten raw.

**QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions concerning this advisory, please contact the Village of McBride at (250)569-2229 or the Drinking Water Officer (Tom. Chen) at 250-565-2150.