

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed December 10, 2014

### **Update: City continues to advise public of drinking water quality changes**

#### **Summary**

(Distributed at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, December 10) - The City continues to experience higher than normal turbidity levels due to high rainfalls in its drinking watershed. Another turbidity spike is expected to enter the system overnight. City staff have provided an update to Island Health, and as a result are issuing this update. Monitoring of turbidity in the watershed and within the system is ongoing.

As a precaution, the City is advising those that have compromised immune systems and the elderly to boil water before drinking, or seek alternate sources. If high rainfall persists and turbidity continues to increase, a boil advisory MAY be issued to the general public. The City is directly advising long-term care facilities of this update.

*Strategic Link:* Taking responsibility to be an excellent municipal government.

#### **Key Points**

- The City is advising those that have compromised immune systems and the elderly to boil water before drinking, or seek alternate sources
- A boil advisory MAY be issued to the general public if high rainfall persists and turbidity continues to increase.

#### **Quotes**

"The City is continuing to monitor the drinking water system carefully during this period of high rain fall."

Bill Sims  
Manager of Water Resources  
City of Nanaimo

#### **Quick Facts**

- Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness in the water, and is caused by sediment entering the drinking water through heavy rains. While turbidity itself is not a concern, the sediment can reduce the effectiveness of disinfection

Continued... Update: City continues to advise public of drinking water quality changes

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