



Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay
Policy Statement

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Approved Date: April 24, 2013	Effective Date April 24, 2013	Revision Date:	
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Topic: TREATMENT OF INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE SITE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION

Policy Statement:

By Resolution of Council, this policy may be amended from time to time.

The assessment and determination of information on possible environmental contamination is a provincial responsibility under the Environmental Protection Act of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

By legislation, the Town will be notified if a determination of contamination is made.

From time to time, the Town may receive information or inquiries about possible site contamination issues. It is important to ensure the Town;

- reflects its legislated authority and lack of staff who are authorized or funded in the area of environmental contamination,
- appropriately deals with such information,
- acts consistently, and
- mitigates any risk to the Town.

Policies regarding the Treatment of Information on Possible Site Contamination

- 1) The Town will include statements in RFP's or Expressions of Interest that the proponent is responsible for all site assessment and evaluation associated with the proposed use or development.
- 2) The Town **will not** develop policies or regulations that seek out contamination issues or assume responsibility for information on possible contamination. Rather the Town will pass any information it happens to receive to the Environmental Protection Branch who will determine next steps if any.
- 3) The Town will not purchase or be the recipient of Crown Land during the development or sale process whenever possible, nor, acquire land where there is concern over possible contamination without further assessment.



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Topic: TREATMENT OF INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE SITE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION Continued

Policy Statement:

- 1) Any inquiries or information about site contamination, how land is assessed or remediated, or if anyone suspects contamination, will be referred to the Provincial Environmental Protection Branch. The Town will not determine if information is specific or credible with regard to possible site contamination.
- 2) The Town will track information received from the Environmental Protection Branch (Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act) where a determination of contamination has been made by the Province or the Town is notified that a determination is being considered. The Town will **not track** general information it receives that has not been evaluated by the Environmental Protection Branch as the Town does not have the expertise, funding, or authority for evaluation.
- 3) The Town will require that, where the Town has received a notice under Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act, the affected property owner provide a statement from the Environmental Protection Branch that the contamination issue is appropriately dealt with prior to issuing permits related to land use, building, or development.
- 4) Section 27 referrals under the Environmental Protection Act (prior to determination of a contaminated site) from the Environmental Protection Branch request input from the municipality. The Town will indicate that its response does not include assessment or evaluation of contamination issues. The Town will provide information from the Municipal Plan, Development Regulations, land use records, or previous applications.



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Policy Statement:

- 8) Council can make a general submission of information on possible site contamination to the Province under the Environmental Protection Act to request an investigation. Council can further require a response from the Province through following Section 91 of the Environmental Protection Act.