



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

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PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Winnipeg School Division reinstalling Weston School field fence

April 12, 2019 (Winnipeg, MB) – Winnipeg School Division will be reinstalling fencing around the playing field at Weston School during the week of April 15. Soil sampling completed by the Province’s Sustainable Development department in October 2018 showed lead concentrations to be above recommended guidelines set out by the Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment for human health of a maximum 140 ppm (parts per million).

Manitoba Public Health advised WSD that with snow cover and frozen ground, the risk of exposure to lead in soil was very small. As the snow has melted, WSD is taking a position of abundant caution and reinstalling the fencing that was originally installed in September 2018 and later removed after the ground froze in November. Fortunately, the parks near Weston School tested below the guidelines for lead and the school is able to use them for some outdoor activities.

The Province’s Sustainable Development department prepared a report “Winnipeg Soil Survey Fall 2018” this past winter on the resampling of soil completed in the fall. The report was tabled at the Manitoba Legislature on March 14, 2019 with one recommendation that further analysis of lead levels found in the report be conducted to determine if there are risks to human health. The report is available on the government website: [soil survey](#). WSD was advised that the Province has requested proposals to conduct a further assessment and provide recommendations to address elevated concentrations of lead in soil. This assessment is anticipated to be completed this fall.

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