

# PRESS RELEASE

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## WATER QUALITY ADVISORY

**KITIMAT, BC** - Effective May 7, 2018 at 4:30pm, the District of Kitimat water system is under a **Water Quality Advisory**. Northern Health recommends that children, pregnant women, the elderly and persons with weakened immune systems drink boiled water at this time.

All owners of public premises must make patrons aware of this Water Quality Advisory.

A Water Quality Advisory is being issued to all users of the Kitimat Community Water System due to **elevated turbidity levels** in the source water – Kitimat River.

There is currently no evidence of increased risk to water users, and additional testing is being conducted to verify this as soon as possible. This advisory remains in effect until another public notice is issued upon request or order of a Drinking Water Officer advising that the advisory has been amended or may be rescinded. The District is working with Northern Health on this matter.

### **WHAT IS A WATER QUALITY ADVISORY?**

A Water Quality Advisory is one of three types of public notices commonly used by a Drinking Water Officer when there may be a noticeable change in the water quality or a manageable threat to the drinking water. The decision whether to request or order issuance of one of these notices rests with the discretion of the Drinking Water Officer, but in general, they are used under the following circumstances:

- A. **Water Quality Advisory** - Used in situations in which the public health threat posed by the water system is modest and actions can be taken to reduce the risks through means other than requiring a Boil Water Notice or Do Not Use Water Notice.

B. **Boil Water Notice** - Used in situations in which 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 the boiling of water.

C. **Do Not Use Water Notice** - Used in situations where a significant public health threat exists in relation to the water supply system, and the threat cannot be adequately addressed through a Water Quality Advisory or a Boil Water Notice.

**For more information, please contact:**  
District of Kitimat, 250-632-8900