

Plans for Further Evaluation of Environmental Exposures to Metals in Flin Flon and Creighton

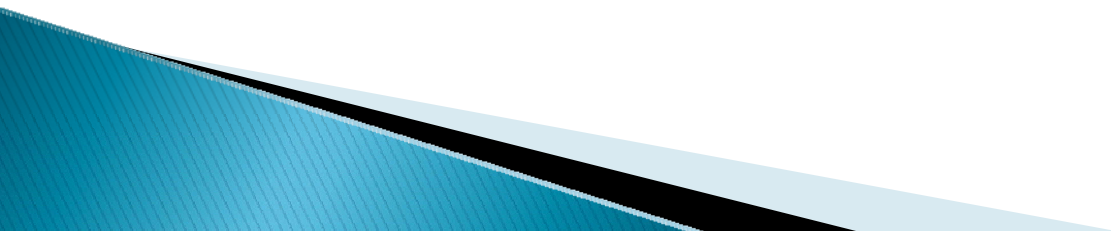
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Manitoba Health and Healthy Living

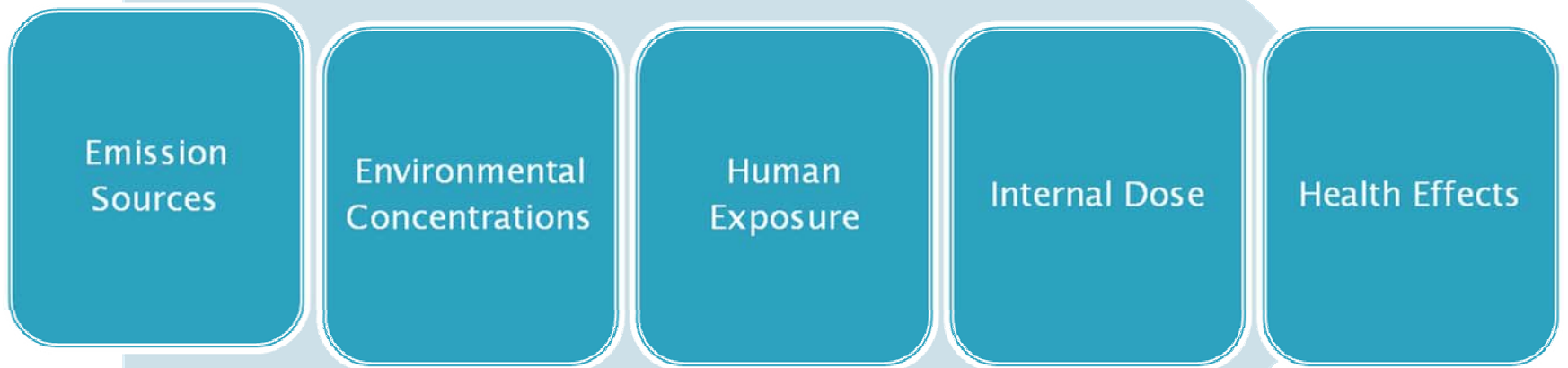
Community Advisory Committee Meeting
April 15, 2009

Summary from December 2007 Presentation to CAC

- 1) A preliminary health assessment of the 2006 Manitoba Conservation Soil Study findings indicated need for further assessment but likely the immediate health risk is low.
 - 2) From other communities with similar industries it is quite possible that there is no measurable human health problems linked to the kind of soil exposures in Creighton and Flin Flon.
 - 3) The Human Health Risk Assessment process will help define the need for future action.
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Environmental Health Assessment

Human Health Risk Assessment
(Exposure Assessment)

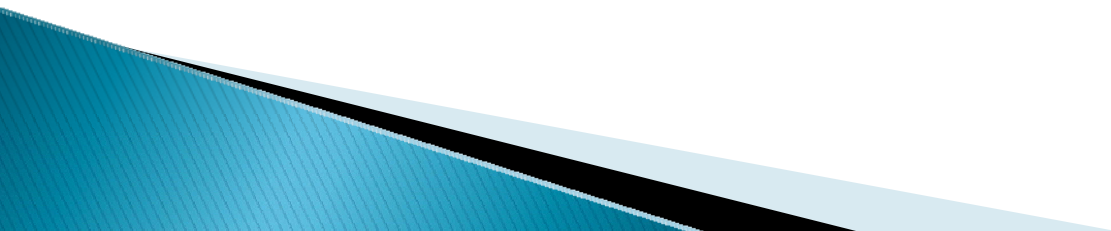


Biological
Testing

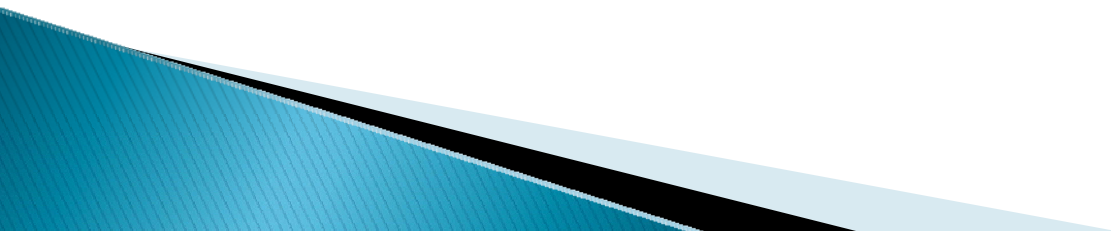
Community
Health Status
Assessment

Effects Assessment

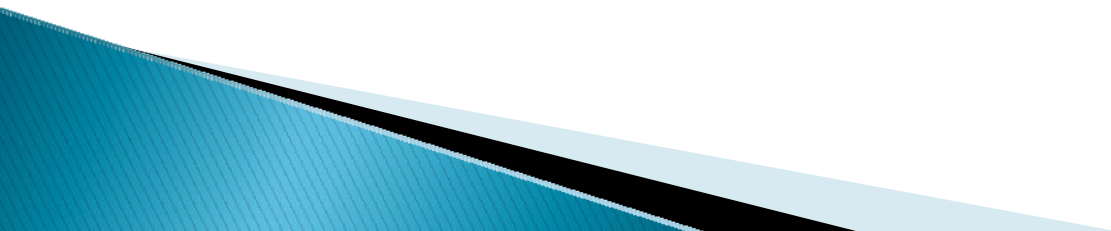
Current Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA)

- ▶ Determining the potential for human health risk from exposure to metals – includes current and lifetime risk from all potential sources based on mathematical models
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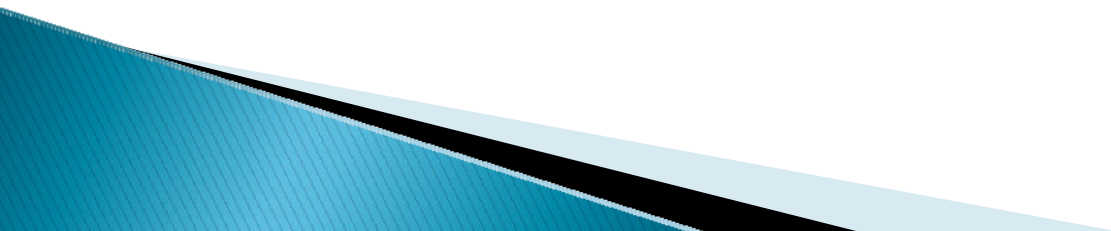
Biological testing

- ▶ Involves the testing of human tissues (blood, urine, etc) for the metals of concern
 - ▶ Biological testing can be used as an additional method to evaluate human exposures to metals and to validate the findings of the HHRA
 - ▶ The results of the HHRA will determine if and where biological monitoring may be useful (what metals, where, what age groups).
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Timing of Biological Testing

- ▶ Most accurate time to evaluate potential environmental metal exposure is late summer or early fall – a time of maximal exposure to soil.
 - ▶ We have been preparing for the possibility of an evaluation over past few months
 - ▶ Planning is now occurring for the potential of a community evaluation in the fall of 2009 as the next opportunity would be fall of 2010
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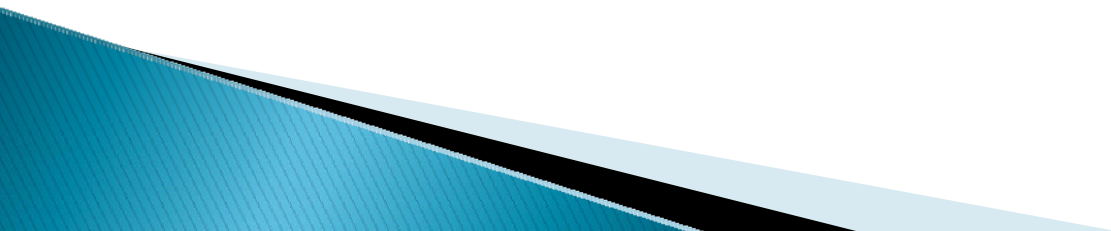
Next Steps

- ▶ The Independent Expert Review Panel will review and validate the methods and findings of the HHRA. Changes to the preliminary report may occur based on their scientific review.
 - ▶ Preparations for biological testing:
 - 1) Expand the team
 - 2) Plan for the community evaluation
 - 3) Communication
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Developing the Team

- ▶ The evaluation will be overseen by a subcommittee of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) which reports to the TAC
 - Includes
 - Manitoba Health and Healthy Living
 - Saskatchewan Ministry of Health
 - Health Canada
 - Manitoba Conservation
 - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment

The Evaluation Team

- ▶ The leads for the evaluation have been determined
 - Expertise included: medical, biological testing, human health risk assessment, public and environmental health, epidemiology
 - ▶ Supporting Team:
 - Field team lead and coordination
 - Epidemiologist
 - Communications
 - ▶ Field team
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Steps to an Evaluation of Environmental Contaminant Exposure

- 1) Develop plan (rationale, approach)
 - 2) Peer review of protocol
 - 3) Review and input from CAC
 - 4) Human ethics submission: early June
 - 5) Decision to proceed: what, where, who: July
 - 6) Public communication
 - 7) Implementation: late September – early October
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