



News

Mike Holmes calls for mandatory radon gas testing in Ontario

"I am asking all Ontarians to push for this change to the Residential Tenancy Act."

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July 6, 2016 by Steve Payne

Press release about radon gas testing, from Mike Holmes, via Canada News Wire. As you will note below, there was a deadline in this press release for Ontario residents to email the government by **June 30th**. We apologize for the delay in publishing this, as far as that process goes, but we believe the message is still important.

TORONTO, June 29, 2016

Mike Holmes is asking all Ontario residents to support mandatory radon testing on all basement rental units, and for Premier Wynne to incorporate it into the Residential Tenancy Act.

Mike Holmes has worked in the building trades for over 30 years, helping improve the quality, livability and safety of homes.

"I've been doing this for a really long time," states Mike Holmes. "One thing I've learned is that sometimes it's the things you can't see that end up causing the most harm—things like radon."

According to The Lung Association, Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. Approximately 850 people die in Ontario every year due to radon. Basement rental units are more susceptible to accumulating high levels of radon because radon is a heavy gas, and as such, it tends to collect in the lower levels of a home, such as the basement.

The only way to know if a home or rental unit has a radon problem is to test for it. Currently in Ontario there is no obligation for landlords or homeowners to test for radon; however, Ontario recently opened for consultation updates to the Residential Tenancies Act, which could make it mandatory to test for radon gas in basement rental units.

Ontario residents wishing to support this change must send their message of support to residential.tenancies@ontario.ca by June 30th, 2016. "Radon testing protects people—it's that simple," added Holmes. "I am asking all Ontarians to push for this change to the Residential Tenancy Act and make radon testing mandatory on all basement rental units. This is something we can do and we can save lives. Let's make it right."