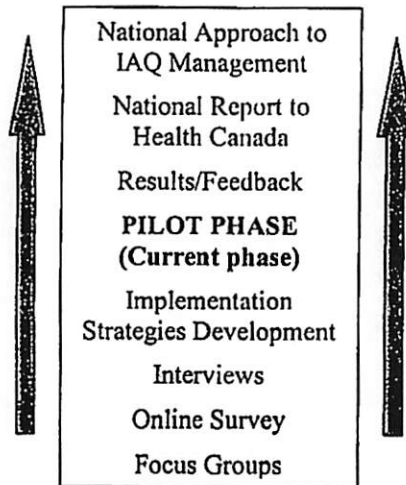


### KEY DRAFT FINDINGS

- General lack of awareness and understanding of IAQ.
- IAQ is generally a low priority issue in schools.
- There is no consistent use of guidelines by schools.
- Schools primarily 'react' to IAQ issues.
- Financial restraints (budgeting or staffing) impact solutions to IAQ problems.
- General lack of commitment and accountability to address existing IAQ issues in schools.

### IMPACT OF RESEARCH



*Together we CAN  
make a difference*

**IAQ IN CANADIAN SCHOOLS**  
<http://www.medicine.dal.ca/iaqcs>

6090 University Avenue  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, NS, B3H 3J5  
Contact: Karen Woodard  
Project Coordinator  
Phone: (902) 494-2440  
Fax: (902) 494-3594  
Email: [k.woodard@dal.ca](mailto:k.woodard@dal.ca)

## **INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN CANADIAN SCHOOLS**

User Friendly & Cost  
Effective Solutions for...



Healthy Working &  
Learning Environments

# INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN CANADIAN SCHOOLS

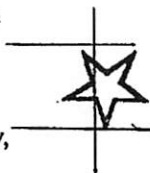
## GOAL OF THE RESEARCH

*To develop a consistent national approach to indoor air quality (IAQ) in schools that will provide a healthy working and learning environment for all Canadians.*

## RESEARCH PROJECT TEAM

A multidisciplinary group from the following sectors:

- Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre [AHPRC]
- Citizens for A Safe Learning Environment [CASLE]
- Community Health & Epidemiology, Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University
- Institute for Health Promotion Research, University of British Columbia
- Nova Scotia Department of Education & Culture
- Nova Scotia Environmental Health Center



## FUNDING



## RESEARCH METHODS?

Resources and data have been collected from:

- Comprehensive literature review
- School focus groups (Nova Scotia & British Columbia)
- National key informant interviews
- National online survey
- Pilot study of implementation strategies (current phase)

## WHO IS INVOLVED?

Research participants include students, teachers, parents, maintenance staff, administrative and support staff, school boards, government departments, IAQ and health experts from across Canada.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Need for practical, consistent, user-friendly process for using guidelines in schools.
- Need for a proactive approach to IAQ in schools.
- Existing guidelines do not address the specific needs of children or schools.
- Need for practical process to monitor and maintain IAQ within existing budgets.



## OBJECTIVES

- Expand IAQ knowledge and resource base.
- Identify & understand the factors that facilitate or hinder implementation of current IAQ knowledge/resources.
- Develop implementation strategies for IAQ guidelines that allow buy-in from current infrastructure.
- Pilot test guidelines & implementation strategies.
- Global evaluation of project.

## PROJECTED OUTCOMES

- Modify the roles that all stakeholders play in improving IAQ in schools.
- Promote universal responsibility for IAQ in schools.
- Serve as a model for other institutions and residential housing.
- Increase knowledge about the health affects of IAQ.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN CANADIAN SCHOOLS:  
DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF IAQ GUIDELINES**

Proposal  
Submitted to the Population Health Fund

6 April 1999

**Collaborating Organizations:**

**Atlantic Health Promotion Research Centre, Dalhousie University**

Renee Lyons, Ph.D., Director and  
Professor, School of Health & Human Performance  
Lynn Langille, M.A., Research Consultant  
Derrick Enslow, B.Sc., Research Assistant

**Nova Scotia Environmental Health Centre  
Department of Community Health & Epidemiology, Faculty of Medicine  
Dalhousie University**

Roy Fox, M.D., FRCPC, Director  
Michel Joffres, M.D., Ph.D., Research Director

**Citizens for a Safe Learning Environment (CASLE)**

Karen Robinson, President  
Sandy Moser, Research Director  
Avis Degaut, Education Director

**Nova Scotia Department of Education and Culture  
Douglas Nauss, Executive Director, Facilities Planning & Operations**

**Faculty of Medicine, Dalhousie University  
John Ruedy, M.D.C.M., FRCPC, FACP, Dean**

**Institute of Health Promotion Research, University of British Columbia  
C. James Frankish, Ph.D., Associate Director, and  
Assistant Professor, Division of Preventive Medicine & Health Promotion**