

What you should know about cell towers in your neighbourhood...



Telecom companies are installing cell masts to improve cell coverage. It's important that as a community we're informed of the risks as well as the benefits of cell towers. Our community needs to let it be known that we do not want transmitters sited within 400 meters of residences or areas where children and seniors spend large amounts of time.

Health Canada's Safety Code 6 Guidelines for electromagnetic radiation are to be reviewed this year! The present code does not apply to radiation from wireless transmitters. Not only has there been a proliferation of wireless technology in recent years, but concerns have now been raised regarding negative biological health effects such as cancer, immune system issues & genetic disorders. Scientists and doctors all over the world are demanding these inadequate emission guidelines be addressed. We need to look at the cumulative effects over time. Remember what we learned about DDT, tobacco, asbestos and many drugs that were at one time deemed safe!

Once cell-towers are installed they are difficult to remove. More antennas can be added and the height increased without consultation.

Civic Leaders do have a voice

Often civic leaders believe they have no voice to control cell tower placement, this is not true. "Industry Canada believes that any concerns or suggestions expressed by land use authorities are important elements to be considered by proponents." In this grey area we believe that elected municipal leaders should be more assertive demanding a Consultation Policy which can establish limits, ensure notification, etc. In Toronto, they have created a policy that adjusts various aspects and on their Policy Info webpage, it states: "In December of 2007, after Toronto Public Health assessed the available health, environmental and technical data, the Board of Health endorsed a Prudent Avoidance Policy for the location of new telecommunications towers and antennas. This policy recommends that exposures to RFs for the general public be kept 100 times **below** Health Canada's guidelines (Safety Code 6)."

Safety Code 6 Review Panel: Chair Resigns Amid Conflict of Interest Allegations. Conflict of interest revealed in the Canadian Medical Association Journal. Further conflicts on the panel can be addressed here: <http://goo.gl/k5R6T>

Health Canada falsely states our safety guidelines are "among the most stringent in the world." Many countries have far lower RF exposure limits than Canada's.

Many countries, including the European Union, have made their own safety codes much more stringent than Canada's. This has been done to comply with what is called the **Precautionary Principle**, which recommends "erring on the side of caution," until the safety of the technology is firmly established. **Did you know** Canadian telecommunication providers are legally allowed to exceed the Code 6 emissions standards for a maximum specified length of time each month?

Pulsed RF Exposure limits in microwatts/meter²:

Canada (Safety Code 6)	10,000,000.0
China, Russia, Italy, Toronto*	100,000.0
Ukraine	24,000.0
Salzburg Resolution, Bioinitiative '05 & Austrian Antenna System Siting GL*	1000.0
Council of Europe*	100.0
Austrian Sustainable Building Council	10.0
Bioinitiative 2012*	3 - 6.0
Min level for cell connection	0.001
Natural background	ca 0.000001
* Precautionary recommendation	http://goo.gl/x054e



IN CASE OF EMERGENCY Most people assume cell phone coverage will be available in an emergency, however, experience has demonstrated that the most reliable forms of communication are a corded land line &/or emergency mobile radio.

Studies link cell tower radiation to the following

(at EMF/RFR levels hundreds or even thousands of times below limits currently established by the FCC)

- ✓ headaches/migraines
- ✓ sleep disturbances & insomnia
- ✓ heart arrhythmia/palpitation
- ✓ tinnitus
- ✓ skin rashes & allergies
- ✓ irritable bowel symptoms
- ✓ dizziness/vertigo
- ✓ fatigue
- ✓ agitation & anxiety
- ✓ shortness of breath/asthma
- ✓ concentration & learning difficulties
- ✓ memory loss
- ✓ infertility
- ✓ depression & mood changes
- ✓ blood sugar fluctuations
- ✓ leukemia/cancer
- ✓ brain & eye tumours
- ✓ blood-brain barrier leakage
- ✓ double DNA strand breaks

www.BioInitiative.org (August 2012)



Unlike the sun, most wireless technologies today use man-made, pulsed microwave radiation with the capacity to pass through cement.

Blog:
cadbaycelltower.wordpress.com

Studies show serious biological & health effects within 400m of cellular transmitters

The results from a German study show a significantly increased likelihood (3x higher) of developing cancer for people living within 400 metres of a cell phone transmission mast. In addition, it found that people that lived within 400 metres tend to develop the cancers at a younger age.

www.emrpolity.org/science/research/docs/eger_naila_2004.pdf

Current studies suggest both short-term and long-term health risks within 300-400 meters of a cell tower. Thus, great precautions should be taken to site cell towers away from the most vulnerable segments of the population, such as children."

www.wireless-precaution.com/main/doc/CellPhoneTowerEffects.pdf and ...

<http://whyfry.org/brazilian-study-cancer-associated-with-radiation-from-cellular-antennas/>

Who knows what a safe distance will be with the newer stronger technologies or what the cumulative effects will be? At this point there is also a lack of science regarding the impacts from the combination of multiple carcinogens present in our environment. Do we want to risk impacting the health of our neighbours and more vulnerable residents?

Children and Seniors are more vulnerable

Our community needs to let it be known now that we do not want transmitters sited in residential areas or close to institutions catering to children and seniors.

We MUST be proactive. Research confirms that children and seniors are more vulnerable.

This vulnerability is the reason the BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Committees passed a resolution urging Municipal governments and School Boards to prohibit the siting of cell or mobile phone masts in any areas regularly used by students and why the Vancouver School Board has a policy restricting cell masts from within 300 meters of an existing school. Knowing that younger children are more vulnerable we need to consider the childcare centres in our neighbourhood too.

The Birds and the Bees



"Today, unprecedented exposure levels and intensities of magnetic, electric, and electromagnetic fields from numerous wireless technologies interfere with the natural information system and functioning of humans, animals, and plants. The consequences of this development, which have already been predicted by critics for many decades, cannot be ignored anymore. Bees and other insects vanish; birds avoid certain places and become disorientated at others. Humans suffer from functional impairments and diseases. And insofar as the latter are hereditary, they will be passed on to next generations as pre-existing defects." *Ulrich Warnke*

... fewer House Sparrow males seen at locations with relatively high electric field strength values of GSM base stations <http://goo.gl/34DoY>

...permit annulled on a UMTS antenna due to beekeeping activities in the area. <http://goo.gl/72wez>

Links

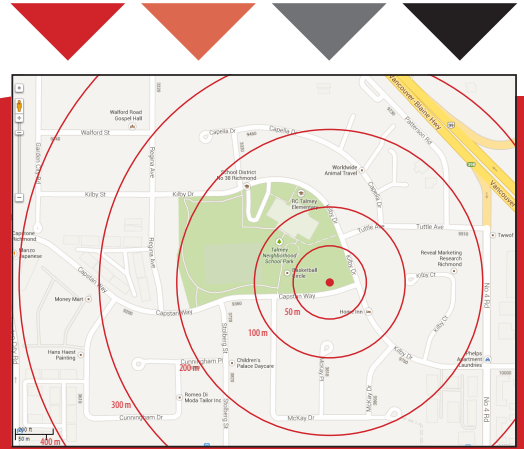
www.citizensforsafetechnology.org Comprehensive site.

www.buildingbiology.ca Building Biologist Katharina Gustavs' site, as well as <http://goo.gl/XyMYW> Katharina Gustavs' presentation to the CVRD

www.weepinitiative.org The Canadian Initiative to Stop Wireless, Electric, and Electromagnetic Pollution) Electro-hypersensitivity and the environmental effects of electric and electromagnetic emissions.

www.emrpolity.org Full studies are available here.

cadbaycelltower.wordpress.com See the local Cadboro Bay cell tower blog for updates and links to environmental issues & more.



Cell tower safety is a public concern - affecting health, the environment & property values.

What can you do?

Lobby for safer limits. In Europe, cell phones work on 1/10,000 of Safety Code 6 approved levels.

1. Ask the following questions:

- Has the Telecom Co. guaranteed in writing that there are no current or potential negative health effects caused by cell towers & will they guarantee full responsibility for members of the community who may be negatively affected?

- Most major insurers will not cover health claims due to RF exposure. How would any negative health effects resulting from the installation of a cell tower be covered for employees, volunteers or members of the community?

2. Write to the Mayor & Council. Demand an antennae siting community consultation policy, requiring complete and timely notification for any future tower or transmitter placement. (See blog for new protocols with municipalities or go to www.fcm.ca/home/issues/more-issues/telecommunications.htm)

3. Write your MP and demand stricter standards for Cell Tower Transmitters.

Industry Canada admits some cellular antennae have gone over Safety Code 6 guidelines. Antennae are rarely audited. This is a "self-regulated industry" when it comes to adhering to standards.

planetnetworks.ca/storage/articles/RF%20Safety%20on%20Roof%20Tops.pdf

